



**Economic and Social
Council**

Distr.
GENERAL

ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/2007/1
19 June 2006

ENGLISH
Original: FRENCH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Joint Meeting of Experts on the Regulations annexed to the
European Agreement concerning the International Carriage
of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN)*

Eleventh session

Geneva, 22-26 January 2007

Agenda item 5

**MATTERS RELATING TO THE RECOGNITION OF
CLASSIFICATION SOCIETIES**

**Report of the Meeting of Experts for the recognition
of classification societies****

Note by the secretariat

Attendance

1. The Meeting of Experts for the recognition of classification societies under the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways was held in Bonn on 22 and 23 May 2006 at the invitation of the delegation of Germany.

* This meeting is organized jointly by the Economic Commission for Europe and the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine.

** Distributed in German by the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine under the symbol CCNR-ZKR/ADN/WP.15/AC.2/2007/1.

GE.06-23315 (E) 190906 210906

Representatives of the following countries took part in its work: Austria, France, Germany and the Republic of Moldova. The Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine (CCNR) was also represented.

2. The secretariat was ensured jointly by Germany and CCNR.

Adoption of the agenda

3. The Meeting of Experts adopted the agenda as proposed by Germany.

Election of officers

4. Mr. H. Rein (Germany) was elected Chair.
5. On the proposal of the Chair, the preparation of the report was entrusted to Mr. Beck (Germany) and Mr. Fessmann (CCNR).

Recognition of the classification society Russian Maritime Register of Shipping (RS)

6. At the request of the Chair, the representative of the Russian Maritime Register of Shipping (RS) gave an overall presentation of his organization.

7. Following that presentation, the application file was examined in depth, with the following results:

7.1 Cover page

The Meeting of Experts noted that the cover page was missing. It requested once again that it be submitted.

The Meeting of Experts noted that the statements covered by paragraph 5 of the cover page were enclosed and signed in the file submitted.

7.2 Annex 4 (a) Report of inland navigation activity over a period of approximately 10 years

Following the additional explanations by the representative of RS concerning the documents presented, the Meeting of Experts considered that the report of activity was satisfactory.

7.3 Annex 4 (b) Rules of the applicant concerning the construction and classification of inland navigation vessels

The Meeting of Experts noted that the requirements enclosed with the application did not contain detailed rules for the construction of double-hull tank vessels. The representative of RS pointed out that such requirements existed, but that they would be included in the organization's rules only after entry into force of ADN. He stated that

requirements existed for all the types of tank vessels covered by ADN, and that they would be submitted to the ADN Administrative Committee before the effective recognition of RS by that Committee.

7.4 Annex 4 (c) Evidence of the updating and improvement of the rules and regulations of construction and classification

Document ND No. 2-060201-001-E, submitted as evidence of the updating of the rules, must still be completed by RS in order to eliminate the ambiguities of section 1.1 relating to applicability to both sea and inland navigation. The RS representative stated that he would send to Geneva the general regulations for classification, which in chapter 1.3, included the requirements applicable to inland navigation.

7.5 Annex 4 (d) Details of how the rules and requirements may be obtained and of their publication

The Meeting of Experts noted that the requirement had been met.

7.6 Annex 4 (e) Details of how and when the register of vessels was/or will be published

The register was updated on the Internet and was available in hard copy. The documents submitted were not considered to be sufficient. The Meeting of Experts requested that the documents be brought into line with those provided by other classification societies. As an example, the RS representative was provided with the documents submitted by the GL and RRR classification societies. He confirmed that he would forward an excerpt from the register, including information on the Danube inland navigation boats handled by RS.

7.7 Annex 4 (f) Evidence of the situation of ownership and commercial independence (details of holders of more than 10% of proprietary interest)

RS was 100% State-owned, but was dependent on income from its activity as a classification society. The vessels classified were distributed among a large number of different owners in such a way that no individual owner or equipment would have significant influence on the classification society.

The Meeting of Experts considered that the criterion of independence had been met.

7.8 Annex 4 (g) Internal quality system certificate in accordance with ISO 9001, EN 29001 and EN 45004

The submitted documents were considered to provide the requested evidence. The Meeting of Experts considered that it was satisfied on that point.

- 7.9 Annex 4 (h) List of branches with the power and the capacity to decide and act in other Contracting Parties/signatory States/member States

The Meeting of Experts requested that the submitted list be supplemented with the addresses of the branches and the names of the inland navigation experts. The RS representative confirmed that he would forward that information.

- 7.10 Annex 4 (i) Description of the organizational structure

The Meeting of Experts noted that the requirement had been met.

- 7.11 Annex 4 (j) List of active experts in the Contracting Parties/signatory States/member States, indicating their contractual relationship with the classification society

The submitted documents were not considered satisfactory. A corresponding document from the Germanischer Lloyd (GL) classification society was shown as an example. The Meeting of Experts requested that documents be made available along the lines of those provided by other classification societies. The RS representative confirmed that he would supplement the file accordingly.

- 7.12 Annex 4 (k) Description of the training and continuing training of the experts

The Meeting of Experts considered that the submitted documents were sufficient and that it was satisfied on that point.

- 7.13 Annex 4 (l) References (customers)

The Meeting of Experts noted that the requirement had been met. It further noted that RS used an external organization to evaluate customer satisfaction, and that the evaluation's outcome was positive for RS.

Conclusion

8. Subject to the submission of the additional information requested, the opinion of the Meeting of Experts was that the Russian Maritime Register of Shipping could be recommended to the Administrative Committee for recognition as a classification society.
