Comments on the proposal on RIS related definitions

Transmitted by the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine


2. The purpose of this proposal is to include the RIS definitions of the World Association for Waterborne Transport Infrastructure (PIANC) in UNECE Resolution No. 57. The Working Group came to the conclusion that this inclusion would be contrary to the intentions of PIANC to have only one source for the definitions. The CCNR delegations therefore decided that they will not support the proposal of the Russian Federation and asked the CCNR Secretariat to inform the UNECE accordingly.

3. PIANC, after intensive discussion in its own working group on RIS and in lnCom, its Inland Navigation Commission, and after considering different aspects, decided to maintain the RIS definitions in one place only. Further, PIANC came to the conclusion that the CCNR with its permanent and well-functioning Working Group on RIS was the right forum for doing so. Therefore PIANC’s lnCom and the CCNR Secretariat agreed on Terms of Reference for the maintenance and the CCNR Secretariat set up the system for the maintenance.

4. In the view of the CCNR, no aspect or argument of the time has changed and therefore, there is no reason to shift to an arrangement, where the definitions are maintained in different places and by different organizations. This would also lead to increase the administrative work. The CCNR has informed PIANC’s lnCom accordingly, expecting that it does not agree with the definitions as developed by PIANC become part of a UNECE resolution. The UNECE resolution may instead refer to the RIS definition website (http://www.risdefinitions.org/).