
Economic Commission for Europe**Inland Transport Committee****Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods****20 August 2010****Joint Meeting of Experts on the Regulations annexed to the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN) (ADN Safety Committee)****Seventeenth session**

Geneva, 23–27 August 2010

Item 7 of the provisional agenda

Matters relating to the recognition of classification societies

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS **)
for the recognition of classification societies
(28-29 June 2010)

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*) This meeting is organised by the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine by order of the ADN Administrative Committee of the Economic Commission of the United Nations for Europe.

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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 aboard the MS Mainz in Germany on 28 and 29 June 2010 at the invitation of the German delegation. Representatives of the following countries took part in its work: Germany, France, the Netherlands and Austria. The Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine (CCNR) and two representatives of the Shipping Register of Ukraine were also represented.
2. The secretariat was ensured jointly by Germany and the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

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

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

4. Mr. H. Rein (Germany) was elected Chairman.
5. On the proposal of the Chairman, the preparation of the report was entrusted to Mr. Saha (CCNR).

RECOGNITION OF THE CLASSIFICATION SOCIETY SHIPPING REGISTER OF UKRAINE (RU) UNDER THE ADN AGREEMENT

6. The Ukraine has submitted its application for recognition of the Shipping Register of Ukraine by letter dated 11 March 2010.
7. It is assumed that the domestic procedure according to 1.15.2.1 ADN has been complied with.
8. The Committee of Experts shall perform the procedure according to 1.15.2.2 provided for the pre-examination of the application and thus prepare the basis for a final decision of the Administrative Committee.
9. Such pre-examination shall be made according to the criteria listed under 1.15.3. and shall follow the Guidelines stated in the document with ref. TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/2002/2.
10. Upon the request of the Chairman the representative of the Shipping Register of Ukraine made a comprehensive presentation of said society.
11. Subsequently the application documents were examined in depth with the following results.

7.1 Cover page

The Committee of Experts noted that the cover sheet has been submitted. The submitted documents were examined in the order as listed on the cover sheet.

The Committee of Experts asked that the full address of the classification society and the competent authority should be added to items 1 and 2 on the cover page.

7.2 Annex 4 a) Report of inland navigation activity over a period of approx. 10 years

Following the additional explanations by the representative of the Shipping Register of Ukraine concerning the documents presented in the Annex, the Committee of Experts determined that the submitted proof of activity was satisfactory.

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

The Committee of Experts noted that the rules and regulations attached to the submitted application are not entirely available in the English language. It requested the representatives of the Shipping Register of Ukraine to completely submit the missing documents also in the English language, in particular the part containing the general manufacturing specifications, Part XIII, so that they can be examined retrospectively.

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

The representatives of the Shipping Register of Ukraine explained that the rules and regulations for construction and classification are continuously updated and improved.

The Committee of Experts determined that the requirements had been met.

7.5 Annex 4d) Details of how the rules and regulations can be obtained and of their publication

The Committee of Experts determined that the requirements had been met.

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

The Committee of Experts noted that the differentiation between the different vessel types in the document submitted in English for examination was not comprehensible. The representatives of the Shipping Register of Ukraine assured the Committee that they will review or supplement the respective table such that it is clearly understandable also in the English version.

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

Although the RU is 100% state-owned, it is dependent on income from its activity as a classification society. The vessels classified are owned by many different entities so that no individual owner, shipping company, shipyard owner or manufacturer will have a significant influence on the classification society.

The Committee of Experts determined that the requirement had been met.

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

The certification according to ISO 9001 has been evidenced by the certificate submitted.

A certification according to EN 45004:1995 (new: EN ISO/IEC 17020:2004) cannot be evidenced because the institute (UkrSEPRO) accredited by the Ukraine does not perform that type of certification. The representatives of the RU will investigate, whether that certification can be performed by a certification body accredited in another country.

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

The Committee of Experts noted that a regional organizational structure has been established in the Contracting Party. In addition, there is a branch with a full-time surveyor also in another Contracting Party (Hungary). They can also perform inspections in connection with dangerous goods.

The Committee of Experts determined that the criterion of independence had been met.

7.10 Annex 4i) Description of the organizational structure

The Representatives of the Shipping Register of Ukraine present their organizational structure.

The Committee of Experts determined that the requirement had been met.

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

The Committee of Experts determined that the requirement had been met.

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

The representatives of the Shipping Register of Ukraine stated that the experts must provide evidence of their university degree. Moreover, they are obliged to initially be trained for the job and then undergo continued further training and examinations within the framework of the advanced training scheme.

The Committee of Experts determined that the requirement had been met.

7.13 Annex 4l) References (customers)

The Committee of Experts determined that the requirement had been met.

8. Conclusion

The Committee of Experts requested the representatives of the RU to perform the requested work and submit the respective missing information by early in December 2010 in order to have it examined on the occasion of the meeting of the Safety Committee in January 2011.

Subject to the submission of the additional information requested, the opinion of the Committee of Experts was that the Shipping Register of Ukraine should be recommended to the Administrative Committee for recognition as a classification society.

Finally the Chairman suggested that the countries should consider inviting the classification societies to meet for an exchange of experience.
