15 January 2018

English

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-second session

Geneva, 22 - 26 January 2018 Item 3 of the provisional agenda

Matters arising from the work of United Nations bodies or other organizations

International Ministerial Conference on Inland Waterway Transport and the outcome of the sixty-first session of the Working Party on Inland Water Transport (SC.3)

Note by the secretariat

A. International Ministerial Conference on Inland Waterway Transport

- 1. Following the recommendation of the UNECE White Paper on Efficient and Sustainable Inland Water Transport in Europe (2011), an International Ministerial Conference on Inland Waterway Transport will be organized jointly by the Ministry of Maritime Economy and Inland Navigation of Poland and the UNECE Inland Transport Committee. This Conference, under the title "Connecting by Inland Navigation", will take place in Wrocław, Poland, from 18 to 19 April 2018.
- 2. The high-level conferences on inland water transport held in Europe over the past 30 years (Budapest in 1991, Rotterdam in 2001 and Bucharest in 2006) followed up by Resolution No. 258 of ITC on 8 February 2007, boosted the coordinated development of inland waterways, proposed harmonized action plans towards improving the role of inland water transport and laid down the foundations of new multimodal network of Pan-European transport corridors.
- 3. This International Ministerial Conference will bring together countries with vested interest in inland navigation, River Commissions, European Commission, basin authorities, intergovernmental and non-governmental associations and other key stakeholders from around the world to discuss key matters, trends and challenges that are fundamental to the development of inland waterways across the world, set priorities and coordinate activities towards the Sustainable Development Agenda and responding effectively to the new market requirements.
- 4. The Conference is aimed at increasing the focus of policy on fostering the role of inland water transport, encouraging countries to maximize the potential of inland waterways and addressing the challenges of sustainable development of mobility with reference to inland water transport.

- 5. For this purpose, the Ministers will be invited to sign the Ministerial Declaration to endorse the objectives for the next period and propose strategic actions.
- 6. The draft programme of the Conference and the draft ministerial resolution will be made available on the SC.3 webpage. For further information, contact the secretariat of SC.3.

B. Outcome of the sixty-first session of the Working Party on Inland Water Transport (SC.3)

- 7. The sixty-first session of SC.3 was held on 4-6 October 3017. Among the decisions of SC.3, the following may be relevant to transport of dangerous goods by inland waterways:
 - (a) Adoption of amendments to the AGN Agreement (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2017/3);² in particular, a new waterway E 40-01 connecting a port terminal to be built on the Dnieper in Nizhnie Zhary, near the Belarus-Ukrainian border, and the mouth of the river Pripyat;
 - (b) Adoption of amendments to the European Code for Inland Waterways (CEVNI) containing provisions for vessels using LNG as a fuel as Resolution No. 88 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/115/Rev.5/Amend.1) which is available on the SC.3 web page at www.unece.org/trans/main/sc3/sc3res.html.
 - (c) Concerning draft amendments to Resolution No. 61 on provisions for vessels using LNG as a fuel, SC.3 started discussing the draft chapter on special provisions applicable to craft equipped with propulsion or auxiliary systems operating on fuels with a flashpoint equal to or lower than 55° C and a new Appendix (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2017/8). This work will continue in 2018.

C. Translation of standard ES-TRIN into Russian

- 8. Following the decision of SC.3 at its sixtieth session, the secretariat has finalized the translation of the European Standard laying down Technical Requirements for Inland Navigation Vessels (ES-TRIN) of the European Committee for drawing up standards in the field of Inland Navigation (CESNI), Edition 2015/1,³ into Russian. It is available as:
 - Informal document SC.3/WP.3 No. 7 (2017) (Parts I and II);⁴
 - Informal document SC.3 No. 3 (2017) (Parts III and IV);⁵
 - Informal document SC.3/WP.3 No. 2 (2018) (Annexes).6
- 9. In 2018, the secretariat will start working on the Russian language translation of ESTRIN Edition 2017.

¹ The report (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/205) is available at www.unece.org/trans/main/sc3/sc3/sc3rep.html

² www.unece.org/trans/main/sc3/sc32017.html

³ Available in English, French, German and Dutch at /www.cesni.eu/documents/es-trin/

 $^{^4 \} www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trans/doc/2017/sc3wp3/ECE-TRANS-SC3-WP3-2017-inf_07r.pdf$

 $^{^{5}\} www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trans/doc/2017/sc3wp3/ECE-TRANS-SC3-2017-inf_03r.pdf$

⁶ www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trans/doc/2018/sc3wp3/ECE-TRANS-SC3-WP3-2018-inf_02r.pdf