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Economic Commission for Europe**Inland Transport Committee****Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods**

Joint Meeting of Experts on the Regulations annexed to the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN) (ADN Safety Committee)

Thirty-first session

Item 3 (d) of the provisional agenda

**Implementation of the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN):
Training of experts**

ADN section 8.2.1 and subsection 8.2.2.8 — Training of experts and ADN specialized knowledge certificate

Transmitted by the Government of Germany***

*Summary***Executive summary:**

The current requirements for the training of experts in ADN part 8.2 contain certain provisions that are unclear.

ADN section 8.2.1 and subsection 8.2.2.8 contain some provisions that are redundant or even contradictory relating to the issue and renewal of the expert certificate.

Subsection 8.2.2.8 does not address, for the issue and renewal of the expert certificate, the specifics covered by subsections 8.2.1.5 and 8.2.1.7 for gas and chemicals specializations (proof of specific activity on a corresponding vessel).

At the proposal of the German delegation, and following a discussion in the informal working group on the training of experts, at its twenty-seventh session, held in August 2015, the Safety Committee decided that the ADN specialized knowledge certificate would in future take the form of a small

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	card with a photograph. The change of format was planned to take place in 2019 at the earliest.
Action to be taken:	Amendment of ADN section 8.2.1.3, new wording of ADN subsections 8.2.2.8 and 8.6.2, to enter into force on 1 January 2019, with a transitional provision for the new format of the certificates.
Related documents:	ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/52, para. 13 ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/2015/31, paras 22 and 23 ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/56, para. 26 ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/2017/4, para. 18 ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/62, para. 33

I. Introduction

1. Following an initiative by the German delegation, at its twenty-fifth session in 2014, the Safety Committee had endorsed the principle of keeping the format adopted for ADR for the ADN specialized knowledge certificate referred to in ADN Chapter 8.2, rather than opting for a plastic card.

Subsequently, the informal working group on the training of experts gave detailed consideration to several corresponding drafts submitted by the German delegation for the related amendment of ADN, most recently at its meeting held in March 2017.

In the meantime the “card” format was introduced generally for inland navigation, for the Rhine licence (“Rhine patent”) issued in accordance with the requirements of the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine.

2. Aside from the change in the format of the certificate, the German delegation has also noted that a few ambiguous provisions remain in section 8.2.1. They relate in particular to the issue of expert certificates for chemicals and gas, the requirement for proof of employment over a specific time on board a corresponding vessel and the provisions for the deadlines for renewal of expert certificates.

3. The German delegation thanks the informal working group on the training of experts for its support in drawing up the finalized amendment request.

II. Amendment requests

(text to be deleted: ~~striketrough~~; new text: underlined)

4. Amend subsection 8.2.1.4 as follows:

In the last sentence, replace the words “by a body recognized by it” with “by a body recognized by that authority”.

Delete the last sentence.

5. Amend subsection 8.2.1.6 as follows:

In the first sentence, replace the words “by a body recognized by it” with “by a body recognized by that authority”.

Delete the last sentence.

6. Amend subsection 8.2.1.8 as follows:

In the first sentence, replace the words “by a body recognized by it” with “by a body recognized by that authority”.

Delete the last sentence.

7. The wording of subsection 8.2.2.8 should read as follows:

“8.2.2.8 ADN specialized knowledge certificate

8.2.2.8.1 The issue and renewal of the ADN specialized knowledge certificate conforming to the model in section 8.6.2 shall be the responsibility of the competent authority or a body authorized by that competent authority.

8.2.2.8.2 Its dimensions shall be in accordance with ISO/IEC 7810:2003 ID-1 and it shall be made of plastic. The colour shall be white, with black lettering. The certificate shall include an authentication feature such as a hologram, a UV print or an engraved pattern. The text must be in the language(s) or in one of the languages of the State of the competent authority that has issued the certificate. If none of these languages is English, French or German, the title of the certificate, the entry under item 8, and, if applicable, the complementary items for “tank vessels” or “dry cargo vessels” shall also be provided in English, French or German.

8.2.2.8.3 Certificates shall be issued:

(a) when the conditions of subsection 8.2.1.3 and of the second sentence of subsection 8.2.1.2 (basic training course) have been met; they shall be valid for five years from the date when the examination is successfully passed at the end of the basic training.

