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### Economic Commission for Europe

**Administrative Committee of the European Agreement  
concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous  
Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN)**

**Twenty-fourth session**  
Geneva, 31 January 2020

### **Report of the Administrative Committee of the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways on its twenty-fourth session\***

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## **I. Attendance**

1. The Administrative Committee of the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN) held its twenty-fourth session in Geneva on 31 January 2020. Representatives of the following Contracting Parties took part in the work of the session: Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation and Switzerland.
2. The Administrative Committee noted that the representatives of Contracting Parties attending the session had been accredited and that the quorum of not less than half of the Contracting Parties required for the purpose of taking decisions had been reached.
3. In accordance with article 17, paragraph 2 of ADN, and following a decision by the Committee (ECE/ADN/2, para. 8), a representative of the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine (CCNR) took part in the session as observer.

## **II. Adoption of the agenda (agenda item 1)**

*Document:* ECE/ADN/52 and Add.1

4. The Administrative Committee adopted the agenda prepared by the secretariat and noted the submission of informal documents INF.1 to INF.5.

## **III. Election of officers for 2020 (agenda item 2)**

5. On a proposal of the representative of Switzerland, Mr. H. Langenberg (Netherlands) was re-elected Chair and Mr. B. Birkhuber (Austria) was re-elected Vice-Chair for the sessions in 2020.

## **IV. Status of the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN) (agenda item 3)**

6. The Administrative Committee noted that the proposed corrections contained in ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/70, annex III and Corr.1, and ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/72, annex III have been communicated to Contracting Parties on 15 October 2019 for acceptance (see C.N.492.2019.TREATIES-XI-D-6). Corrections were deemed to be accepted on 13 January 2020 (see C.N.34.2020.TREATIES-XI-D-6).
7. The Administrative Committee noted that the number of Contracting Parties to ADN remained at eighteen.

## **V. Matters relating to the implementation of ADN (agenda item 4)**

### **A. Classification societies**

*Informal documents:* INF.2 (Romania)  
INF.3 (Bureau Veritas)

8. The Administrative Committee took note of the information provided by Romania in informal document INF.2 which was also available on the UNECE website.
9. The Safety Committee considered evidence of compliance of Bureau Veritas with ISO 17020. The representatives of France and Germany raised concerns on the references and audits related to maritime vessels in the certificate of compliance and preferred instead references to inland waterway vessels. In addition, the certificates did not include an explicit

reference to the compliance with the requirements of ISO 17020. Furthermore, it was stated that the change in the social denomination of Bureau Veritas and headquarter should be clarified.

10. The Administrative Committee noted that the Safety Committee had invited the Recommended Classification Societies to study how the information of compliance was to be presented in future and to identify possible problems with the requirements in 1.15 especially 1.15.3.8 of ADN. The Safety Committee would continue discussions on the subject and propose possible ways forward.

11. Other Recommended ADN Classification Societies were requested to provide such evidence as discussed during past sessions of the Administrative Committee. It was noted that the lists of recommended and recognised classification societies were available on the secretariat's website at: [www.unece.org/trans/danger/publi/adn/adnclassifications.html](http://www.unece.org/trans/danger/publi/adn/adnclassifications.html).

## **B. Special authorizations, derogations and equivalents**

*Document:* ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/2020/22

12. The Administrative Committee noted the withdrawal by the representative of Belgium of ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/2020/22.

13. It was recalled that the text of special authorizations, special agreements, derogations and equivalents, as well as their status, and of notifications, could be found on the secretariat's website at the following link: <http://www.unece.org/trans/danger/danger.htm>.

## **C. Miscellaneous notifications**

*Informal documents:* INF.1 (Austria)  
INF.4 (Netherlands)  
INF.5 (Germany)

14. Examination statistics were provided by the governments of Austria (informal document INF.1), Germany (informal document INF.5) and the Netherlands (informal document INF.4).

