

FOREWORD

The European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN) was adopted on 25 May 2000 by a Diplomatic Conference held in Geneva from 22 to 26 May 2000 under the auspices of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and the Central Commission for the Navigation on the Rhine (CCNR). The ADN was elaborated jointly by the UNECE and the CCNR.

The Agreement itself and the annexed Regulations in their original version, which form an integral part of it, as well as the Final Act of the Conference and the Resolution adopted by the Conference, were published in 2001, under the symbol ECE/TRANS/150.

The Final Act was signed on 26 May 2000 by the accredited representatives of the following fifteen countries: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia and Switzerland.

The Agreement was opened for signature from 26 May 2000 until 31 May 2001. It has been signed (subject to acceptance, approval or ratification) by the following States: Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Republic of Moldova and Slovakia.

States which have not signed the Agreement may accede to it. The Agreement will enter into force one month after the date on which the number of States having signed it definitively, or having deposited their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, has reached a total of seven.

The Netherlands deposited an instrument of acceptance on 30 April 2003. Bulgaria deposited an instrument of ratification on 7 March 2006. The Russian Federation, Hungary and Austria acceded to the ADN on 10 October 2002, 4 May 2004 and 9 November 2004 respectively.

The annexed Regulations contain provisions concerning dangerous substances and articles, provisions concerning their carriage in packages and in bulk on board inland navigation vessels or tank vessels, as well as provisions concerning the construction and operation of such vessels. They also address requirements and procedures for inspections, issue of certificates of approval, recognition of classification societies, monitoring, and training and examination of experts.

The annexed Regulations, in their original version, should apply twelve months after the entry into force of the Agreement (Article 11). However, in view of the delays for entry into force inherent to the processes of ratification and accession, the Resolution adopted by the Conference holds that the annexed Regulation will be updated on a regular basis by a Joint Meeting of Experts before the entry into force of the Agreement. It recommends that States interested in becoming Parties to the Agreement regularly implement these updates, at the national level, without waiting for the entry into force of the Agreement.

On the entry into force of the Agreement, the most recent version of the annexed Regulations will be submitted for adoption to the ADN Administrative Committee (see Article 17) in order to ensure that the annexed Regulations, which will apply twelve months after the entry into force of the Agreement, are the updated version.

Since the adoption of the Agreement in May 2000, sessions of the Joint Meeting of experts have been organized seven times jointly by the UNECE and the CCNR, and have adopted amendments to the original annexed Regulations (reports TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/9, -/11, -/13, -/15, -/15/Add.1, -/17, -/17/Add.1 and -/17/Add.1/Corr.1, -/19/Add.1 and -/21/Add.1 and 2).

As a consequence, publications, including the text of the Final Act of the Conference held in May 2000, the Resolution adopted by the Conference, the Agreement itself and the updated version of the annexed Regulations as revised by the Joint Meeting for implementation as from 1 January 2003 and 1 January 2005 were issued under the symbols ECE/TRANS/170 and ECE/TRANS/182 respectively.

This publication contains a new updated version of the annexed Regulations, as adopted by the Joint Meeting for implementation as from 1 January 2007.

Additional information on the status of the Agreement and the work of the Joint Meeting of Experts is available on the website of the UNECE Transport Division (<http://www.unece.org/trans/danger/danger.htm>).