



**Economic and Social
Council**

Distr.
GENERAL

ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/63
10 December 2007

Original: ENGLISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Inland Water Transport

Working Party on the Standardization of Technical
and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation

Thirty-second session
Geneva, 5-7 March 2008

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE THIRTY-SECOND SESSION ^{*/}

to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva
starting at 10.30 a.m. on Wednesday, 5 March 2008

I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

- | | |
|--|----------------------------|
| 1. Adoption of the Agenda | ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/63 |
| 2. Election of officers | |
| 3. Further amendments to the European Code for
Inland Waterways (CEVNI) | ECE/TRANS/SC.3/115/Rev.3 |
| (a) Chapter 1, "General Provisions" | ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2008/1 |

^{*/} For reasons of economy, delegates are requested to bring copies of all relevant documents to the session. There will be no documentation available in the conference room. Before the session, documents may be downloaded from the UNECE Transport Division's website (<http://www.unece.org/trans/main/sc3/sc3.html>). During the session, official documents may be obtained from the UNOG Documents Distribution Section (Room C.337, third floor, Palais des Nations). Delegates are requested to complete the registration form available for download at the UNECE Transport Division's website (<http://www.unece.org/trans/registfr.html>). It should be transmitted to the UNECE secretariat no later than one week prior to the session by email (Violet.Yee@unece.org) or by fax (+41 22-917 0039). Upon arrival at the Palais des Nations, delegates should obtain an identification badge at the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate (14, Avenue de la Paix). In case of difficulty, please contact the secretariat by telephone (ext. 73263). For a map of the Palais des Nations and other useful information, see website <http://www.unece.org/meetings/practical.htm>.

- (b) Chapter 6, "Rules of the road" ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2008/2
- (c) Other amendments to CEVNI
- (d) Possible upgrading of CEVNI status
- 4. Amendments of the Recommendations on Harmonized Europe-Wide Technical Requirements for Inland Navigation Vessels (annex to resolution No. 61) ECE/TRANS/SC.3/172
 - (a) Chapter 2, "Procedure and rules for the inspection of inland navigation vessels" ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2008/3
 - (b) Chapters 20 and 21, "Specific requirements for sea-going, recreational and river-sea vessels" ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2008/4
- 5. Elaboration of harmonized procedure for consideration of applications for recognition of ship's certificates and boatmasters' licenses
 - (a) Reciprocal recognition of ship's certificates ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2008/5
 - (b) Reciprocal recognition of boatmasters' licenses ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2008/6
- 6. Requirements for prevention of water pollution by vessels ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2008/7
- 7. Further amendments to the European Agreement on Main Inland Waterways of International Importance (AGN)
 - (a) Annex IV, "Protection of the network from the intentional external influence" ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2008/8
 - (b) New provisions on environmental impact assessment ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2008/9
- 8. Common principles and technical requirements for Pan-European River Information Services (RIS) ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2008/10
- 9. Recommendation No.40 on International Certificate for Operators of Pleasure Crafts ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2008/11
- 10. Creation of a European network for exchanges on national educational programmes and vocational training
- 11. Transport of disabled people ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2008/12
- 12. Other business
 - (a) Definition of bottlenecks, missing links and quality of service in inland navigation ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2008/13

- (b) Budapest Convention on the Contract for the Carriage of Goods by Inland Waterway
13. Adoption of the report

II. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Item 1 Adoption of the agenda

1. In accordance with the Commission's Rules of Procedure, the first item on the provisional agenda is the adoption of the agenda.

Item 2 Election of officers

2. In accordance with the Commission's Rules of Procedure, the Working Party at its thirtieth session may wish to elect a Chairman and, possibly, a Vice-Chairman.

