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Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on Inland Water Transport

Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation

Sixtieth session

Geneva, 16–18 February 2022

Item 2 of the provisional agenda

Outcome of the sixty-fifth session of the Working Party on Inland Water Transport

Questionnaire on the implementation of the Ministerial declaration “Inland Navigation in a Global Setting”

Note by the secretariat

Mandate

1. This document is submitted in line with the Proposed Programme Budget for 2022, part V, Regional cooperation for development, section 20, Economic Development in Europe, Programme 17, Economic Development in Europe (A/76/6 (Sect.20), para. 20.76).
2. Following the decision of the Working Party on Inland Water Transport (SC.3) at its sixty-fifth session to prepare a report on the implementation of the Wroclaw Ministerial Declaration for the eighty-fifth annual session of the Inland Transport Committee in 2023, the secretariat has prepared a draft questionnaire for collecting information from member states, which is contained in the annex. The draft is based on the Recommendations on monitoring the implementation of the declaration, adopted by SC.3 at its sixty-third session (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/210, paragraph 20).
3. The Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation may wish to consider a draft questionnaire and provide its guidance to the secretariat.

Annex

Draft questionnaire on the implementation of the Ministerial declaration “Inland Navigation in a Global Setting”

Questions

Examples of indicators

A. Building up a solid regulatory framework aimed at increasing the efficiency of inland water transport (strategic actions 1 to 3)

Is your country a Contracting Party to international treaties and conventions relevant to inland water transport other than those within the Inland Transport Committee (ITC), including regional bilateral and multilateral agreements?

Is your Administration working on acceding to or ratifying international conventions and agreements relevant to inland water transport within ITC? Please provide details, if any.

Please provide information about national legal acts for the implementation of the international conventions and agreements

B. Ensuring the appropriate balance among all transport modes, streamlining cargo flows and promoting the multimodality (strategic actions 4 to 11)

Please provide information about national measures and action plans aimed at increasing the modal share of inland water transport, developing infrastructure and logistics, developing river-sea navigation

Is your country a Contracting Party to the Protocol on Combined Transport on Inland Waterways to the European Agreement on Important International Combined Transport Lines and Related Installations (Protocol to AGTC)?

- If no, is your Administration planning to accede to or ratify the Protocol to AGTC and/or other legal instruments relevant to combined transport?
- If yes, is there any progress in the implementation of the Protocol to AGTC?

Is your Administration engaged in the activities and plans aimed at:

- Ensuring and maintaining the required minimum parameters of inland waterways and coastal routes of international importance;
- Development of inland waterways of classes I–III;
- Eliminating bottlenecks and missing links;
- Ensuring adequate capacities of ports and terminals;
- Other measures aimed at developing the infrastructure and logistics;
- Other measures aimed at developing river-sea navigation?

Please provide details showing the progress in this field.

The present and target values of navigational characteristics of inland waterways

Key performance indicators (Sustainable Development Goal indicator 9.1.2) in 2016–2021: freight volumes in tonne-km, passenger volumes in passenger-km, freight transport volumes in relation to the gross domestic product

The modal split and the share of inland water transport in total and per goods segment

The share of container transport

The number of ports and terminals suitable for combined transport

Other relevant data

Questions

Examples of indicators

Is your Administration engaged in activities aimed at enhancing multimodality (state aid, unification of transport documents and other measures)?

C. Encouraging the realization of a modern fleet and fostering innovations (strategic actions 12 to 14)

Are there any legal instruments implemented in your country and/or national acts aimed to foster innovation, automation and greening of the inland fleet?

What rules and regulations are applied in your country:

- European Code for Inland Waterways (CEVNI)
- Other navigation rules (please indicate)
- Technical standards for inland navigation vessels and river-sea vessels
- Regulations aimed at modernizing the inland fleet and fostering innovations?

What measures are being realized and/or planned by your Administration for:

- Improving the quality of inland water transport operations;
- Ensuring navigation safety and reducing the risk of accidents;
- Minimizing the impact of the human factor?

What measures are being realized and/or planned by your Administration in the field of:

- Promotion of renovation and modernization of the fleet, construction of new vessels, modernization of vessels;
- Financial and economic measures aimed at the promotion of the modernization and greening of the inland fleet;
- Introducing innovations and new technologies in inland water transport;
- Digitalization of transport documents in the sector?

Is your Administration engaged in programmes, projects and pilot projects aimed at the deployment of River Information Services (RIS)?

Please provide details showing the progress in this field.

Is your Administration engaged in programmes, projects and pilot projects aimed at developing automated, autonomous and smart shipping and digitalization?

What measures are being realized and/or planned by your Administration for:

- Decreasing the average age of the fleet;
- Preventing pollution from vessels (introducing an efficient waste management system, measures to prevent and/or minimize the risk of damage from spills of oil, fuel and dangerous substances);

Data on navigation-related collisions; transport quality indicators, such as the service availability and frequency, safety and security of cargo and passengers; availability of information

Statistics on the composition and the age of the fleet, the number of newly built and modernized vessels

Length and/or share of inland waterways equipped with RIS

Obligation to equip vessels with AIS

Pilot projects, testing zones and regulations for autonomous and smart shipping

Key indicators relevant to the environmental footprint of inland shipping

Questions

Examples of indicators

- Reducing greenhouse gas and pollutant emissions associated with transport;
- Increasing the energy efficiency of inland water transport?

What measures are being realized and/or planned by your Administration for promoting the use of alternative fuels, innovative propulsion systems, including electromotion, fuel cell and battery systems on the inland fleet and, in particular, on urban waterborne transport?

D. Building the inland waterway infrastructure resilient to climate changes (strategic actions 15 to 16)

Is there available statistical data related to the impact of climate trends on the performance of inland water transport in your country?

Statistical data relevant to the impact of climate change on the performance of inland water transport (navigation periods, low water periods, floods etc.); investment and operational costs for the fairway rehabilitation and maintenance; information on critical locations (the number, the length, the fairway depth), volumes of dredging works

Are there any measures and action plans realized in your country at the international and national level for adaptation of the sector to climate change and maintaining the operability of inland water transport?

Is there any progress in the waterway building, fairway rehabilitation and maintenance plans for international rivers and their navigable tributaries in 2016–2021?

Total length of the waterways where the plans have been implemented

E. Promoting the attractiveness of the sector to the market and increasing its competitiveness (strategic actions 17 to 23)

Please provide information about state financing programmes for the development of inland water transport

Please provide information about:

- Education and training programmes in the sector aimed at promoting the fleet modernization and greening, facilitating innovations in the sector;
- Using simulators for education, training and examination purposes;
- Measures aimed at attracting young qualified personnel in the sector;
- Measures for improving the working and social conditions of the professional staff;
- Measures aimed at increasing mobility of crews, recognition of vessel certificates and certificates of crew members.

Statistics on the total number of workers in the sector, the share of workers with higher education and the proportion of women in the sector