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Working Party on Inland Water Transport

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Item 10 of the provisional agenda

Mutual Recognition of Boatmasters' Certificates and Harmonization of Professional Requirements in Inland Navigation

Terms of Reference of the Informal Working Group on Issues Related to Labour Market Challenges

Note by the secretariat

Mandate

1. This document is submitted in line with the proposed Programme Budget for 2023, part V, Regional cooperation for development, section 20, Economic Development in Europe, Programme 17, Economic Development in Europe (A/77/6 (Sect. 20), table 20.6).
2. As a follow-up of the workshop “Addressing Labour Market Challenges and Making the Sector More Attractive” held at its sixty-third session, the Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation decided to organize an informal working group to address labour market challenges and asked the secretariat to prepare a draft of its terms of reference for the sixty-seventh session of the Working Party on Inland Water Transport (SC.3).
3. The draft is contained in the annex. SC.3 may wish to consider the draft and provide guidance to the secretariat.



Annex

Draft Terms of Reference of the Informal Working Group on Issues Related to Labour Market Challenges

I. Scope of Issues and Achievements Expected

1. The Informal Working Group activities will focus on labour market challenges in inland navigation within the mandate of SC.3 with a view on providing recommendations for SC.3 on improving the overall attractiveness of the sector.
2. The Informal Working Group will establish and maintain a dialogue aimed at coordinating international and national policies relevant for improving the situation on the labour market on the following issues:
 - Improving the international legal framework in the field of labour and social security
 - Achieving a level playing field in the sector
 - Ensuring the equal rights and opportunities for women in inland navigation
 - Making the sector attractive for younger workers
 - Increasing the visibility of the sector and the prestige of jobs.
3. The Informal Working Group will contribute to the development of international minimum labour standards for inland water transport within its field of competence.

II. Methods of Work

4. The Informal Working Group will work under the guidance of the Working Party on Inland Water Transport (SC.3) and will be assisted in its work by the secretariat.
5. The Informal Working Group is expected to meet twice a year and will report on its activities at sessions of SC.3 and of the Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation (SC.3/WP.3).
6. The working language of the Informal Working Group will be English.
7. Participation in the Group of Experts is open to all concerned United Nations Member States and experts from intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, associations of workers and trade unions in the inland water transport sector, training institutions, social partners and other entities concerned.

III. Secretariat

8. The secretariat will assist the Informal Working Group in its activities and will ensure close cooperation with all stakeholders, including the European Commission, the European Committee for Drawing up Standards in the Field of Inland Navigation (CESNI) and River Commissions.
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