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Economic Commission for Europe**Inland Transport Committee****Working Party on Inland Water Transport****Sixty-fifth session**

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Item 14 (a) of the provisional agenda

Programme of work and the Terms of Reference of the Working Party on Inland Water Transport: Programme of work and biennial evaluation for 2022–2023**Programme performance assessment for 2020–2021, draft programme of work and biennial evaluation for 2022–2023****Note by the secretariat****I. Mandate**

1. This document is submitted in line with the Proposed Programme Budget for 2021, part V, Regional cooperation for development, section 20, Economic Development in Europe. Programme 17, Economic Development in Europe (A/75/6 (Sect.20), para. 20.51).
2. At its sixty-third session, the Working Party on Inland Water Transport (SC.3) agreed to maintain the practice of the adoption of biennial programmes of work and the 4-year plans for the future. The Working Party reviewed and adopted its programme of work for 2020–2021 and the relevant parameters allowing for its biennial evaluation (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/210, para. 99).
3. SC.3 may wish to review the work accomplished in 2020–2021 using the indicators of achievement as set out in ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2019/21. SC.3 may also wish to consider and adopt the programme of work for 2022–2023 as proposed below.

II. Performance assessment for 2020–2021*

4. The year 2020 was marked by unprecedented challenges and unique accomplishments for the whole Sustainable Transport Division: (a) the COVID-19 global pandemic, which affected the work of the division by impacting the entire inland transport sector and associated industries, as well as by limiting the division's ability to hold meetings and process ongoing projects, and (b) a profound liquidity crisis for the United Nations which has, among other problems, limited the division's ability to hold meetings and provide simultaneous interpretation. This resulted in the reduced number of meetings of SC.3 and the Working

* Subject to the decisions of SC.3 taken at the present session.

Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation (SC.3/WP.3) in 2020.

5. However, despite these challenges, SC.3 was able to accomplish the activities planned in 2020–2021 biennial programme of work and contributed to the work of the Division in responding to the challenges mentioned above.

6. In 2020–2021, SC.3 held two sessions: sixty-fourth session in October 2020 and sixty-fifth session in November 2021. SC.3/WP.3 held four regular sessions: fifty-sixth and fifty-seventh sessions in February and October 2020, one virtual informal meeting on 29 and 30 June 2020, fifty-eighth and fifty-ninth sessions in February and June 2021 and one special session on the European Code for Inland Waterways (CEVNI) on 22 June 2021 (22 meetings against 24 planned). Since October 2020, sessions were held in a hybrid format with both in-person and virtual participation as official meetings with simultaneous interpretation into English, French and Russian and informal meetings in English only. Performance target was achieved partially: 11 meetings of SC.3 against 12 planned and 22 meetings of SC.3/WP.3 against 24 planned.

7. Following the special procedures to take decisions in formal meetings with remote participation adopted by EXCOM on 5 October 2020 (ECE/EX/2020/L.12), the decisions made at the sessions were circulated through all Geneva Permanent Representations for approval by the silence procedure of 72 hours by the participating delegations of the session. Related information is available on the website of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) under <https://unece.org/silence-procedure>.

8. Thematic workshops and roundtable discussions held in 2020–2021:

- Sustainable Development Goals and how they can be achieved in inland waterways (12 February 2020)
- River-sea transport in Europe (13 February 2020)
- Circular economy in inland water transport (7 October 2020)
- Automation in inland navigation (8 October 2020)
- Climate change and the extreme water situation on European waterways and its impact on inland water transport (17 February 2021)
- Building up a solid international regulatory framework aimed at increasing the efficiency and safety of inland water transport (23 June 2021)
- Cybersecurity in inland water transport (3 November 2021).

9. In its activities, SC.3 was guided by (a) the Strategy of the Inland Transport Committee (ITC) until 2030; (b) policy recommendations of the White Paper on the Progress, Accomplishments and Future of Sustainable Inland Water Transport adopted in 2019 and endorsed by ITC in 2020; (c) the SC.3 strategy for 2016–2021; (d) its terms of reference adopted in November 2016 and endorsed by ITC in February 2017; (e) the Wrocław ministerial declaration and (f) ITC resolution No. 265.

