

Minutes of the third meeting of the Informal Working Group on recreational navigation

1-2 October 2018, Palais des Nations, Geneva

Room S1

1. The Informal Working Group on recreational navigation (hereafter the Group) held its third meeting on 1-2 October 2018 in Geneva.
2. The following participants took part in the meeting:
 - Mr. Ville Räisänen, Finnish Transport Safety Agency (Trafi)
 - Ms. Heidi Therese Bless, Norwegian Maritime Authority
 - Ms. Carol Paddison, EBA
 - Mr. Vardi Erez, International Sailing Schools Association (ISSA)
 - Ms. Victoria Ivanova, UNECE secretariat
3. Mr. Amayak Nunikyan (EMERCOM Russia), Mr. Sergey Moiseev (Russian Yachting Association) and Mr. Andrii Starovoi, Association of Small Craft and Boating Sport of Ukraine (ASCBSU), PO "Waterway from the Varangians to the Greeks" (PO "WVG") were not able to attend the meeting.

I. Opening and adoption of the agenda

4. The participants adopted the following agenda:
 - I. Opening and adoption of the agenda
Document: IWG RN/2018/5
 - II. Outcome of the fifty-second and fifty-third sessions of SC.3/WP.3.
Document: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/104.
 - III. Exchange of information on the current situation in the sector.
 - IV. Questionnaire for collecting information about education and training of pleasure craft operators.
Documents: IWG RN/2018/6, IWG RN/2018/7, IWG RN/2018/2/Rev.1
 - V. Modules for CEVNI knowledge tests.
 - VI. ICC and the application of Resolution No. 40. Road map on implementing Resolution No. 40.
Document: IWG RN/2018/8
 - VII. Verification of commercial certificates for pleasure craft operators.
 - VIII. Promotion of recreational navigation and water tourism in member States.
Document: IWG RN/2018/9
 - IX. Other business.
 - X. Next meeting.

II. Outcome of the fifty-second session of SC.3/WP.3

5. The Group was informed by the secretariat about the decisions of the fifty-second session of SC.3/WP.3 relevant to the activities of the Group (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/104, paras. 67-70).

6. The secretariat informed the Group that this agenda item had been included in the preliminary agenda of the Working Party on Inland Water Transport (SC.3) and the following issues had been proposed for its consideration (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2018/12):

(a) assistance in developing CEVNI tests to those governments which have not implemented CEVNI or do not have navigable inland waterways;

(b) Developing a UNECE database of questions for testing knowledge of CEVNI;

(c) Terms and limitations imposed by governments when issuing ICC, including restrictions on the size or type of boat;

(d) Collecting information on conditions and limitations of validity of ICC issued and conditions of recognition of ICC issued by other countries.

7. The Group was informed by the secretariat that:

(a) the revised Guidelines to resolution No. 40 had been issued and were available in the secretariat;

(b) the ICC web page had been updated.

III. Exchange of information on the current situation in the sector

8. The Group exchanged information on the current situation in the sector. Mr. Räisänen mentioned that the ICC models issued by Finland will be soon updated based on new standards. The Group decided to check the updates to ISO/IEC International Standard 7810 that was referred to in Annex III of resolution No. 40.

9. Ms. Ivanova informed the Group:

(a) that new ICC models had been submitted by the Governments of Germany, Latvia, Romania and Slovakia (Informal document SC.3 No. 12 (2018)) and had been uploaded onto the ICC database;

(b) about new contact information of the approved body for ICC in Latvia;

(c) about new requests related to ICC received by the secretariat that might be relevant to the Group. The Group considered that it would be feasible to add the contact information for competent authorities and approved bodies for issuing of ICCs on the ICC web page and asked the secretariat to consider this.

IV. Questionnaire for collecting information about education and training of pleasure craft operators

Documents: IWG RN/2018/6, IWG RN/2018/7, IWG RN/2018/9

10. The Group considered the revised draft questionnaire prepared by EBA and finalized it (see Annex 1).

11. The Group took note of the proposals transmitted by EMERCOM, the Russian Federation, and the Russian Yachting Association (IWG RN/2018/7 and IWG RN/2018/2/Rev.1) and decided that they would not enhance the questionnaire at present.

12. The Group asked the secretariat (Ms. Ivanova) to transmit the finalized questionnaire to SC.3/WP.3 for its fifty-fourth session.

13. The Group was of the opinion that the questionnaire should be sent to all UNECE member States and South Africa.

V. Modules for CEVNI knowledge tests

14. The Group continued discussion of modules for CEVNI knowledge tests based on document IWG RN/2018/3 transmitted by ISSA. The Group decided to present the proposal for the upcoming session of SC.3 as a short presentation based on IWG RN/2018/3, Chapter 8, and the websites of the Finnish Transport Safety Agency and the Norwegian Maritime Authority as examples.

15. The Group decided that, if SC.3 approves this proposal, it will start work on developing modules. The secretariat (Ms. Ivanova) will inform the members of the Group about the decision of SC.3. Mr. Vardi (ISSA) will prepare a proposal for the next meeting of the Group.

16. The Group mentioned that the draft will be developed in English and then translated into French and Russian, however, other language versions from member States will be welcome.

VI. ICC and the application of Resolution No. 40. Road map on implementing Resolution No. 40

Document: IWG RN/2018/8

17. The Group finalized the road map on implementing Resolution No. 40 (see Annex 2). The secretariat was asked to transmit the draft to SC.3/WP.3 for its fifty-fourth session.

18. The Group proposed also to prepare a schematic illustration of the road map that could be available on the ICC web page.

VII. Verification of commercial certificates for pleasure craft operators.

20. The Group noted that no updates on this agenda item were available.

VIII. Promotion of recreational navigation and water tourism in member States

Document: IWG RN/2018/9

21. Mr. Vardi informed the Group about the interest of skippers and charting companies in the Mediterranean and Black Sea regions in using ICC as an evidence of competence for instructors/trainers on commercially used small craft for this purpose (IWG RN/2018/9). He proposed that a minimum training standard based on Resolution No. 40 could be helpful. The Group noted that chartering companies and training centres could also be a target group for promoting ICC. That could be relevant, in particular, for countries not applying ICC.

22. The Group mentioned that commercial small craft was not covered by its mandate. However, a proposal could be prepared for SC.3 on how to increase the scope of activities aimed at promoting ICC.

23. Norway informed the Group about an information campaign among recreational boaters that had been organized in 2018.

IX. Other business

24. The secretariat (Ms. Ivanova) informed the Group about a request from the Volga-Baltic Waterway Administration and the questionnaire on a traffic management system for river cruise vessels in urban areas.

X. Next meeting

25. The Group decided to have its next meeting in Geneva possibly on 17 and 18 June 2019, back-to-back with the fifty-fifth session of SC.3/WP.3. The Group mentioned that more Administrations should be engaged in its activities of for successful work, and asked the secretariat to extend the invitation.
