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## Working Party on Inland Water Transport

### Fifty-ninth session

Geneva, 9–11 November 2015

Item 7 (a) of the provisional agenda

### Mutual recognition of boatmasters' certificates and harmonization of professional requirements in inland navigation:

**Work plan of the Informal Expert Group on Mutual Recognition of Boatmasters' Certificates and Harmonization of Professional Requirements in Inland Navigation (IEG)**

### **Implementation of the Work Plan of the Informal Expert Group on Mutual Recognition of Boatmasters' Certificates and Harmonization of Professional Requirements in Inland Navigation**

## I. Mandate

1. The secretariat recalls that the Work Plan of the Informal Expert Group on Mutual Recognition of Boatmasters' Certificates and Harmonization of Professional Requirements in Inland Navigation (hereafter IEG) was approved at the forty-fifth session of SC.3/WP.3 and adopted at the fifty-eighth session of SC.3 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/197, para. 23) as reproduced in the Annex to ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/90.
2. SC.3/WP.3 at its forty-seventh session asked the secretariat to monitor the implementation of the Work Plan of IEG and to make necessary corrections if needed (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/94, para. 32).

## II. Actual performance of the Work Plan

3. During the reporting period IEG held four meetings. The scope of work made and the documents prepared as well as comments of the secretariat are stated in the table below.

Planned activity	Actual performance	Notes
1. Exchange of information, preparation of information notes for the SC.3/WP.3 and SC.3 Working Parties ( <i>continuing activity</i> )	Information is regularly submitted by Member States, River Commissions (CCNR) and EDINNA	Presentations were made by EDINNA at the fifty-eighth session of SC.3 and forty-sixth and forty-seventh sessions of SC.3/WP.3.
2. Preparation of an information document on the topic "Means of making the jobs of crew members employed in inland navigation more attractive" ( <i>by the fifty-eighth session</i> )	Discussion on the theme "Making jobs of Crew Members Employed in Inland Navigation More Attractive" was held at the fifty-eighth session of SC.3 as agenda	No substantial information has been submitted to the secretariat to issue an information document. If IEG deems it necessary, this item

<i>of SC.3)</i>	item 4	could be deleted or deadline could be changed
3. Analysis of existing national, regional and international instruments relating to the mutual recognition and modernization of professional qualifications in inland navigation at the pan-European level on the basis of existing SC.3 resolutions. Proposal for minimum manning requirements for each type of vessel and description of required competencies for crew members based on new generations of inland navigation vessels and equipment:		
3.1 Revision of Resolution No. 31 <i>(end of 2016)</i>	At the forty-fifth session of SC.3/WP.3, the IEG suggested that Resolution No. 31 could be revised to bring it into line with modern requirements and that work could possibly begin in February 2015. The secretariat prepared a proposal for a revision of Resolution No. 31 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2015/1). SC.3/WP.3 at its forty-seventh session started to discuss the proposal. The member States and River Commissions were invited to submit their information on education and professional knowledge requirements on navigating vessels using LNG as a fuel, on navigation training simulators and local knowledge requirements.	Deadline could be postponed; end of 2016 could be the deadline for submitting the information asked by SC.3/WP.3
3.2 Revision of Chapter 23 “Crews” of Resolution No. 61:		
3.2.1 Drawing up a list of existing national, regional and international instruments relating to the mutual recognition and modernization of professional qualifications in inland navigation at the pan-European level <i>(end of 2016)</i>	This question has not been discussed yet by the IEG	If the IEG deems it necessary, it could be included in the agenda of the next meeting of IEG
3.2.2 Drafting a proposal for revision of Chapter 23 or a new document for submission to SC.3 on the basis of the analysis of the existing instruments relating to crews, including minimum manning requirements for each type of vessel, and describing the required competencies for crew members based on new generations of inland navigation vessels and equipment <i>(end of 2016)</i>	The following documents were prepared: - ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2015/2 (the secretariat) - proposal on the structure of Chapter 23 “Crews”; - ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2015/6 “Provisions for the crew of inland navigation vessels” (the secretariat) – a new document on the basis of Chapter 23; - ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2015/9 (Group of Volunteers on Resolution No. 61) - proposal on Chapter 23	

4. Drawing up a list of stretches of waterways, the knowledge of which must be verified prior to granting recognition of professional qualifications for each river basin		
4.1 Collecting information from UNECE member States and River Commissions on local knowledge ( <i>end of 2015</i> )	The secretariat has not received any new information on the local knowledge requirements from UNECE member States.	If there are no changes in the existing list, this item may be deleted
4.2 Drawing up a proposal for a list of stretches of waterways, the knowledge of which must be verified prior to granting recognition of professional qualifications for each river basin, and of the criteria to take into account when decisions are made as to whether or not local knowledge requirements are necessary ( <i>end of 2016</i> )	The existing list of stretches is published in ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2010/12 and ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2010/12/Corr.1	This task can be divided into 2 parts: 1) finalisation of the list, and 2) making a list of criteria to take into account when decisions are made as to whether or not local knowledge requirements are necessary (end of 2018). Here, UNECE member States could provide the secretariat with information on these requirements in their national legislation and on how the examinations for boatmaster certification apply the requirements. This question was included in the questionnaire for the forty-seventh session of SC.3/WP.3
5. Establishing the procedures of expert training and examination within UNECE region:		
5.1 Information exchange on mechanisms for procedure of expert training and examination established within the European Agreement Concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterway (ADN), in cooperation with river commissions ( <i>end of 2016</i> )	The information on the standards of training and certification in inland navigation was published in ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2014/15. The information on the Standards of Training and Certification for personnel in Inland Navigation (STCIN) developed by PLATINA was published in ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2014/16.	The STCIN tables are available in the English, French and Russian languages. The deadline can be withdrawn and it could be a continuing activity
5.2 Discussion on possible mechanism to be applied for boatmasters' certificates and professional requirements in inland navigation in UNECE region ( <i>end of 2016</i> )		This could be a discussion topic for one of sessions of SC.3; the deadline could be changed accordingly