10. During this period, one official publication was issued – the White Paper on the Progress, Accomplishments and Future of Sustainable Inland Water Transport (ECE/TRANS/279), and two more publications will be issued till the end of 2021: CEVNI revision 6 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/115/Rev.6) and (c) booklet “River Information Services in the region of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe”. Furthermore, online booklets “European Agreement on Main Inland Waterways of International Importance (AGN): road map for ratification, acceptance, approval and accession” and “Road Map for the acceptance and implementation of resolution No. 40, “International Certificate for Operators of Pleasure Craft” were prepared.

11. In 2020–2021, SC.3 adopted the following documents which are available on the SC.3 web page or will be available after the present session:

- (a) Addenda Nos. 3 and 4 to the third revision of the Inventory of Main Standards and Parameters of E Waterway Network (the Blue Book);

- (b) Amendment No. 4 to CEVNI revision 5 and CEVNI revision 6;
 - (c) Amendments Nos. 2 and 3 to the Recommendations on Harmonized Europe-Wide Technical Requirements for Inland Navigation Vessels (resolution No. 61, revision 2),
 - (d) Updated list of reception facilities for the transfer of waste generated on board of vessels on European inland waterways as resolution No. 99, which is attached as an appendix to the annex to resolution No. 21, revision 2;
 - (e) Revised International Standard for Tracking and Tracing on Inland Waterways (annex to resolution No. 63) as resolution No. 100;
 - (f) Revised International Standard for Electronic Ship Reporting in Inland Navigation (annex to resolution No. 79) as resolution No. 101; and
 - (g) Amendment to the annex of resolution No. 80, revised.
12. In 2020–2021, the following meetings of informal expert groups were held:
- (a) CEVNI Expert Group – 6 meetings, and
 - (b) Informal Expert Group on Recreational Navigation – 2 meetings.
13. SC.3 continued maintaining and updating the Blue Book online database and the database of specimens of the International Certificate for Operator of Pleasure Craft.

III. Draft programme of work for 2022–2023

14. The draft programme of work applies a results-based approach. It comprises, for each cluster of activities, an expected accomplishment and a list of outputs/activities proposed to be carried out in 2022–2023. The delivery of these outputs/activities is expected to contribute to achieving the expected results.
15. The outputs/activities have been listed under the cluster of activities to which they belong according to the following main categories: (a) meetings and related parliamentary documentation; (b) publications and other information material; and (c) technical cooperation, including seminars, workshops, training sessions and advisory services.
16. The objective of the programme of work is to contribute to the overarching objective of the ECE Transport Subprogramme to advance a regionally and globally sustainable inland transport system by making it safer, cleaner, more efficient and more affordable, both for freight transport and people’s mobility.
17. The responsibility for the ECE Transport Subprogramme is vested in the Sustainable Transport Division.
18. Outputs/activities to be delivered in the 2022–2023 biennium are as follows:

<i>Description of cluster</i>	<i>Expected accomplishments</i>
1. Organize a pan-European policy dialogue on the sustainable inland water transport issues	An improved and updated regulatory framework for inland water transport infrastructure and vessels in the ECE region, monitoring and updating of relevant legal instruments, as well as enhanced cooperation of ECE countries member States in addressing them.
2. Promote a coordinated development of inland waterway infrastructure and the implementation of international conventions and agreements	
3. Address safety and operational requirements in inland navigation, promote innovations and modernization of inland fleet and river-sea shipping	
4. Promote integration of inland water transport in multimodal transport chains	
5. Prevention of pollution from vessels and resilience of inland water transport to climate changes	

<i>Description of cluster</i>	<i>Expected accomplishments</i>
6. Contribute to the harmonization of the legal framework for international inland water transport	
7. Promote the attractiveness of the sector to the market and increasing its competitiveness, promote recreational navigation	
8. Undertake other activities related to regional and international cooperation or requested by the ECE Inland Transport Committee	
Main actions by the Sustainable Transport Division:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide secretariat services to the Working Party on Inland Water Transport (SC.3), the Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation (SC.3/WP.3) and their informal expert groups • Maintain an inventory of ECE resolutions on inland water transport issues • Prepare regular technical and ad hoc policy publications • Represent ECE in the relevant meetings of the European Union, River Commissions regional economic integration organizations, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other relevant bodies 	

A. Outputs/activities

19. Meetings and related parliamentary documentation

(a) Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation (SC.3/WP.3) (sixtieth and sixty-first sessions in 2022, sixty-second and sixty-third sessions in 2023) (4 sessions, 24 meetings).

