

Minutes of the 2nd meeting of the Informal Working Group on recreational navigation

12-13 February 2018, Palais des Nations, Geneva

Room S1

1. The Informal Working Group on recreational navigation (hereafter the Group) held its second meeting on 12-13 February 2018 in Geneva.
2. The following participants took part in the meeting:
 - Mr. Ville Räisänen, Finnish Transport Safety Agency (Trafi)
 - Mr. Stuart Carruthers, European Boating Association (EBA)
 - Ms. Carol Paddison, EBA
 - Mr. Vardi Erez, International Sailing Schools Association (ISSA)
 - Ms. Iris Ashuach, ISSA
 - Ms. Heidi Therese Bless, Norwegian Maritime Authority
 - Mr. Amayak Nunikyan, EMERCOM of the Russian Federation
 - Mr. Andrii Starovoit, Association of Small Craft and Boating Sport of Ukraine (ASCBSU), PO "Waterway from the Varangians to the Greeks" (PO "WVG")
 - Ms. Victoria Ivanova, UNECE secretariat
3. Mr. Sergey Moiseev (Russian Yachting Association) was not able to attend the meeting.

I. Opening and adoption of the agenda

4. The participants adopted the following agenda:
 - I. Opening and adoption of the agenda
 - Document: IWG RN/2018/1*
 - II. Outcome of the sixty-first session of SC.3.
 - Document: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/205*
 - III. Exchange of information on the current situation in the sector.
 - IV. Requirements for the education and training of pleasure craft operators: draft questionnaire.
 - Document: IWG RN/2018/2*
 - V. Modules for CEVNI knowledge tests.
 - Document: IWG RN/2018/3*
 - VI. Map of the European Recreational Inland Navigation Network.
 - Document: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2018/9*
 - VII. ICC and the application of Resolution No. 40.

- VIII. Promotion of recreational navigation and water tourism in member States.
- IX. Other business.
- X. Next meeting.

II. Outcome of the sixty-first session of SC.3

5. The Group was informed by the secretariat about the decisions of the sixty-first session of the Working Party on Inland Water Transport (SC.3) relevant to the activities of the Group (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/205, paras. 81-90):

(a) SC.3 had adopted the Terms of Reference of the Informal Working Group on recreational navigation (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2017/20);

(b) following the decision of the first meeting of the Group, the secretariat had informed SC.3 that (b) assistance in developing CEVNI tests to those Governments which have not implemented CEVNI or do not have navigable inland waterways; (c) the terms and limitations imposed by Governments when issuing ICC, including restrictions on the size or type of boat;

(c) following the proposal of the first meeting of the Group, SC.3 had asked the secretariat to check, whether the RD¹ class waterways could accommodate boats with a beam of 4.5 m, in a view of a possible updating of Resolution No. 52;

(d) SC.3 had adopted the amendment to Annex IV of Resolution No. 40, fourth revision (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2017/21), as Resolution No. 89:

(e) SC.3 had adopted the revised Guidelines to Resolution No. 40.

6. The Group was informed by the secretariat that a special web page had been created at http://www.unece.org/trans/main/sc3/sc3_ig/group_recreational_navigation.html

7. The Group took note of the decision of SC.3 to retain in the ICC database all types of ICC specimens, which had been issued by all authorized bodies of countries that apply Resolution No. 40. Members of the Group were asked to check and update, if necessary, the list of approved bodies and submit ICC specimens issued by these bodies to the secretariat.

III. Exchange of information on the current situation in the sector

8. The Group exchanged information on the current situation in the sector:

- Mr. Räisänen mentioned that in Finland licences were required only for recreational vessels over 24 m in length, and the registration was required for boats over 5,5 m in length or with an engine over 20 HP.
- Mr. Erez Vardi highlighted the activities of ISSA and the promotion of ICC among boaters, sailing schools and instructors.
- Ms. Heidi Therese Bless mentioned that in 2017 the Administration had issued 165 ICCs; in 2018 the administration will be increasing the information about ICCs available to recreational boaters.

¹ A waterway class according to Annex I to Resolution No. 52 'European Recreational Inland Navigation Network', revised (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/164/Rev.1).

- Mr. Nunikyan informed the Group that about 1.5 million boats were registered and about 50-60 thousand national certificates were issued annually.
9. Ms. Ivanova mentioned that not all information about the implementation of ICC was available in the secretariat, and asked the assistance of the Group in getting recent updates.