### III. Amendments to the Work Plan

4. With due regard of the progress made by IEG, the secretariat proposes the following changes<sup>1</sup> to the Work Plan:

<sup>1</sup> A new text is marked bold, the text proposed for deletion is strikethrough

## **Work Plan of the Informal Expert Group on Mutual Recognition of Boatmasters' Certificates and Harmonization of Professional Requirements in Inland Navigation**

### **1. Topic**

Exchange of information on boatmasters' certificates in inland navigation and professional requirements in inland navigation in the UNECE region.

#### **Activities**

- 1.1 Exchange of information, preparation of information notes for the SC.3/WP.3 and SC.3 Working Parties

Outcome: information documents on the topic, communicated during the sessions of the SC.3/WP.3 and SC.3 Working Parties.

### **2. Topic**

~~Proposal on means and measures to make the profession of boatmaster and other crew members employed in inland navigation more attractive and to bring these professions into line with modern requirements.~~

#### **Activities**

- 2.1 Preparation of an information document

~~Preparation of an information document on the topic "Means of making the jobs of crew members employed in inland navigation more attractive" for the fifty eighth session of SC.3.~~

~~Outcome: an information document on the topic.~~

~~Terms of execution: members of the IEG should submit their contributions to the secretariat before 15 September 2014.~~

### **3. Topic**

Analysis of existing national, regional and international instruments relating to the mutual recognition and modernization of professional qualifications in inland navigation at the pan-European level on the basis of existing SC.3 resolutions. Proposal for minimum manning requirements for each type of vessel and description of required competencies for crew members based on new generations of inland navigation vessels and equipment.

#### **Activities**

- 3.1 Revision of Resolution No. 31.

Outcome: a proposal for second revision of Resolution No. 31, if SC.3/WP.3 deems it necessary.

Terms of execution: end of ~~2016~~ 2017, members of the IEG with the support of the secretariat.

- 3.2 Revision of Chapter 23 "Crews" of Resolution No. 61

3.2.1 Drawing up a list of existing national, regional and international instruments relating to the mutual recognition and modernization of professional qualifications in inland navigation at the pan-European level (if the Working Party deems it necessary).

Outcome: a list of instruments applied in the ECE region.

Terms of execution: end of 2016, members of the IEG with the support of the secretariat.

3.2.2 Drafting a proposal for revision of Chapter 23 or a new document for submission to SC.3 on the basis of the analysis of the existing instruments relating to crews, including minimum manning requirements for each type of vessel, and describing the required competencies for crew members based on new generations of inland navigation vessels and equipment.

Outcome: a proposal for revision of Chapter 23 or a new document on the topic.

Terms of execution: end of 2016, members of the IEG with the support of the secretariat.

#### 4. Topic

Drawing up a list of stretches of waterways, the knowledge of which must be verified prior to granting recognition of professional qualifications for each river basin.

Activities

- 4.1 Collecting information from ECE member States and River Commissions.

Outcome: a document presenting the information collected.

Terms of execution: end of 2015, members of the IEG with the support of the secretariat.

- 4.2 Drawing up a proposal for a list of stretches of waterways, the knowledge of which must be verified prior to granting recognition of professional qualifications for each river basin, and of the criteria to take into account when decisions are made as to whether or not local knowledge requirements are necessary:

**1) finalisation of the list, and**

**2) making a list of criteria to take into account when decisions are made as to whether or not local knowledge requirements are necessary.**

Outcome: a proposal for a document presenting the information collected.

Terms of execution: **1 stage - end of 2016, 2 stage – 2018;** members of the IEG with the support of the secretariat.

- 4.3 Updating the list of local knowledge requirements (on the basis of document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2010/12).

Outcome: a proposal for amendment of document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2010/12.

Terms of execution: no fixed date, update as necessary.

#### 5. Topic

Establishing the procedures of expert training and examination within UNECE region.

Activities

- 5.1 Information exchange on mechanisms for procedure of expert training and examination established within the European Agreement Concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterway (ADN), in cooperation with river commissions

Outcome: an information document on the topic.

Terms of execution: ~~end of 2016-a continuing activity~~, members of the IEG with the support of the secretariat.

- 5.2 Discussion on possible mechanism to be applied for boatmasters' certificates and professional requirements in inland navigation in UNECE region (**a discussion topic**).

Outcome: ~~proposal of the IEG on the possible procedure of expert training and examination within UNECE region, and planning of further work on this matter. Conclusions and recommendations on the basis of discussion~~

Terms of execution: ~~end of 2016, members of the IEG to be decided by SC.3.~~

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