(b) when the conditions of subsection 8.2.1.5 or the second sentence of subsection 8.2.1.7 (specialization course) have been met, in such cases a new certificate shall be issued containing all the certifications for the basic training and the specialization courses. The new certificate to be issued shall have a period of validity of five years from the date when the examination is successfully passed at the end of the basic training.

8.2.2.8.4 The certificate shall be renewed:

(a) when the conditions of 8.2.1.4 (basic training course) have been met; the new period of validity shall begin on the expiry date of the preceding certificate. If the test has been taken more than one year before the date of expiry of the preceding certificate, it shall begin on the date of the certificate of participation in the course.

(b) when the conditions of subsections 8.2.1.6 and 8.2.1.7 (specialization course) have been met. In this case, a new certificate shall be issued containing all the certificates relating to the basic training and specialization courses. When the refresher specialization training course is taken in the year preceding the date of expiry of the certificate, the new period of validity shall begin on the expiry date of the preceding certificate; but in other cases it shall begin on the date of the certificate of participation in the course.

8.2.2.8.5 If the refresher course has not been taken in its entirety and successfully before the expiry of the period of validity of the certificate or if the work for one year on board has not been certified in the two years preceding the expiry of the certificate, a new certificate shall be issued requiring new participation in an initial training course and the taking of an examination in accordance with subsection 8.2.2.7.

8.2.2.8.6 If a new certificate is issued in accordance with 8.2.2.8.3 (b) or if a certificate is renewed in accordance with 8.2.2.8.4 and the preceding certificate has been issued by another authority or by a body authorized by such authority, the issuing authority or the body authorized by that authority that issued the preceding certificate shall be informed without delay.

8.2.2.8.7 The Contracting Parties shall provide the UNECE secretariat with a model for any certificate intended for issue in accordance with this section, along with models of certificates which are still valid. The Contracting Parties may additionally provide explanatory notes. The UNECE secretariat shall make the information it receives available to all Contracting Parties.”

8. The wording of ADN subsection 8.6.2 should read as follows:

“8.6.2 Certificate of special knowledge of ADN according to 8.2.1.2, 8.2.1.5 or 8.2.1.7

(Recto)

(**) Certificate of special knowledge of ADN	
1. (No. of certificate)	Photo of holder
2. (Name)	
3. (First name(s))	
4. (Born on: day/month/year)	
5. (Nationality)	
6. (Signature of holder)	
7. (Issuing authority)	
8. VALID UNTIL: (day/month/year)	

(Verso)

1. (No. of certificate)
The certificate is valid for special knowledge of ADN according to:
<i>(Insert the corresponding subsection according to ADN 8.2.1, if applicable with the additional note, “dry cargo vessels only” or “tank vessels only”)</i>

****Distinguishing sign used in international navigation**

(CEVNI — Annex I).”.

9. Amend transitional provision ADN 1.6.8 as follows:

- (a) The existing text becomes subsection 1.6.8.1.
- (b) Insert the following new subsection:

“1.6.8.2 Instead of certificates of special knowledge of ADN according to 8.2.2.8.2 and section 8.6.2, the Contracting Parties may issue, until 31 December 2020, certificates according to the model in force until 31 December 2018. Such certificates may be used until the expiry of their period of validity of five years.”.

III. Justification

10. **8.2.1.4**

In the first sentence the amendment corrects a grammatical error in the German version.

The last sentence has been deleted because only requirements relating to the content and successful completion of the training should be described here.

Provisions relating to the requirements for certificates and the period of validity are grouped in subsection 8.2.2.8.

11. **8.2.1.6**

A grammatical error in the German version has been corrected in the beginning of the first sentence.

(Does not concern the English text.) In the second indent of the first sentence, the word “successfully” may be deleted, as:

The second sentence should be deleted, as only requirements relating to the content and successful completion of the training should be described here.

Provisions relating to the requirements for certificates and the period of validity are grouped in subsection 8.2.2.8.

12. **8.2.1.8**

A grammatical error in the German version has been corrected in the beginning of the first sentence.

(Does not concern the English text.) In the second indent of the first sentence, the words “successfully” may be deleted, as:

The second sentence should be deleted, as only requirements relating to the content and successful completion of the training should be described here.

Provisions relating to the requirements for certificates and the period of validity are grouped in subsection 8.2.2.8.

13. **8.2.2.8**

The subsection has been subdivided into numbered paragraphs to improve readability.

14. **8.2.2.8.1**

(Does not concern the English text.) The word “original” preceding “issuance” can be deleted, as a new issuance of the certificate after five years is clearly a renewal.