Item 3 Further amendments to the European Code for Inland Waterways (CEVNI)

3. The Working Party will be presented with the third revised edition of CEVNI incorporating changes introduced by the resolutions 54 and 62 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/115/Rev.3). The Working Party may also want to note that, further to its recommendation, the amendments to articles 1.01 and 4.05 and to annexes 5 and 6 of CEVNI were adopted by the SC.3 fifty-first session and are to be included in the next proposal for a resolution amending the third revised version (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/178, paras. 21-23).
4. The SC.3/WP.3 may then wish to proceed with consideration of the following proposals on further amendments to CEVNI:

(a) Chapter 1, "General Provisions"

5. The Working Party may wish to consider the proposal to revise the definition of high-speed vessels made by the government of Austria and the comments from other Governments and River Commissions (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2008/1).

(b) Chapter 6, "Rules of the road"

6. At the thirtieth session of the Working Party, the Danube Commission proposed to amend articles 6.01*bis* and 6.02 (2) to clarify the rules of conduct of small vessels in respect of other vessels, and high-speed vessels, in particular (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2006/1, paras. 9-10). At its thirty-first session, the Working Party did not retain the proposal but recognized the need for elaborating regulations on the navigation of small vessels and asked Governments and the River Commissions to send their views and proposals on such regulations to the secretariat (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/62, para. 8). The Working Party may wish to come back to this discussion in the light of the comments and proposals, if any, received by the secretariat (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2008/2).

(c) Other amendments to CEVNI

7. The Working Party may wish to consider other proposals, if any, on amendment of CEVNI presented by Governments or River Commissions.

(d) Possible upgrading of CEVNI status

8. It is recalled that, at its fiftieth session, the Working Party SC.3 discussed the proposal by Austria on possible upgrading of CEVNI to an international agreement and agreed to come back to this issue at the fifty-first session with due regard to the reaction by Governments and River Commissions and possible recommendations of the SC.3/WP.3 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/174, para. 40). At its thirty-first session, the SC.3/WP.3 supported the goal of the proposal (to facilitate the use of CEVNI and to further harmonize navigation rules in Europe), but some delegations were concerned with the time-consuming and cumbersome nature of the legislative process. The SC.3/WP.3, therefore, decided to focus on elaborating practical tools for identifying differences between CEVNI and the national and sub-regional CEVNI transpositions, such as Police Regulations for the Navigation of the Rhine (RPNR), Basic Rules of Navigation on the Danube (DFND) and national traffic regulations etc. (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/62, para. 14). This decision was endorsed by SC.3 at its fifty-first session (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/178, para. 24). In this context, the Working Party will be informed of the work initiated by the Austrian delegation, in close cooperation with River Commissions and the Government of the Netherlands, on preparing a document which presents the differences in traffic rules between CEVNI, RPNR, DFND and the national regulations of the Netherlands.

Item 4 Amendments of the Recommendations on Harmonized Europe-Wide Technical Requirements for Inland Navigation Vessels (annex to resolution No. 61)

9. The Working Party may wish to note that the amendments to Amendments to Appendix 1, "List of European Inland Waterways divided geographically into zones 1, 2 and 3", recommended by the SC.3/WP.3 for approval by the Working Party SC.3 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/62, para. 20) were approved by the SC.3 at its fifty-first session (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/178, para. 19) and that the secretariat plans to publish the first amendment to the resolution in 2008.

10. The Working Party wish to consider the following proposals of further amendments to the Recommendations:

(a) Chapter 2, "Procedure and rules for the inspection of inland navigation vessels"

11. At the request of the Working Party on Inland Water Transport (SC.3), the Working Party may wish to issue further recommendations to the SC.3 with respect to the amendments to section 2-7 on official number as proposed in document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2008/3. In doing so, the Working Party may consider it useful to take into account the last draft for the requirements of Annex II of the Directive and of the Rhine Vessel Inspection Regulation concerning the European vessel number, prepared by the EC/CCNR Joint Working Group, reproduced in the annex to the document.

(b) Chapter 20 and 21, “Specific requirements for sea-going vessels, recreational vessels and river-sea vessels”

12. It is recalled that the Working Party SC.3, at its fiftieth session, invited its Group of Volunteer experts, in particular, to elaborate missing chapters 20 “Specific requirements for sea-going vessels” and 21 “Specific requirements to recreational craft”, as well as to consider possible ways to elaborate specific recommendations for river-sea vessels based on the proposal by the Russian Federation in ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2006/8 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/174, para. 33). The Group of Volunteers met twice during the year 2007 and the Working Party will be informed of the progress in its work and the current proposal by the experts (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2008/4).

