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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) (ADN Safety Committee)

Thirty-third session

Geneva, 27–31 August 2018

Item 3 (d) of the provisional agenda

Implementation of the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN): Training of experts

Report of the eighteenth meeting of the informal working group on the training of experts**Transmitted by the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine*, ****

1. The informal working group on the training of experts held its eighteenth meeting on 14 and 15 March 2018 in Strasbourg, chaired by Mr. Bölker (Germany). Representatives of the following States took part in the meeting: Germany, the Netherlands and Switzerland. The following non-governmental organizations were represented: the European Barge Union (EBU), the European River-Sea-Transport Union (ERSTU), the International Committee for the Prevention of Work Accidents in Inland Navigation (CIPA) and the Binnenschiffer-Ausbildungs-Zentrum (BAZ-Germany).

I. Adoption of the agenda

CCNR-ZKR/ADN/WG/CQ/2018/2 a (Agenda)

ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/2017/30 and Corr.1 (Report of the seventeenth meeting)

1. The informal working group adopted the agenda and the report.

* Distributed in German by the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine under the symbol CCNR-ZKR/ADN/WP.15/AC.2/2018/43.

** In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2018–2019 (ECE/TRANS/2018/21/Add.1 (9.3)).



II. Work schedule

ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/2017/8 (work schedule)

2. The Chair presented the work schedule.
3. The informal working group considered and adopted the 2018 work schedule.

III. Continuous adaptation of the ADN catalogue of questions 2017 (item 1 of the work schedule)

CCNR-ZKR/ADN/WG/CQ/2018/3 – Com. Secr. (ADN catalogue of questions 2017: General)

CCNR-ZKR/ADN/WG/CQ/2018/5 – Com. Secr. (ADN catalogue of questions 2017: Chemicals)

CCNR-ZKR/ADN/WG/CQ/2018/4 – Com. Secr. (ADN catalogue of questions 2017: Gas)

ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/2011/4 - 17 – Com. Secr. (Confidential documents, ADN 2011 substantive questions; may be made available during the meeting)

3.1 ADN 2019 (item 1.3 of the work schedule)

CCNR-ZKR/ADN/WG/CQ/2017/5

CCNR-ZKR/ADN/WG/CQ/2017/9

4. The informal working group considered the ADN catalogue of questions 2017: General, adapted it in line with the amendments planned for ADN 2019 and agreed to deal with the substantive questions at the group's next meeting.
5. The informal working group agreed on the distribution among the experts of the different sections of the catalogue of questions for revision. The Chair invited the experts to complete the revision by 31 July 2018. The revised catalogues of questions would be adopted at the next working group meeting in September 2018 and submitted to the Safety Committee at its meeting in January 2019.
6. The President invited the CCNR secretariat to circulate the requests for amendments to the German version of ADN 2019 to the participants of the informal working group after the ADN translation conference.

3.2 Adaptation of the directive on the use of the catalogue of questions for the ADN expert examination (item 2.1 of the work schedule)

ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/2017/32

7. The informal working group reviewed the directive on the use of the catalogue of questions for the ADN expert examination. The objective should be for the examinations to be taken in as harmonized a manner as possible in the different ADN Contracting States.
8. The group considered whether the correct answers should be rotated, given the possibility of that leading to divergent standards. It was agreed that a rotation of the answers from A to D should be possible in principle.
9. The informal working group found that the Administrative Committee directive on the use of the catalogue of questions for the ADN expert examination should be supplemented to include requirements applicable to the electronics examinations.
10. On paragraph 51 of the directive, the group held an exchange of views on the usefulness of indicating a maximum number of points per question. The Chair observed that doing so would alter the current philosophy in respect of the assessment of the substantive questions. To date, the allocation of points had always been decided by the

examination boards. The representative of the German delegation invited the Netherlands delegation to make a presentation at the next meeting on the way that points were usually allocated to the different substantive questions in the Netherlands, and pointed out that several countries had already expressed an interest in using the substantive questions. He was therefore of the opinion that the number of points should be set to ensure that the answers to the substantive questions were assessed in a harmonized manner. The Chair summarized the discussion, noting that the proposal to allocate a maximum of two points to each question would be placed in square brackets in the directive and the matter would be returned to at the next meeting of the informal working group.

11. In respect of the discussion that had taken place in the ADN Safety Committee (ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/66, paragraph 24), the Netherlands delegation proposed setting a minimum period after which a candidate could retake the test after a refresher course, and proposed that period should be at least three days. The Chair considered that the proposal took adequate account of the needs of persons working on board inland navigation vessels when they attend such courses, observed that the informal working group approved the proposal made by the Netherlands delegation and noted that the directive should be adapted accordingly.

12. The representatives of the inland navigation industry said that it seemed from information they had received that the time limits of 60 minutes for the test at the end of the basic course and 40 minutes for the test at the end of the refresher course were insufficient. They proposed extending those times to 75 minutes for the basic course and 50 minutes for the refresher course. It should be remembered that ADN had become increasingly voluminous and complex in recent years. The Chair noted that the experts present welcomed the proposal. He considered that, if amendments were to be made, the time limits for the Gas and Chemicals specialized course tests should also be changed. He invited the experts to discuss the matter with their examination boards and training centres and invited the CCNR secretariat to include the topic on the agenda of the next meeting.

IV. ADN Expert examination (item 2 of the work schedule)

4.1 Recognition of training courses in accordance with 8.2

13. The Chair noted that no documents had been submitted on the item.

4.2 Harmonization of Chapter 8.2 “Requirements concerning training” and 8.2 of ADR

OTIF/RID/RC/2018/10 (ident. ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2018/10)

14. The informal working group considered the proposal on refresher courses that had been drafted during the joint meeting devoted to online training courses and its possible consequences on the training of ADN experts. It was agreed that such activities would be closely followed.

15. It should be noted that subsection 8.2.2.4 of ADN already included the possibility of distance learning for the basic and specialized courses.

4.3 Analysis of examination statistics

ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/62, para. 42

15. The Chair noted that no document had been submitted on the item.

V. General questions on the catalogue of questions (item 3 of the work schedule)

16. The Chair informed the experts that the informal working group documents would be saved on the German delegation's BSCW server, from where they could be downloaded. The experts would receive individual invitations to enable them to do so.

VI. Calendar

17. The informal working group decided that its next meetings would be held in Strasbourg from 18 to 20 September 2018. The meetings would begin at 2 p.m. and finish at 4 p.m.
