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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)**

**Forty-second session**

Geneva, 21-25 August 2023

Item 5 of the provisional agenda

**Reports of informal working groups**

Report of the second meeting of the informal working group on certificates and other shipboard documents in electronic form

Transmitted by the Government of the Netherlands[[1]](#footnote-2)\*, [[2]](#footnote-3)\*\*

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| *Summary* |
| **Related documents:** ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/82 (Paragraph 69) – Report of the fortieth session  Informal document INF.9 of the thirty-eighth session – (CCNR)  ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/78 (Paragraphs 9 and 10) – Report of the thirty-eighth session  ECE/TRANS/WP15/AC.2/2022/1 – (Austria)  ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/80 (Paragraph 64) – Report of the thirty-ninth session |
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Introduction

1. The informal working group on certificates and other shipboard documents in electronic form held its second meeting on 3 and 4 May 2023 in Utrecht in a hybrid format. Members of the Dutch, German and Luxembourg delegations, and representatives of the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine (CCNR) secretariat, European Barge Union (EBU), European Skippers Organization (ESO) and FuelsEurope attended the meeting. The informal working group (hereafter mentioned as the group) continued its discussions on the tasks set out for the group in document ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/2022/1.

2. The group had a short discussion on the developments of telematics under the discussion at the RID/ADR/ADN Joint Meeting and on the implementation process of the Regulation (EU) 2020/1056 on electronic Freight Transport Information (eFTI). The implementation process of eFTI is ongoing and, although a next deadline in the process is scheduled for August this year, some members of this group noted there are still different views on the range of information that should be made available through eFTI. Since the discussions on the requirements for eFTI are still ongoing at the Joint Meeting, and the decisions made at the Joint Meeting will have a direct impact on the actors for inland navigation as well, the representatives of the inland navigation actors were invited to participate in these discussions at the Joint Meeting.

3. During the review of the work done during its first meeting, the group was informed that within the frameworks of seagoing vessels, it is now possible to issue ship certificates electronically ([FAL.5/Circ.39/Rev.2 of the International Maritime Organization](https://wwwcdn.imo.org/localresources/en/OurWork/IIIS/Documents/FAL.5-Circ.39-Rev.2%20-%20Guidelines%20For%20The%20Use%20Of%20Electronic%20Certificates.pdf)) and in the framework of inland navigation within the European Union, it is now possible to issue Union certificates of qualification as a boat master electronically ([EU 2020/182](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:32020R0182#d1e118-1-1)). With this new information, the group considered that the earlier decision to exclude all certificates from the mandate of this informal working group might be reconsidered. Therefore, the group identified a number of documents and certificates that were excluded during the first meeting of the group, but could be considered as ready for electronic format with "a security feature". The group would like to include these documents within its mandate and spent the next meeting discussing which security features could be considered for these documents and certificates. These documents and certificates could be considered as candidates for a second step of documents to be allowed in electronic form. These documents and certificates are indicated as "step 2" in the annex.

4. As many of the "step 2-documents" are issued by the classification societies, the group had requested the classification societies whether they are able to issue these documents electronically, and if they included safety features in these electronic documents: one of the recognized classification societies confirmed that they are able to issue these documents electronically, with safety features included.

5. On the documents identified as possible to be allowed in an electronic format in the first step, the informal working group considers that these documents do not need any security features, since the physical documents currently do not require stamps, signatures or other security features. As such the group would like to propose to allow these documents to be carried on board in an electronic PDF-format with reference to standard ISO 32000-1. The latter is also used within the framework of the CCNR for other documents that are required to be on board of inland navigation vessels. It was noted that for original documents the electronic document should be an electronic document received from the author of the document, not a scan of the physical document, so that metadata is present. These documents are indicated as "step 1" in the annex.

6. With regard to these "step 1 documents", the group would like to develop amendments to enable users of the ADN to carry these documents electronically for the ADN 2025 version. The sections to be amended could be all the sections mentioned in the annex, where additional text could be proposed that: "The documents listed in paragraphs (x) to (y) could be carried electronically in PDF-format according to standard ISO 32000-1".

7. The group had a short discussion on the possibilities of a "gain of function", in that electronic documents could be requested to be send to an authority, without the necessity of the authority being physically present on board of the ship. The group did not reach consensus, a part of the group was of the opinion that this ability to check the documents without being present on the ship should be included for all electronic documents, others were of the opinion that, as a first step, we should strive for equivalence with paper documents, and as such should not include anything related to making available of documents to inspection bodies not present on board.