Item 5 Elaboration of harmonized procedure for consideration of applications for recognition of ship’s certificates and boatmasters’ licenses

13. The Working party may wish to note that, following the SC.3’s discussions at its forty-ninth session (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/168, para.15) and resolution No. 258 of the UNECE Inland Transport Committee on Plan of Action for the implementation of the decisions taken by the pan-European Conference on Inland Water Transport (ECE/TRANS/192, Annex II), the issue of a harmonized procedure for recognition of ship’s certificates and boatmasters’ licenses is now a priority work item in the SC.3’s Programme of work (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/178, para. 34).

(a) Reciprocal recognition of ship’s certificates

14. It is recalled that for the SC.3 forty-ninth session Group of Volunteers on Legislative Obstacles provided an analysis of the legal issues related to the existence of different regimes for technical requirements for vessels (ship’s certificates). The Working Party may wish to consider document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2008/5 which reproduces relevant recommendations by the Group of Volunteers, as well as comments received from Governments and River Commissions on the issue of recognition of ship’s certificates. The Working Party may then wish to decide on the content of a possible UNECE instrument which would facilitate the mutual recognition of ship’s certificates.

(b) Reciprocal recognition of boatmaster’s licenses

15. The Working Party may wish to consider document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2008/6, which includes inputs from the CCNR, the EC, the Danube Commission and Governments. The Working Party may wish to define the scope and the preliminary content of a possible UNECE document on this issue and set up a group of experts to prepare a first proposal for its June 2008 session.

16. In this context, the Working Party may also issue a proposal regarding the method of updating the Recommendations on Minimum Requirements for the Issuance of Boatmasters’ Licenses in Inland Navigation with a view to their Reciprocal Recognition for International Traffic (resolution No. 31), reproduced in the annex of the document.

Item 6 Requirements for prevention of water pollution from vessels

17. The Working Party may wish to note that, further to the recommendation by the SC.3/WP.3 thirty-first session, the text of the revised Resolution on prevention of pollution of

inland waterways by vessels (resolution No. 21) was approved by the SC.3 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/178, para. 25) and issued by the secretariat as document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/179.

18. The Working Party may wish to start considering other environmental aspects of inland navigation. In this context, it may wish to take into account the “Joint Statement on Guiding Principles on the Development of Inland Navigation and Environmental Protection in the Danube River Basin”, prepared under the auspices of the Danube Commission (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2008/7).

Item 7 Further amendments to the European Agreement on Main Inland Waterways of international importance (AGN)

19. The Working Group may wish to note that the consolidated text of the AGN Agreement, incorporating the amendments approved by the SC.3 at its forty-ninth and fiftieth sessions, is available at the SC.3 website (<http://www.unece.org/trans/conventn/legalinst.html>) and will be issued as an official publication. The Working Party may also wish to note that at its fifty-first session, the SC.3 approved, in principle, the amendments to Annex I and II, recommended by SC.3/WP.3, and decided that amendments to the list of ports and inland waterways in the AGN agreement would from now on be considered and adopted as a package every two years. The updated version of annexes I and II will be issued by the secretariat for the June session 2008 of the SC.3/WP.3, together with additional amendments to be proposed by Governments.

20. The Working Party may then wish to proceed to the following issues related to the AGN agreement:

(a) Annex IV, “Protection of the network from the intentional external influence”

21. It is recalled that following the Ukrainian proposal at the forty-ninth session of the Working Party on Inland Water Transport (TRANS/SC.3/2004/9), the secretariat prepared a draft Annex IV to the AGN Agreement entitled “Protection of the network from the intentional external influence” (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2006/7/Add.1). The draft was considered at the SC.3 fiftieth session in October 2006, and the SC.3/WP.3 at its thirty-first session in June 2007. While no objections were raised, delegations abstained from approving the amendment, seeking to ensure that the new annex IV would not contradict in any way the ongoing discussions on inland transport security in the European Union, within River Commissions and in other organisations (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/174, paras. 21-22; ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/62, para. 25). At its fifty-first session, the Working Party SC.3 asked the secretariat to circulate the draft annex IV to the European Commission and to the UNECE Multidisciplinary Group of Experts on Inland Transport Security for comments (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/178, para.12).

