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INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Inland Water Transport

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

Thirtieth session
Geneva, 6-8 June 2006
Agenda item 3

**FURTHER AMENDMENT OF THE EUROPEAN CODE
FOR INLAND WATERWAYS (CEVNI)**

Addendum 1

Transmitted by the secretariat of the Danube Commission

Note: At its twenty-ninth session the Working Party invited the secretariat of the Danube Commission to prepare and present for consideration proposals concerning the possible regulation of the navigation of small craft vis-à-vis commercial traffic fairways (TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/58, para. 34).

The proposals received from the secretariat of the Danube Commission appear below. The draft prescriptions for the use of small craft on inland waterways are based primarily on the regulatory experience of those countries which have a developed network of inland waterways. The Working Party may wish to exchange opinions on this question on the basis of this draft.

**DRAFT PRESCRIPTIONS FOR THE USE OF SMALL
VESSELS ON INLAND WATERWAYS**

1. *Clarify article 6.01 bis, as follows:*

“Article 6.01 bis - high-speed vessels

High-speed vessels are required to leave all other vessels, **with the exception of small craft**, enough room to hold their course and to manoeuvre; they may not require such vessels to give way to them.”

2. *Clarify article 6.02 (2), as follows:*

“2. Small craft navigating alone or in a towed or pushed convoy of small craft must remain outside the channel¹ (prescribed traffic lanes or recommended courses on sections with cardinal buoys). Where waterway conditions make this impossible, they may proceed in single file along the right-hand 30 metres (20 m) of the channel; in so doing, they shall not hamper other vessels’ movement or manoeuvring in the channel; they shall make way for them in good time without the exchange of sound or visual signals. Small craft may not require other vessels to give way to them.”

3. *Add to article 6.02 new subparagraphs 3, 4 and 5, as follows:*

“3. Small craft may be permitted to navigate in the channel outside the 30-metre (20 m) strip only during sports and other organized events and subject to conditions agreed with the navigation authorities.

4. Except when they are being used for work-related tasks, small craft shall be prohibited from:

(a) Manoeuvring or stopping near or between other vessels, dredgers, floating cranes, etc., whether stopped or under way;

(b) Stopping or anchoring in the channel (traffic lane, recommended course) or near floating navigation signs;

(c) Stopping less than 200 m upstream or downstream of passenger or cargo docks or landing stages;

(d) Entering the channel in visibility of less than 1 km.

5. In harbour basins, canals and certain waterway sections, small craft may be prohibited or restricted by local regulations. Specific traffic lanes may also be established for them.”

¹ The Danube Commission uses the term “фарватер” in Russian.

4. *Clarify article 6.03 bis (3), as follows:*

“3. This regulation applies to small craft when navigating outside the channel, when crossing it, when navigating on sections with cardinal buoys, and when overtaking one another on the channel.

(a) When two small motorized craft are approaching each other head on or nearly head on, they shall pass each other to port.

(b) When two small motorized craft approach each other on intersecting courses, the vessel having the other on its starboard side shall give way.

(c) When a small motorized craft approaches a small unmotorized craft or a small craft under sail and there is a risk of collision, the small motorized craft shall give way.

(d) A small craft approaching another small craft in the sector of its stern light (or lights), i.e. at over 22.5° abaft of the beam, is overtaking and, whether motorized or under sail, may pass the small craft being overtaken, keeping clear of its course, as follows:

(i) In the channel - to port only; the small craft being overtaken shall facilitate rapid overtaking by reducing its speed (no more than two craft may be abeam at once);

(ii) Outside the channel, when crossing it and on sections with cardinal buoys - on either side;

(iii) Small craft and vessels under sail shall pass and overtake without exchanging visual signals. They may indicate their actions using sound signals.”

5. *Add a subparagraph (iii) to article 6.07 (1) (c), as follows:*

“(iii) This provision shall not apply to small craft. They need only follow the rule set out in paragraph 1 (a), or use an alternative route for navigation if there is such an alternative on the section in question.”

6. *Clarify article 6.13 (4), as follows:*

“4. When necessary, small craft may cross the channel (navigation strip, recommended course) and turn across the channel, generally passing astern of vessels that are not small. Any such manoeuvre intersecting the course of approaching vessels

must be completed not less than 1 km (0.5 km) from those vessels. The crossing shall be effected at an angle of close to 90° and in as short a time as possible. These conditions shall also apply to a crossing of the channel at a prescribed place.”

7. *Add a new paragraph 5 to article 6.30, as follows:*

“5. Small craft equipped with radar in accordance with article 4.05 may navigate in reduced visibility, provided they comply fully with the provisions of that article and the requirements of article 6.02.”