Documentation:

Agendas and reports of the sessions of the Working Party (8); a set of other documents on mandated issues including, but not limited to, amendment proposals to the European Code for Inland Waterways (CEVNI), the European Code for Signs and Signals on Inland Waterways (SIGNI) (resolution No. 90), Prevention of pollution of inland waterways by vessels (resolution No. 21, revision 2), the Recommendations on Harmonized Europe-Wide Technical Requirements for Inland Navigation Vessels (Resolution No. 61), the glossary of terms and definitions in inland water transport, resolutions on River Information Services, automation in inland navigation and other SC.3 resolutions on technical and safety requirements and other related documents on newly mandated issues;

(b) Working Party on Inland Water Transport (sixty-sixth session in 2022 and sixty-seventh session in 2023) (two sessions, 12 meetings).

Documentation:

Agendas and reports of the annual sessions of the Working Party (4); a set of other documents on mandated issues including, but not limited to, the strategy of the Working Party, the draft programme of work and biennial evaluation (in the format prescribed by any updated ITC decision), documents on the status and amendments to AGN and other legal instruments relevant to inland navigation, the Inventory of Main Standards and Parameters of the E Waterway Network (Blue Book), resolution No. 49; SC.3 resolutions and amendments to them on technical and safety requirements in inland navigation, prevention of pollution from vessels, fostering innovations and modernization of vessels, the glossary of terms and definitions in inland water transport, issues related to inland water transport statistics, recreational navigation; reports on the status of implementation of international agreements on inland navigation matters and SC.3 resolutions; studies of inland water transport issues in

the ECE region and overview of River Commissions' activities; documents on legal aspects of inland water transport operations; maps of inland waterways and other related documents on newly mandated issues.

20. Publications and other information material:

(a) Maintenance of a web-based inventory of UNECE resolutions and documents in inland water transport issues;

(b) Publication of the glossary of terms and definitions in inland water transport;

(c) Publication of the Blue Book, revision 4;

(d) Online versions of other relevant ECE resolutions, revised or amended by SC.3;

(e) Maintenance and further development of the online database of the E waterway network (the Blue Book database);

(f) Maintenance and updating of the online database of specimens of the International Certificate for Operators of Pleasure Craft

(g) Publication and/or online versions of booklets and other information materials in support of SC.3 activities.

21. Technical cooperation

(a) Support for technical cooperation and capacity building to assist countries and river commissions in establishing homogeneous and internationally acceptable standards of navigation safety throughout the European inland waterway network;

(b) Workshops and round tables on topical issues and new challenges in the sector (4).

B. Biennial evaluation

22. On the basis of decisions taken at its sixty-third session in November 2019 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/210, para. 99), the activities of SC.3 are measured, as part of the biennial evaluation, against one expected accomplishment, two indicators of achievement and corresponding actual performance measures, following the practice approved by ITC as part of the performance planning for evaluation of the biennium 2018–2019 (ECE/TRANS/2016/29).

23. The Working Party may wish to review the 2020–2021 parameters (expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement, actual performance measures) as provided below with a view to either maintaining them or establishing new ones for the biennium 2022–2023.

<i>Biennial Assessment</i>			
<i>Review of performance measures for 2020–2021 and establishment of targets for 2022–2023</i>			
<i>Cluster</i>	<i>Expected Accomplishments</i>	<i>Indicators of Achievement</i>	<i>Actual Performance Measures</i>
Inland waterway transport	An improved and updated regulatory framework for inland water transport infrastructure and vessels in the ECE region, , monitoring and updating of relevant legal instruments, as well as enhanced cooperation of member States in addressing them.	(a) Promotion of the third edition of the Blue Book, updating of the AGN Agreement and other relevant UNECE instruments	

*Biennial Assessment
Review of performance measures for 2020–2021 and establishment of targets for 2022–2023*