15. The Administrative Committee remarked that examinations statistics were considered very useful. It also recalled its suggestion that the informal working group on the training of experts would compile in a single document the statistics for all the Contracting Parties, following a standard format for such consolidation and a procedure for collecting the information periodically. The informal working group on training of experts was expected to meet again in Strasbourg on 24-26 March 2020.

16. The Administrative Committee invited countries to check the contact information for their competent authority and, if necessary, to recognise classification societies from the recommended list in accordance with 1.15.2.4 of the annexed Regulations if they had not already done so.

17. It was recalled that, according to 1.16.4.3 of the Regulations annexed to ADN, the Administrative Committee is expected to maintain an up-to-date list of the inspection bodies appointed. Information received so far is available on the secretariat's website at <http://www.unece.org/trans/danger/danger.htm>.

18. It was recalled that model expert certificates received by the secretariat were available at: [http://www.unece.org/trans/danger/publi/adn/model\\_expert\\_certificates.html](http://www.unece.org/trans/danger/publi/adn/model_expert_certificates.html)

19. Contracting Parties that have not yet done so, were reminded to send their model expert certificates and ADN examination statistics to the secretariat.

## **D. Other matters**

*Documents:* ECE/ADN/2020/2  
ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/2020/20

20. The Administrative Committee adopted the standardized vessel checklists (ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/2020/20) as amended by the Safety Committee (see ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/74, Annex II) and the decision contained in document ECE/ADN/2020/2. No other matters were raised under this item.

## **VI. Work of the Safety Committee (agenda item 5)**

21. The Administrative Committee took note of the work of the Safety Committee as reflected in the report on its thirty-sixth session held in Geneva from 27-31 January 2020 (ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/74 and Add.1). It noted that the Safety Committee had reviewed and checked all amendments to the Regulations annexed to ADN it had proposed at its 2018 and 2019 sessions for entry into force on 1 January 2021 (as consolidated by the secretariat in document ECE/ADN/2020/1), had modified some of them, and had proposed new amendments and corrections to ADN 2019. The Committee adopted all these amendments and corrections, as listed in annexes I and III respectively, of the report of the Safety Committee. The secretariat was requested to take the necessary steps to communicate the corrections to Contracting Parties in accordance with the usual procedure, so that the texts could be rectified as soon as possible.

22. The Administrative Committee requested the secretariat to prepare a consolidated list of all the proposed amendments which it had adopted for entry into force on 1 January 2021 so that they could be made the subject of an official proposal to amend the ADN in accordance with the procedure set out in article 20. The notification would have to be issued no later than 1 July 2020, with a reference to 1 January 2021 as the scheduled date of entry into force.

23. It was noted that at its thirty-seventh session, the Safety Committee would only consider for adoption and entry into force on 1 January 2021, amendments and corrections to already adopted texts that would be necessary to ensure harmonization between ADR, RID and ADN, following the decisions taken by the Joint Meeting of the RID Committee of Experts and the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods at its spring session in March 2020 and the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods at its 108th session in May 2020.

24. The Administrative Committee invited the UNECE and CCNR secretariats to continue to cooperate to ensure consistency of all linguistic versions of ADN 2021. It also requested the UNECE secretariat to prepare the consolidated text of ADN as modified on 1 January 2021 as a United Nations publication and to make it available in advance of that date so that countries could organize themselves to implement the new provisions.

## **VII. Programme of work and calendar of meetings (agenda item 6)**

25. The Administrative Committee noted that its next session was scheduled to take place at 12.00 on 28 August 2020 and that the deadline for submission of documents was 5 June 2020.

## **VIII. Any other business (agenda item 7)**

26. The Administrative Committee noted that no subject was raised under this item.

## **IX. Adoption of the report (agenda item 8)**

27. The Administrative Committee adopted the report on its twenty-fourth session on the basis of a draft prepared by the secretariat and sent to delegations for approval by e-mail after the session.

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