Other items

8. The group recognized that "the instructions in writing referred to in 5.4.3" mentioned in 8.1.2.4 already may be made available through electronic data processing or electronic data interchange techniques as described in 5.4.0.2. As such, the group would like to propose to amend the wording of 8.1.2.4, which implies the physical act of handing over a document, to language which does not include that implication.

9. 8.1.7.3 describes a certificate that must be carried on board following repairs of explosion-protected installations and equipment, the group would like to propose to add this certificate to the list of documents under 8.1.2.1 and would propose to add this document to the "step 2 documents".

Proposals

10. Amend 8.1.2.4 as follows (deleted text is stricken through, new text is bold and underlined):

"The instructions in writing referred to in 5.4.3 shall be ~~handed to~~ **made available to** the master before loading. They shall be kept readily ~~at hand~~ **available** in the wheelhouse.

On board dry cargo vessels, the transport documents shall be ~~handed to~~ **made available to** the master before loading and on board tank vessels they shall be ~~handed to~~ **made available to** him after loading and before the journey commences."

11. Add 8.1.2.1 (l) to read as follows (deleted text is stricken through, new text is bold and underlined):

"**(l) For vessels which required repair of explosion-protected installations and equipment and autonomous protection systems, the certificate referred to in 8.1.7.3.**"

Action to be taken

12. The ADN Safety Committee is requested to consider the report of the informal working group and to take action as it deems appropriate.

