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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****Forty-sixth session**

Geneva, 18–20 February 2015

Item 5 of the provisional agenda

**Mutual recognition of boatmasters' certificates and
professional requirements in inland navigation:****Third meeting of the International Expert Group****Proposal for a document presenting the content of
Chapter 23 (“Crews”) of the Recommendations on
Harmonized Europe-Wide Technical Requirements for
Inland Navigation Vessels (Resolution No. 61, revised)****Transmitted by the secretariat****I. Mandate**

1. This document is submitted in line with cluster 5: Inland Waterway Transport, paragraph 5.1 of the programme of work 2014–2015 (ECE/TRANS/2014/23) adopted by the Inland Transport Committee on 27 February 2014.
2. At its fifty-eighth session, the Working Party on Inland Water Transport (SC.3) asked the secretariat, possibly in cooperation with the Group of Volunteer experts on Resolution No. 61, to prepare for the forty-sixth session of the Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation (SC.3/WP.3) a proposal for a new document presenting the content of Chapter 23 (“Crews”) of Resolution No. 61 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/197). The current technical part of Chapter 23 would remain in Resolution No. 61, but the more general part would be inserted into a new document in order to strengthen its visibility and ease its update.
3. The Working Party may wish to discuss the proposal presented in Chapter III of this document and the list of technical articles that should remain in Resolution No. 61.

II. Background

4. For the Rhine, the Rhine navigation personnel (RPN), which came into force on 1 July 2011, incorporates all the existing Rhine regulations for navigation personnel. It covers the qualification of personnel (skills, experience and certificate), manning requirements of crews and safety personnel on passenger vessels. It also lays down rules on the size and composition of crews. The size and composition of the crews vary with the length of the vessel, its mode of exploitation (14, 18 or 24 hours/day) and the quality of its technical equipment.

5. On the Danube, there is no uniform regime for the size and composition of crews; this falls within the competence of the individual Danube States.

6. The European Union so far has no rules on the size and composition of crews, but they are under discussion. As to working and rest hours, the EU has adopted a directive (2000/34/EC) laying down minimum requirements for working and rest hours for mobile workers in the transport sector, which is applicable to inland navigation, and which has become effective in 2003.¹ But there are also sector-specific regulations that apply. There is currently no EU legislation that deals with manning requirements in inland waterways. Although Directive 2006/87/EC (as amended by Directive 2006/137/EC) comes close to the Rhine Vessels Inspection Regulations (RVIR), it only provides rules on manning requirements for S1 and S2-equipped vessels.²

7. In the ECE region, the Recommendations on Harmonized Europe-Wide Technical Requirements for Inland Navigation Vessels (Resolution No. 61) establish a pan-European regime of technical requirements for inland navigation vessels transporting goods and passengers internationally, but is not legally binding.

III. Crews on board of inland navigation vessels: Proposal for a new resolution

8. The articles under the following sections could be removed from Chapter 23 of Resolution No. 61, renumbered and become part of a new resolution. This new resolution could include also the current content of the annexes to Resolution No. 31, as suggested in document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2015/1, para. 21:

23-2	CREW MEMBERS
23-3	CREW MEMBERS PHYSICAL FITNESS
23-4	PROOF OF QUALIFICATIONS SERVICE RECORD
23-5	OPERATING MODES
23-6	MANDATORY REST PERIOD
23-7	CHANGE OR REPETITION OF OPERATING MODE
23-8	SHIP'S LOG, TACHOGRAPH
23-9	EQUIPMENT OF VESSELS

¹ European Conference of Ministers of Transport, “*Strengthening Inland Waterway Transport*”

² International Labour Office, Working Paper No. 297, “*Living and working conditions in inland navigation in Europe*”

- 23-10 MINIMUM CREW FOR SELF-PROPELLED CARGO VESSELS AND PUSHERS
- 23-11 MINIMUM CREW FOR PUSHED CONVOYS, SIDE-BY-SIDE FORMATIONS AND OTHER RIGID FORMATIONS
- 23-12 MINIMUM CREW FOR PASSENGER VESSELS
- 23-13 MANNING OF VESSELS WHOSE MINIMUM EQUIPMENT REFERRED TO IN SECTION 23-9 IS INCOMPLETE
- 23-14 MINIMUM CREWS FOR OTHER VESSELS

9. The section "Crew Members Physical Fitness" could be renamed "Crew Members Fitness" and an article on mental fitness, to be discussed, could be added.

10. The articles under the section "GENERAL" of Chapter 23 of Resolution No. 61 would remain unchanged and a reference to the new resolution would be added in a new article 23-1.4 under this section.