IV. Requirements for the education and training of pleasure craft operators: draft questionnaire

10. The Group exchanged the opinions on how to ensure the minimum level of knowledge and skills for boaters having ICCs were met. The Group noted that the responsibility for this lay with the implementing Governments. However, the Russian Federation mentioned that the absence of minimum requirements was an obstacle for it to become an implementing Government.

11. The Group discussed the draft questionnaire for collecting information about education and training of recreational boaters, prepared by the Russian Yachting Association (IWG RN/2018/2) and agreed that it was necessary to clarify the purpose of collecting information and the target audience.

12. The Group decided that the questionnaire should be redrafted with due regard of the following:

- The content of the training courses and whether a medical certificate is required from candidates;
- The period of validity of certificates issued and conditions for its renewal;
- additional restrictions when issuing certificates;
- Whether the ICC can be converted to national qualification;
- The purpose of the development of Resolution No. 40 and how they see it developing in the future, including a possibility of a convention being developed;
- Whether visiting boaters require evidence of competence to visit the responding country whether an ICC is acceptable for this purpose.

13. The Group agreed that the purpose of collecting this information was to identify common themes which could, in turn, identify best practice.

14. The Group noted that it might be necessary to circulate two separate questionnaires: for competent authorities, and for approved bodies and other parties involved in recreational boat training.

15. EBA agreed to prepare the revised draft for the next meeting of the Group.

V. Modules for CEVNI knowledge tests

16. ISSA presented document IWG RN/2018/3, and the Group discussed how sample questions could be made available to interested parties.

17. The Group concluded that it would be feasible to develop a UNECE database of questions that could be used by administrations to aid them when considering how to test knowledge of CEVNI and, ultimately, for elaborating their own tests.

18. The Group also discussed refresher tests for boaters not routinely using this knowledge. The Group took note that tests were already available:

- on the website of the Finnish Transport Safety Agency <http://pinnalla.trafi.fi/#testi>

- on the website of the Norwegian Maritime Authority at <https://www.sdir.no/globalassets/global-1/upload/vis-sjovett/spill/sjovetttest.swf> and <https://www.sdir.no/fritidsbat/sjovett/sjovettspillet/> available for ipad/iphone.

19. The Group asked the secretariat to inform SC.3/WP.3 about this proposal for providing further guidance.

VI. Map of the European Recreational Inland Navigation Network

20. The Group agreed with the amendment proposal as in ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2018/9.

VII. ICC and the application of Resolution No. 40

21. The secretariat informed the Group about consultations held with the Icelandic Transport Authority and **the Israeli Ministry of Transportation** who were currently considering applying Resolution No. 40. The Group agreed that a road map for administrations to provide guidance on how to implement Resolution No. 40 would be beneficial, and asked the secretariat to prepare a proposal.

19. The Group discussed the inquiries on the application of Resolution No. 40 received by the secretariat since the first meeting of the Group.

20. ISSA mentioned that it was keen to facilitate the promotion of Resolution 40 by attracting insurance and charter companies, international and local organizations involved in education of recreational boaters to spread the word. The Group welcomed the intention of ISSA to include the Guidelines to Resolution No. 40 in their training programme and recommended that the Guidelines should be used as the first step. The Group further encouraged wider promotion of the ICC.

21. The Group recalled that the Norwegian Maritime Authority had demonstrated the system it has for verifying commercial certificates at the last meeting, and decided to continue the discussion at its next meeting.

VIII. Promotion of recreational navigation and water tourism in member States

22. The Group exchanged opinions on the promotion of recreational navigation and water tourism in member States. Ukraine informed about the restoration project of the E 40 and E 41 waterways in relation to recreational navigation.

IX. Other business

23. The Group took note that information regarding the ICC published on Wikipedia was incorrect in the English, Finnish and Norwegian websites. The Group discussed whether any action could be taken to correct the information, but the nature of Wikipedia, the numerous language versions and the fact that any registered user can update a page, meant that the only action the Group could sensibly take was to encourage boaters to use the UNECE website and the Guidelines to Resolution No. 40 as their primary source for information.

X. Next meeting

24. The Group decided to have its next meeting in Geneva in October 2018, possibly back-to-back with the sixty-second session of SC.3, and asked the secretariat to investigate if this is feasible.