Annex

|  | *Certificates and other documents to be reviewed for dematerialization* | | | | |
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| *Reference* | *Description* | *certificates* | *other documents* | *Dematerialization possible?* | *remarks* |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | **ALL ADN - VESSELS** |  |  |  |  |
| 8.1.2.1 (a) | Certificate of approval | x |  | Step 2 |  |
| 8.1.2.1 (a) | Provisional certificate of approval | x |  | Step 2 |  |
| 8.1.2.1 (b) | Transport documents |  |  |  | Electronic transport document under the competency of the Joint Meeting |
| 8.1.2.1 (c) | Instructions |  | x | Step 1 |  |
| 8.1.2.1 (d) | ADN (latest version) |  |  |  | already possible |
| 8.1.2.1 € | Inspection certificate of the isolation resistance of the electrical installations and equipment | x |  | Step 2 |  |
| 8.1.2.1 (f) | Certificate concerning the inspection of the fire-extinguishing hoses | x |  | Step 2 |  |
| 8.1.2.1 (f) | Certificate concerning the inspection of the special equipment | x |  | Step 2 |  |
| 8.1.2.1 (g) | Book with required measurement results |  | x | Step 2 | This document needs to be filled in |
| 8.1.2.1 (h) | Copy of the relevant text of the special authorisations |  | x | Step 1 |  |
| 8.1.2.1 (i) | Means of identification | x |  | no | Digital ID might be accepted if it is a Nationally accepted means of identification |
| 8.1.2.1 (k) | Inspection certificate | x |  | Step 2 |  |
| 8.1.2.1 (k) | Documentation of the calculated maximum load stress | x |  | Step 2 |  |
|  | **DRY CARGO VESSELS** |  |  |  |  |
| 8.1.2.2 (a) | Stowage plan |  | x | Step 1 |  |
| 8.1.2.2 (b) | ADN specialized knowledge certificate | x |  | Step 2 |  |
| 8.1.2.2 (c) | Damage-control plan | x |  | Step 2 |  |
| 8.1.2.2 (c) | Documents on intact stability | x |  | Step 1 |  |
| 8.1.2.2 (c) | Certificate of the recognized classification society | x |  | Step 2 |  |
| 8.1.2.2 (d) | Inspection certificate for fixed fire extinguishing systems | x |  | Step 2 |  |
| 8.1.2.2 (e) | General plan indicating the fixed installations and equipment suitable for use at least in zone 1 |  | x | Step 2 |  |
| 8.1.2.2 (f) | List of or a general plan indicating the fixed installations and equipment which are not authorized for use during loading and unloading, during a stay near to or within an onshore assigned zone |  | x | Step 2 |  |
| 8.1.2.2 (g) | Plan indicating the boundaries of the zones and the location of the electrical and non-electrical equipment installed in the relevant zones intended for use in explosion hazardous areas |  | x | Step 2 |  |
| 8.1.2.2 (h) | List of installations and equipment in case of electrical equipment for use in zone 1 |  | x | Step 2 |  |
|  | in case of electrical equipment for use in zone 2 and in the case of non-electrical equipment for use in zone 1 and zone 2 |  |  |  |  |
|  | **TANKVESSELS** |  |  |  |  |
| 8.1.2.3 (a) | Stowage plan |  | x | Step 1 |  |
| 8.1.2.3 (b) | ADN specialized knowledge certificate | x |  | Step 2 |  |
| 8.1.2.3 (c) | Damage-control plan |  | x | Step 1 |  |
| 8.1.2.3 (c) | Documents concerning intact stability |  | x | Step 1 |  |
| 8.1.2.3 (c) | Proof of the loading instrument |  | x | Step 1 |  |
| 8.1.2.3 (e) | Certificate of class | x |  | Step 2 |  |
| 8.1.2.3 (f) | Certificates concerning the inspection of the gas detection systems and the oxygen measuring system | x |  | Step 2 |  |
| 8.1.2.3 (g) | Vessel substance list |  | x | Step 1 |  |
| 8.1.2.3 (h) | Inspection certificate for the hose assemblies for loading and unloading | x |  | Step 2 |  |
| 8.1.2.3 (i) | Instructions relating to the loading and unloading flows |  | x | Step 1 |  |
| 8.1.2.3 (j) | Inspection certificate of the cargo pump-rooms | x |  | Step 2 |  |
| 8.1.2.3 (k) | Heating instructions |  | x | Step 1 |  |
| 8.1.2.3 (m) | registration document referred to in 8.1.11 |  | x | Step 1 |  |
| 8.1.2.3 (n) | For the carriage of refrigerated substances, the instruction required |  | x | Step 1 |  |
| 8.1.2.3 (o) | Certificate concerning the refrigeration system | x |  | Step 2 |  |
| 8.1.2.3 (p) | inspection certificates concerning the fixed fire extinguishing systems | x |  | Step 2 |  |
| 8.1.2.3 (q) | Determination of the holding time and documentation on the heat transmission coefficient |  | x | Step 1 |  |
| 8.1.2.3 (r) | A list of or a general plan indicating the fixed installations and equipment suitable to be used at least in zone 1 |  | x | Step 2 |  |
| 8.1.2.3 (s) | list of or a general plan indicating the fixed installations and equipment which are not authorized for use during loading and unloading, degassing or during a stay near to or within an onshore assigned zone |  | x | Step 2 |  |
| 8.1.2.3 (t) | Plan approved by a recognized classification society indicating the boundaries of the zones |  | x | Step 2 |  |
| 8.1.2.3 (u) | List of installations and equipment in the case of electrical equipment for use in zone 0 or zone 1 and, in the case of non-electrical equipment for use in zone 0 |  | x | Step 2 |  |
|  | in the case of electrical equipment for use in zone 2 and in the case of non-electrical equipment for use in zone 1 and zone 2 |  |  |  |  |
|  | Self-protection system |  |  |  |  |
| 8.1.2.3 (v) | list of or general plan indicating the fixed installations and equipment installed outside the explosion hazardous areas |  | x | Step 2 |  |
| 8.1.2.3 (w) | Certificates required under 3.2.3.1, Explanations concerning Table C, explanatory note for column (20), remark 12 | x |  | Step 2 |  |
| 8.1.2.3 (x) | Certificates required under 3.2.3.1, Explanations concerning Table C, explanatory note for column (20), remark 33 | x |  | Step 2 |  |
|  | **ALL ADN - VESSELS** |  |  |  |  |
| 8.1.5.1 | Instructions for the use of toximeters |  | x | Step 1 |  |
| 8.1.7.3 | Certificate on repair of explosion-protected installations and equipment |  |  | Step 2 | Proposed new 8.1.2.1 (l) |
| 8.6.3 | ADN Checklist |  | x | Step 2 |  |
| 8.6.4 | Checklist degassing to reception facilities |  | x | Step 2 |  |

1. \* Distributed in German by the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine under the symbol CCNR-ZKR/ADN/WP.15/AC.2/2023/42 [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. \*\* A/77/6 (Sect. 20), table 20.6. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)