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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Inland Water Transport
(Forty-eighth session, 19-21 October 2004,
agenda item 7(f))

**ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMON PRINCIPLES AND TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS
FOR A PAN-EUROPEAN RIVER INFORMATION SERVICE (RIS)**

Note by the secretariat

It is recalled that, as a follow-up to the decisions of the Pan-European Conference on Inland Water Transport (Rotterdam, 5 and 6 September 2001), the Working Party, at its forty-fifth session, completed its Programme of Work with a new element: "Establishment of common principles and technical requirements for a Pan-European River Information Service (RIS)" (TRANS/SC.3/155, para. 47). Pursuant to this decision, the Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation, at its twenty-sixth and twenty-eighth sessions, considered the Guidelines and Recommendations for River Information Services established by the International Navigation Association (PIANC) as reflected in TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2003/11 and Add.1 and felt that the Guidelines covered all the aspects of the future RIS services and might serve as a basis for the establishment of a relevant UNECE document in this regard. The text of the Guidelines was approved, subject to a number of editorial corrections and the secretariat was requested to prepare a draft resolution on the adoption of the Guidelines as a UNECE document and transmit it, together with documents TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2003/11 and Add.1, as an annex, for further consideration and adoption by the Working Party on Inland Water Transport. It was understood that the annex to the resolution might need to be updated in accordance with the latest PIANC version taking also into account relevant UNECE instruments to be mentioned in the Guidelines together with those of the EC, the CCNR and the Danube Commission (TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/56, para. 25).

The text of the draft resolution concerning River Information Services is reproduced below for consideration by the Working Party.

**River Information Services
Resolution No. ...**

(adopted on ... by the Working Party
on Inland Water Transport)

The Working Party on Inland Water Transport,

Considering the Declaration adopted by the Pan-European Conference on Inland Water Transport held in Rotterdam on 5 and 6 September 2001: “Accelerating Pan-European Cooperation towards a Free and Strong Inland Waterway Transport” (document TRANS/SC.3/2001/10, paragraph 10),

Conscious of the need to establish a single Pan-European approach to planning, implementation and use of information services in inland navigation aimed at ensuring a high level of safety, efficiency and fluidity of inland water traffic and the protection of the environment throughout the E waterway network,

Taking into account the Guidelines and Recommendations for River Information Services established by the International Navigation Association (PIANC),

Bearing in mind the report of the Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation on its twenty-eighth session (TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/56, paragraph 25),

Recommends Governments, intergovernmental organizations, regional economic integration organizations, river commissions and private entities to base the planning, implementation and use of information services in inland navigation on the Guidelines and Recommendations for River Information Services annexed to this resolution,

Requests Governments to inform the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe whether they accept this resolution,

Requests the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe to place the question of the application of this resolution periodically on the agenda of the Working Party on Inland Water Transport.

Annex

**GUIDELINES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
RIVER INFORMATION SERVICES (RIS)^{1/}**

^{1/} Note by the secretariat : The text of the Guidelines and Recommendations for River Information Services (RIS) may be found in documents TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2003/11 and Add.1. It is not reproduced here in the interests of economy but will be set out in full, as agreed in TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/56, para. 25, in the final document to be issued after the adoption of this resolution.