



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
8 April 2024

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

Sixty-fifth session

Geneva, 19–21 June 2024

Item 10 of the provisional agenda

Inland Waterway Statistics

Information for the E Waterway Census

Note by the secretariat

I. Mandate

1. This document is submitted in line with the proposed Programme Budget for 2024, part V, Regional cooperation for development, section 20, Economic Development in Europe, Programme 17, Economic Development in Europe (A/78/6 (Sect. 20), table 20.5).
2. At its sixty-fourth session, the Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation (SC.3/WP.3) invited delegations to provide comments on the scope of information to be collected for the E waterway census (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/128, paragraphs 74 and 75). The proposal for collecting information made by the secretariat presented at the sixty-fourth session of SC.3/WP.3 is given below.
3. At the time of drafting this document, the secretariat did not receive any comments for the proposed table. SC.3/WP.3 may wish to discuss the proposal and provide guidance to the secretariat.

II. Background and Coverage of the Census

4. Similar to the E Road and E Rail censuses, it is proposed to conduct a census of the infrastructure information and traffic and passenger volumes on the E Waterway Network as defined in Annex I of the European Agreement on Main Inland Waterways of International Importance (AGN). Where an E waterway is not open to traffic (temporarily not available for navigation, has not yet been built, or for other reasons), the census could, if possible, be taken on the waterway(s) used by the traffic which would otherwise use this E waterway.
5. The E Waterway traffic census is undertaken to obtain data for improving and developing the E Waterway system, in conformity with the standards set out in Annex III of AGN. In particular, the census data is aimed at providing detailed data which will facilitate international goods and passenger traffic by inland waterways. An additional objective of the

E Waterway traffic census is the measurement of the performance of the waterway network, expressed mainly in tonne-kilometres, between E ports as set out in Annex II of AGN.

6. Information on the extent to which various types of vessels use different sections of the E waterways would enable better integration of traffic by inland waterways in the planning processes of the country itself, allowing for adequate maintenance, renewal and improvement programmes, and at the international level. This information would also contribute to finding solutions to the problems raised by traffic congestion and facilitate the study of environmental issues, safety and energy consumption, not least through identification of corridors where modal shift may be most beneficial.

7. Such a census would need to request data that most countries with navigable inland waterways have already or that could be collected easily, based on existing observation posts. The table given below gives proposals for the data to be asked for, as a starting point for discussions.

8. In line with the existing censuses and to limit the reporting burden of member States, this new collection could be conducted every five years beginning with 2025.

9. Every effort should be made to arrive at data which are as comparable as possible at the international level. Continuous efforts are, therefore, necessary to keep the scope and quality of the E Waterway traffic census data in line with user requirements and member State involvement would thus be beneficial.

10. Data should be transmitted to the secretariat in electronic format as the Excel file and shapefiles where possible.

11. Countries are encouraged to provide comments on the proposal and to highlight which of the data are the most useful for their purposes. Based on the decision of SC.3/WP.3, the next step could be the elaboration of recommendations for countries conducting a census for the 2025 round.

III. Scope of Requested Information

12. Table for collecting information for the E traffic waterway census is given below.

Year	Origin				Destination				Goods transported				Notes			
	E Waterway section	Country/region	UN/LOCODE	Coordinates	River km	E Port	Country/region	UN/LOCODE	Coordinates	River km	Movement status	Tonnes		Tonnes-km	Type of goods	Passengers transported (number)
2020																
2021																
2022																
2023																
2024																
2025																

The requested information includes:

- Year: 2020–2025
- E Waterway section: between the ports of origin and destination
- Origin: specified point of origin of a vessel

- Destination: specified point of destination of a vessel
- E Port: according to table 3 of the Inventory of Main Standards and Parameters of the E Waterway Network
- Country/region: region can be defined in a manner similar to NUTS2,¹ by using the administrative divisions of the country that are one level below the national government. These could be states, provinces, oblasts, or any equivalent, depending on the country's administrative structure
- UN/LOCODE: UN/LOCODE Code List by Country and Territory is available on the website of the Economic Commission for Europe at <https://unece.org/trade/cefact/unlocode-code-list-country-and-territory>
- Coordinates: geographical coordinates of the port that collects data
- Movement status: in transit or completed
- Goods transported: total goods transported on the national territory irrespective of the country of registration and the type of vessels
- Type of goods: to be chosen from the dropdown menu (see the annex)
- Notes: any additional information.

13. SC.3/WP.3 may also wish to come back to the proposals for other E traffic waterway census data tables given in ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2018/14: (a) length of E inland waterway sections by average annual daily traffic; (b) distribution of traffic by vessel carrying capacity in 2025 and 2020, and (c) vessel density data at counting posts on E Waterway network shown on the accompanying map.

¹ NUTS (Nomenclature of territorial units for statistics): geographical nomenclature established by Eurostat to provide a single uniform breakdown of territorial units for the production of regional statistics for the European Union. More terms and definitions related to inland waterways statistics can be found in the Glossary for Inland Water Transport (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/218).

Annex**Types of Goods Transported by Inland Waterways**

<i>Group</i>	<i>Type of goods</i>
01	Products of agriculture, hunting, and forestry; fish and other fishing products
02	Coal and lignite; crude petroleum and natural gas
03	Metal ores and other mining and quarrying products; peat; uranium and thorium
04	Food products, beverages and tobacco
05	Textiles and textile products; leather and leather products
06	Wood and products of wood and cork (except furniture); articles of straw and plaiting materials; pulp, paper and paper products; printed matter and recorded media
07	Coke and refined petroleum products
08	Chemicals, chemical products, and man-made fibres; rubber and plastic products; nuclear fuel
09	Other non-metallic mineral products
10	Basic metals; fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment
11	Machinery and equipment n.e.c.; ² office machinery and computers; electrical machinery and apparatus n.e.c.; radio, television and communication equipment and apparatus; medical, precision and optical instruments; watches and clocks
12	Transport equipment
13	Furniture; other manufactured goods n.e.c.
14	Secondary raw materials; municipal wastes and other wastes
15	Mail, parcels
16	Equipment and material utilised in the transport of goods
17	Goods moved in the course of household and office removals; baggage transported separately from passengers; motor vehicles being moved for repair; other non-market goods n.e.c.
18	Grouped goods: a mixture of types of goods which are transported together
19	Unidentifiable goods: goods which for any reason cannot be identified and therefore cannot be assigned to groups 01–16
20	Other goods n.e.c.

² Not elsewhere classified.