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Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on Inland Water Transport

Sixty-seventh session

Geneva, 11–13 October 2023

Item 6 (c) of the provisional agenda

Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in

Inland Navigation: Ship-Borne Barges (Resolution No. 15)

Revision of Resolution No. 15 “Ship-Borne Barges”

Note by the secretariat

Mandate

1. This document is submitted in line with the proposed Programme Budget for 2023, part V, Regional cooperation for development, section 20, Economic Development in Europe, Programme 17, Economic Development in Europe (A/77/6 (Sect. 20), table 20.6).
2. At its sixty-third session, the Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation (SC.3/WP.3) agreed to (a) recommend the Working Party on Inland Water Transport (SC.3) to confirm the status of resolution No. 15 as valid; (b) update its provisions in terms of the applied terminology, where necessary, and (c) consider possible harmonization with the Convention on the Registration of Inland Navigation Vessels. SC.3/WP.3 asked the secretariat to investigate this issue and prepare the draft proposal on updating resolution No. 15 for the sixty-seventh session of SC.3.
3. The proposal on updating the text of resolution No. 15 is contained in the annex to this document. It has been modified with due regard of (a) provisions and terminology of the Convention on the Registration of Inland Navigation Vessels, and (b) provisions for shipborne barges in the *European Code for Inland Waterways*, revision 6. and the *Recommendation on Electronic Chart Display and Information System for Inland Navigation (Inland ECDIS)* (resolution No. 48, revision 4).
4. SC.3 may wish to adopt the amended text as its resolution No. 106.



Annex

Shipborne Barges

Resolution No. ...

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

The Working Party on Inland Water Transport,

Noting the desirability, in particular, of measures designed to unify the operation of shipborne barges on European inland waterways,

Acknowledging the role of transport operations in shipborne barges for integration of inland waterways and ports in multimodal transport chains,

Recognizing the need for transparency and uniformity of the registration of inland navigation vessels;

Considering its resolution No. 24 on the European Code for Inland Waterways, revision 6 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/115/Rev.6),

Considering also its resolution No. 48 on Recommendation on Electronic Chart Display and Information System for Inland Navigation (Inland ECDIS). revision 4 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/156/Rev.4),

Bearing in mind the report of the Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation on its sixty-third session,

1. *Decides to replace its resolution No. 15 “Ship-Borne Barges” with this resolution;*

2. *Recommends:*

(a) That every ship-borne barge **intended for commercial use on European inland waterways** should be registered in a register, whether a ~~maritime~~ register **for sea-going ships** or ~~an inland shipping~~ a register **for inland navigation vessels**, and that ~~such~~ **simultaneous registration in more than one register of one member State and/or registers of two or more member States of the Economic Commission for Europe** should be prohibited;

(b) That the conditions for operating ship-borne barges on inland waterways **and in port areas** should be the same as that of other barges;

(c) That nothing should be done to inhibit the development of transport operations by ship-borne barges which include a maritime movement, and that furthermore the interchangeability of ship-borne barges should be facilitated in order to obtain their optimal use;

(d) That the treatment of ship-borne barges with regard to fees and charges of all kinds payable for the use of harbour installations should be, the conditions being equal, the same as that accorded to any other means of water transport using such installations;

(e) That ship-borne barges should pay the taxes and tolls of all kinds applicable on inland waterways;

23. *Requests* Governments to inform the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe whether they accept this resolution;

34. *Requests* the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe to place the question of the application of this resolution on the agenda of the Working Party on Inland Water Transport periodically and to keep up to date, for the sessions of the Working Party, the list of countries applying the resolution.