<i>Cluster</i>	<i>Expected Accomplishments</i>	<i>Indicators of Achievement</i>	<i>Actual Performance Measures</i>
		<i>Performance measures:</i>	
		Baseline 2016–2017: Adoption of amendments to the second revision of the Blue Book and preparation of the third revision of the Blue Book	(a) Third revised edition of the Blue Book was adopted in November 2016 and released in July 2017. (b) The Blue Book online database was updated simultaneously with the release of the Blue Book publication.
		Baseline 2018–2019: Adoption of amendments to AGN, preparation of amendment 1 to the Blue Book	(a) Amendments to AGN came into force on 6 November 2018. (b) The AGN map was updated and issued in 2019. (c) Amendment 1 to the Blue Book was adopted by SC.3 in October 2018.
		Baseline 2020–2021: Preparation and adoption of amendment 2 to the Blue Book; updating of the Blue Book database	(a) Amendments 2 and 3 to the Blue Book were adopted by SC.3 in 2020 and 2021. (b) In 2021, the Blue Book online database was updated based on the adopted amendments to the Blue Book.
		Target 2022–2023: Preparation and adoption of amendment 4 to the Blue Book and preparation of the fourth revision of the Blue Book	
		(b) Preparation and adoption of the next revision of CEVNI taking account of information on its application in member States and by River Commissions.	
		<i>Performance measures:</i>	
		Baseline 2020–2021: Preparation and adoption of CEVNI revision 6	(a) Amendment 4 to CEVNI revision 5 was adopted by SC.3 in 2020. (b) CEVNI revision 6 was prepared and adopted by SC.3 in 2021.
		Target 2022–2023: Preparation and adoption of amendments to CEVNI revision 6	

*Biennial Assessment
Review of performance measures for 2020–2021 and establishment of targets for 2022–2023*

<i>Cluster</i>	<i>Expected Accomplishments</i>	<i>Indicators of Achievement</i>	<i>Actual Performance Measures</i>
		(c) Preparation of the third edition of the White Paper on Efficient and Sustainable Inland Water Transport in Europe (2020)	
		<i>Performance measures:</i>	
	Baseline 2018–2019: Starting the revision of the White Paper and preparation for its next edition		(a) Ministerial Conference “Connecting by Inland Navigation” was held on 18 and 19 April 2018 and the Ministerial declaration was adopted on 18 April. (b) ITC Resolution No. 265 was adopted in February 2018. (c) Recommendations for member States on monitoring the implementation of the Wrocław Declaration were approved by SC.3 in November 2019. (d) Draft of the revised White Paper was considered by SC.3 in November 2019.
	Baseline 2020–2021: Implementation of the revised White Paper		(a) Actions proposed under policy recommendations Nos. 1–6, and 8 were regularly addressed by SC.3 and SC.3/WP.3 in 2020–2021 through the adoption of amendments to the Blue Book, resolutions Nos. 21, revision 2, 61, resolutions on RIS, discussions on automation in accordance with resolution No. 95, thematic workshops and round tables. (b) Following policy recommendation No. 7, SC.3 initiated revision of resolution No. 31 which will be continued in 2022–2023.
	Baseline 2022–2023: Implementation of the recommendations of the White Paper		
		(d) Preparation and adoption of the next revision of resolution No. 61, Recommendations on Harmonized Europe-wide technical requirements for Inland navigation vessels	

*Biennial Assessment**Review of performance measures for 2020–2021 and establishment of targets for 2022–2023*

<i>Cluster</i>	<i>Expected Accomplishments</i>	<i>Indicators of Achievement</i>	<i>Actual Performance Measures</i>
		<i>Performance measures:</i>	
		Baseline 2018–2019: Finalization of the consolidated version of resolution No. 61 for the final adoption	Revision 2 was adopted by SC.3 in October 2018 and issued as a publication in 2019
		Baseline 2020–2021: Preparation and adoption of amendments to the annex to resolution No. 61, revision 2	Amendments 1 and 2 to the annex to resolution No. 61, revision 2, were adopted by SC.3 in 2020 and 2021
		Target 2022–2023 Preparation and adoption of amendments 3 and 4 to the annex to resolution No. 61, revision 2	