The UNECE framework for inland waterways cooperation

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“Maritime and inland waterways co-operation in the OSCE area: Increasing security and protecting the environment”
(Helsinki, 10-11 September 2007)

IWT performance, 1990-2005

Freight transport by inland waterways

[Bar chart showing freight transportation by inland waterways in billions oftk from 1990 to 2005 for different regions.]
IWT performance, 1990-2005

Freight market share of inland waterways

Accelerating development of IWT

- Aim: a competitive, safe and sustainable IWT system, well integrated into multimodal links
- Strategic areas for action:
  - Harmonization and integration of the regulatory framework
  - Coordinated development of inland waterway network
  - Infrastructure development and environment
**Accelerating development of IWT (cont’d)**

- IWT more energy efficient and environmentally friendly than rail and road
- Implementation of strategic actions: EC, River Commissions (CCNR, DC), UNECE
- Underlying driving forces: EU enlargement and sustained economic recovery in EECCA
- Obstacles: physical (geography, bottlenecks and missing links) and non-physical (governance of international transport, lack of policy integration)
- Progress to date but more needs to be done
## Contracting parties to selected international conventions and agreements on inland navigation issues

### Status at 1 July 2007

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**Note:** New Contracting Parties since 2001 in red.

## Ongoing regular activities

- Pertinent regulations elaborated by specialized UNECE Working Parties
- Their ongoing work includes:
  - Updating Resolution No. 21 to reduce pollution by inland water vessels (WP on Inland Water Transport)
  - Mainstreaming provisions of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context into AGN and other UNECE infrastructure agreements (modal WPs)
  - Updating ADN regulations (WP on the Transport of Dangerous Goods)
**Work in progress**

- Multidisciplinary Group of Experts on Transport Security set up in May 2007
- An inventory of regulatory initiatives and standards related to inland transport security to be prepared by the Group
- Recommendations & amendments to existing legal instruments to ITC by Feb. 2008
- The joint UNECE-UNESCAP project to develop Euro-Asian transport linkages

**Conclusions**

- More accessions to international legal instruments on IWT would be conducive to the creation of an integrated Pan-European IWT network
- OSCE could contribute by continuing to provide technical assistance related to international transport governance & policy integration
- Updated & harmonized regulations needed to improve security and achieve sustainability
- The UNECE-UNESCAP Euro-Asian project deserves to be supported in Phase II (2008-11)
Thank you for your attention!

Annex: European Agreement on Main Inland Waterways (AGN), 1996

- Ratified by 13 ECE-OSCE countries, AGN aims to develop a coherent network of IWW
- Identifies relevant routes, E ports, technical and operational parameters
- Extends from Western and Central Europe to Southeast and Eastern Europe
- Density and quality of the AGN waterways and ports uneven
Annex: Agreement on the Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN), 2000

- Ratified by 6 countries (after 7th ratification, ADN in force a year later)
- Assures safe transport of dangerous cargoes on inland waterways
- Uniform rules for vessel equipment and signs
- Also uniform procedures (inspections, training)
- Regulations updated every 2 years


- Ratified by 7 countries (90 days after 8th ratification, Protocol in force)
- Technical and operational requirements on inland waterways for international CT
- Technical and operational requirements for terminals in ports
- CT on IW could relieve congestion and mitigate environmental damage on some corridors
Annex: Acceptance by legal instrument

Selected conventions and agreements on inland navigation
Number of ratifications (1 July 2007)

- Measurement
- AGN network
- Collision
- Registration
- CMR contract
- Protocol to AGTC
- Dangerous goods

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Annex: Euro-Asian Rail Routes

UNECE-UNESCAP Euro-Asian Links Project
RAIL ROUTES

UNECE Transport Division 18
Annex: Euro-Asian Road Routes

Annex: Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme

- Policy framework for promoting sustainable transport in the UNECE and WHO/Europe region
- Consolidation of two processes
  - Transport and Environment (Vienna 1997)
    Programme of Joint Action – UNECE
  - Transport and Health (London, 1999)
    London Charter – WHO/Europe
- Established by 2nd High-Level Meeting on Transport, Environment and Health (Geneva, July 2002)
- Next HLM in 2008 (http://www.the pep.org/en)