22. The Working Party may wish to note that no objections and additional comments were received from the EC and the group of experts. The draft annex IV is presented in document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2008/8 together with comments by individual Governments and the Working Party may wish to decide whether to recommend it to the SC.3 for approval. In doing so, the Working Party may wish to take note of the Supply Chain Security standards activities of International Organization for Standardization (ISO), which will be presented by the ISO secretariat.

(b) New provisions on environmental impact assessment

23. Upon the request by the SC.3 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/178, para. 13), the Working Party will be invited to consider the proposal by the Bureau of the Inland Transport Committee to align the UNECE transport infrastructure agreements, including the AGN agreement, with the 1991 Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (the Espoo Convention). The background information together with the comments received from Governments is issued by the secretariat as document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2008/9.

Item 8 Common principles and technical requirements for Pan-European River Information Services (RIS)

24. The Working Party may wish to consider proposals, if any, of amendments to the resolutions related to river information services (in particular, 48, 57, 60, 63). In this context, it will also be informed of the progress achieved in implementing RIS in Russia and Ukraine and of the related activities of the European Committee RAINWAT under the framework of the Regional Arrangement concerning the Radiotelephone Service on Inland Waterways (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2008/10).

Item 9 Resolution No. 40 on International Certificate for Operators of Pleasure Craft

25. At its fifty-first session, the Working Party SC.3 agreed with the proposal by the European Boating Association to consider complementing the current text of resolution No. 40 on International Certificate for Operators of Pleasure Craft with concrete information on national authorities, which issued the international certificate (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/178, para. 8). The Working Party will be invited to consider the first draft amendment to the resolution presented in document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2008/11.

Item 10 European network aiming at the facilitation of exchanges on national educational programmes and vocational training in inland navigation

26. It is recalled that, on the basis of the above-mentioned ITC resolution No. 258, the SC.3 agreed to include in its programme of work the establishment, jointly with River Commissions, of a European network aimed at the facilitation of exchanges on national educational programmes and vocational training in inland navigation (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/178, para. 34). The Working Party may want to exchange first proposals in this area, paying particular attention to the work already accomplished by River Commissions.

Item 11 Transport of disabled people

27. Following the proposal by the Inland Transport Committee, the Working Party SC.3 agreed to include in its programme of work the issue of transport of people with reduced mobility, noting that this issue was already covered in some of its instruments, such as the 1986 resolution No. 25, which contains Guidelines for Passenger Vessels also suited for carrying Disabled Persons and, more recently, resolution No. 61 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/178, para. 37). The SC.3 asked the Working Party SC.3/WP.3 Party to review and update, if necessary, resolution No. 25 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2008/12).

Item 12 Other business

(a) Definition of bottlenecks, missing links and quality of service in inland navigation

28. At the request of the Working Party SC.3 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/178, para. 14), the Working Party may wish to consider document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2008/13 which contains the definition of bottlenecks, missing links and quality of service in inland waterways, prepared by a UNECE informal group of experts in the course of the revision of document TRANS/WP.5/R.60 "Methodological basis for the definition of common criteria regarding bottlenecks, missing links and quality of service of infrastructure networks".

(b) Budapest Convention on the Contract for the Carriage of Goods by Inland Waterway

29. As a follow-up to item 3 of the Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Decisions taken by the Pan-European Conference on Inland Water Transport, the Working Party may wish to have to hold a preliminary discussion on the implementation challenges encountered by the Contracting Parties to the convention, as well on the reasons for non-participation of other countries.

Item 13 Adoption of the report

30. In accordance with established practice, the Working Party will adopt the report of its thirty-first session on the basis of the draft to be prepared by the secretariat.
