Revision of Chapter 10, "Prevention of pollution of water and disposal of waste occurring on board vessels"

Note by CEVNI Expert Group

I. Mandate

1. It is recalled that at its forty-first session, the Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation (SC.3/WP.3) took note of comments and proposals by Governments and River Commissions on the draft Chapter 10 of the European Code for Inland Waterways (CEVNI) transmitted by Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine (CCNR) (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2012/4). The Working Party agreed, in principle, to revise Chapter 10 based on the initial draft submitted by CCNR and requested the secretariat to prepare a consolidated text of Chapter 10, reflecting the comments received, for consideration by the CEVNI Expert Group. The Working Party also requested that the CEVNI Expert Group submit a proposal on the best instrument for including the provisions of the revised CEVNI Chapter 10 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/82, para. 29).

2. Given that at the time of drafting of this document, proposals had not yet been received from Governments on the best possible placing of the provisions of Chapter 10, the Working Party may wish to consider the recommendation of the CEVNI Expert Group, reproduced below.
II. Recommendation of the CEVNI Expert Group

3. At its eighteenth meeting on 9 October 2012, the CEVNI Expert Group considered the possibility of placing the provisions of CEVNI Chapter 10 devoted to prevention of pollution in a separate instrument, and came to the following conclusions:

(a) CEVNI is designed to refer the boatmaster to the relevant provisions describing his/her duties and responsibilities on all aspects of navigation. Therefore, his/her responsibilities regarding waste collection and water protection should be duly reflected in CEVNI.

(b) However, the provisions appearing in CEVNI should not go beyond the direct duties and responsibilities of the boatmaster. Thus, the detailed procedure of waste management is of no relevance to CEVNI. Such detailed information may be found in regional instruments, for example, the Convention on the Collection, Deposit and Reception of Waste Produced during Navigation on the Rhine and Inland Waterways (CDNI), the Recommendation on Waste Management of the Danube Commission, the Protocol on Prevention of the Water Pollution caused by Navigation to the Framework Agreement on the Sava River Basin, etc.

(c) Given the above, the CEVNI Expert Group strongly recommends that Chapter 10, "Prevention of pollution of water and disposal of waste occurring on board vessels", should remain part of CEVNI.