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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-sixth session**

Geneva, 27–31 January 2020

Item 4 (b) of the provisional agenda

Implementation of the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN): special authorizations, derogations and equivalents**Request for a derogation for the construction of a LNG Bunkering vessel with tanks bigger than 1000 m³****Transmitted by the Government of Belgium^{*,**}****Introduction**

1. On 28 October 2019, a request was sent to the Belgian authority to ask for a derogation from the ADN Administrative Committee for the construction and operation of a Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) bunkering vessel with tanks bigger than 1000 m³.
2. Currently the ADN prescribes in 9.3.4.1.1 that the maximum allowable cargo tank volume is 1000 m³. The owner wants to construct a 5000 m³ LNG bunkering vessel. Different options were compared and the option to construct the ship with 4 x 1250 m³ tanks has several advantages over the option to have 5 x 1000 m³ tanks.

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

3. A technical file was sent to the Belgian competent authority by the owner and is annexed to this request. This technical file will be further explained during the thirty-sixth session of the ADN Safety Committee.

Proposal

4. The Government of Belgium requests the Administrative Committee to evaluate this request and if possible, grant a derogation for the life-time of the ship to sail with 4 x 1250 m³ LNG Bunkering tanks.

Annex

Decision of the ADN Administrative Committee relating to the construction of an LNG Bunkering vessel with 4 cargo tanks of 1250 m³.

Derogation No. XX/2020 of XX January 2020

The Competent authority of Belgium is authorised to issue a certificate of approval for the LNG Bunkering vessel that will be built with 4 cargo tanks of 1250 m³.

The above-mentioned vessel may deviate during the life-time of the vessel from the requirement of paragraph 9.3.4.1.1 (alternative constructions), last sentence: "The capacity of a cargo tank shall not exceed 1000 m³."

The Administrative Committee decides that the use of these larger cargo tanks is sufficiently safe and has several safety advantages compared to a similar vessel with 5 cargo tanks of 1000 m³.

The following conditions shall also apply:

1. The derogation is only given to paragraph 9.3.4.1.1 (last sentence). All other requirements of paragraph 9.3.4 of the ADN need to be complied with.
 2. An evaluation report shall be sent to UNECE secretariat for information of the Administrative Committee, including the inspection report by the classification society which classed the vessel.
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