In ADN 2017 the reference to the section containing the mandatory format for the expert certificate is missing.

15. **8.2.2.8.2**

The Safety Committee already endorsed the transfer from A6 format to the card format, which is smaller. The text was taken up from ADR 8.2.2.8.3 and 8.2.2.8.4 and adapted to meet the specificities of ADN.

It is proposed to change from an orange-coloured background in order to make the production of certificates easier and more economical.

16. **8.2.2.8.3**

This new paragraph takes up the existing provisions of the current ADN 8.2.2.8.1, with better and clearer wording.

Letter (a) uses the expression “examination is passed at the end of the basic training” instead of “of the basic training examination”, as is already the case in ADN 2017, in the fifth sentence.¹ It is more clearly indicated that the examination must be passed successfully to obtain the certificate.

Unlike in ADN 2017, the need to have worked on board a vessel for a certain period is taken into account in letter (b).

17. **8.2.2.8.4**

In ADN 2017, subsection 8.2.2.8, the conditions for renewal of the certificate are missing, despite the fact that the first sentence reads “issue and renewal”.

The provisions for the period of validity that previously appeared in ADN 2017 subsection 8.2.1.4 are now in letter (a).

¹ Secretariat’s note: This concerns the German version, as the first sentence, “*Die Bescheinigung des Basiskurses hat eine Gültigkeit von fünf Jahren ab dem Datum der Fachprüfung*” does not appear in the English and French versions of ADN 2017.

The provisions for the period of validity that previously appeared in ADN 2017 8.2.1.6 and 8.2.1.8 are now in letter (b).

18. **8.2.2.8.5**

Formerly the fifth paragraph of ADN 8.2.2.8.1.

19. **8.2.2.8.6**

Formerly the sixth paragraph of ADN 8.2.2.8.1.

In place of the text “following attendance at a specialized or refresher course”, reference is made to the respective paragraphs. The possibility of renewing an expert certificate without a refresher course and with only proof of work on board a vessel is not sufficiently taken into consideration in ADN 2017.

In the opinion of the experts in the informal working group on the training of experts, it is not necessary to physically return the original certificate to the issuing authority following renewal, and it would be difficult to implement administratively at the international level. It is apparently sufficient to destroy the original certificate and to change the date of issue in the register, in accordance with ADN section 1.10.1.6. The authorities of the Contracting Parties can obtain information from these registers.

20. **8.6.2**

The model certificate corresponds with those for the Rhine licence (Rhine patent) and for driver training certificates under ADR (ADR 8.2.2.8.5).

The text reading “The holder of this certificate has participated in an 8-lesson stability training” is now superfluous because the schedule proposed for the introduction of the new certificate means that all experts will have taken part in a training course.

21. **1.6.8**

Same as for ADR 2011 subsection 1.6.1.21, where the supporting documentation for driver training was introduced, in this format. This solution has proven its worth for driver training.

IV. Safety

22. The very lengthy ADN subsection 8.2.2.8.1, which contains several distinct provisions, is set out more clearly. The conditions for the issue of the certificate are also worded more clearly. Until now, only the first issue of the certificate had been described. The conditions for renewal of the certificate after five years have been added. The procedure for the issue and renewal of certificates is thus described more clearly and more precisely from the legal perspective. This makes it possible to a great extent to avoid procedural errors likely to place the validity of certificates in doubt.

23. The new format taken up by ADR and the Regulations for Rhine Navigation Personnel provide better protection against counterfeiting and thus contribute to an improvement in transport safety, as only the experts recognized by the authorities, and the boatmaster as the main person responsible, take part in the transport. Requirements in respect of the holders of the certificates, as set out in Chapter 1.10, Security Provisions, are taken into consideration with the addition of an identity photograph.

V. Implementation

24. The new proposed format for the certificate follows an ISO standard, so issuance by State services or private bodies that also issue other identity documents should not pose a problem. The removal of the orange-coloured background for the expert’s certificate makes it possible to avoid a possible technical constraint.

25. The use of the proposed format has proven its worth in the ADR framework. Cards can be issued by the competent authorities in a decentralized manner on site or through a

national centre. If the processing is decentralized, it is possible to produce the certificates without delay once the examination has been successfully passed. If longer production times are required for the issuance by a national centre, candidates can take this additional waiting time into account when planning the dates of their examinations.

26. It is possible that the more complex production method for certificates might result in higher fees for their issuance. This is apparently justified, taking into account the improvement in security.
