

MINUTES OF THE 6th MEETING OF THE GROUP OF VOLUNTEERS

1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda

The sixth meeting of the Group of Volunteers was held from 23 till 25 October 2012 in The Hague.

The following experts took part in the meeting:

Mr. R. Vermeulen, Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment, The Netherlands (partly);

Mr. B. Oeloff, Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment (opening of the meeting);

Mr. Darco Sasic, Ministry of Transport, Belgrade, Serbia;

Mr. Valery Lobastov, Russian River Register, the Russian Federation;

Mrs. Victoria Ivanova, Russian River Register, the Russian Federation;

Mr. Willem Zondag, Consultant, the Netherlands.

The meeting was chaired by Mr. Willem Zondag.

From the following persons information was received that they could not participate in the meeting: Mr. Bone (UK) and Mr. Claeysens (Belgium).

Mr. B. Oeloff welcomed the group and explained the new organisation where the former Ministry of Transport and the Ministry of Housing and Environment have been merged into a new Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment. He wished the group a fruitful meeting.

The group adopted the following agenda which is attached.

Adoption of the agenda

The Chair explains that the Revision of Chapter 8A of Resolution 61 has not been taken onboard for this meeting, since it appeared that there is no need for a revision yet. A revision of Directive 97/68/EC is said to be foreseen for 2013. After publication of the revised version of the directive, a revision of this chapter could be considered.

The group adopted the agenda as proposed and which is attached.

2. Considerations of additional comments from SC.3/WP.3 to the proposed amendments to Chapter 1-2, “Definitions” of Resolution 61

Since the Ukraine did not ask for any additional amendment the group considered this subject to be finished and concluded that there is no further need for discussion.

3. Proposal for amending CHAPTER 4, -SAFETY CLEARANCE, FREEBOARD AND DRAUGHT MARKS

The group discussed the first draft proposal as prepared by the Russian Federation, but could not finalize it, due the complexity of the subject. The group will deal with the subject at the next meeting of the group.

4. Proposal for amending Section 10-1.4 “Chains and Cables” of Resolution 61

The group discussed, amended and finalised the proposal as prepared by the Chair, and recommends to present it to the secretariat with the advise to submit it to the SC.3/WP.3.

5. Proposal for amending Section 11-2 “Protection against falling”, Section 11-4, “Side Deck” and Appendix 3, Safety signs and signals to be used on board inland navigation vessels

The group discussed, amended and finalised the proposal as prepared by the Chair and recommends to present it to the secretariat with the advise to submit it to the SC.3/WP.3.

The group decided to ask the secretariat for assistance on searching the international standards equivalent to the European Standards referred to in the paragraphs 10-1.4.5 and 11-2.4 (as contained in the amending proposals).

6. Information from the Chair of the Working Party SC.3/WP.3 as regard to the last meeting of the Working Party

Mrs. Ivanova informed the members of the group about the outcome of the last two meetings (June and October 2012). The proposals prepared during the meeting in Budapest in September 2011 were adopted by the Working Party as Resolution 76.

Furthermore the Working Party requested the group to include the UNECE recommendations on Maritime Mobile Service Identifiers as an issue for its future activities.

7. Future work

The group proposes the following issues to be dealt with in future:

- Chapter 4 Finalize the second draft of 25 October 2012;
- Proposal on the UNECE recommendations on Maritime Mobile Service Identifiers;
- Chapter 15A Specific requirements for Sailing Passenger Vessels;
- Chapter 22A Specific requirements applicable to craft longer than 110 m.

8. Date and place of the next meeting

The Group decided to hold its next meeting in the beginning of June 2013. The place and exact date will be forwarded to the members of the Group.

9. Adoption of the minutes of the 6th meeting

The group adopted the minutes of the meeting.

10. The Group expressed its gratitude to the Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment for hosting and support of the 6th meeting.

The Hague, 25 October 2012