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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Group on Inland Water Transport

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

(Twentieth session, 7-9 June 2000,  
agenda item 6)

STANDARDIZATION OF SHIPS AND INLAND WATERWAYS  
FOR RIVER/SEA NAVIGATION

Addendum 1

Transmitted by the Government of Ukraine

1. The study “Standardization of ships and inland waterways for river/sea navigation” by Working Party 16 of the Permanent International Association of Navigational Congresses (PIANC) considers a wide range of factors affecting the classification of inland waterways and provides plenty of arguments in favour of future studies and improvements to the classification system for river/sea waterways.
2. Based on practical experience in using inland waterways for river/sea traffic, however, the Government of Ukraine considers that river/sea vessels cannot be assigned to only two categories under the ECMT and UN ECE classification scheme, viz class Va (R/S Class 1) and VIb (R/S Classes 2 and 3).

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3. The Dnieper, the Yuzhny Buk and the Kiliya arm of the Danube, all of which Ukraine uses for river/sea traffic, correspond to class VIb and fall within the classification system proposed by PIANC, but the 54-km stretch of the main Danube channel (class VII) that belongs to Ukraine and the entire maritime segment of the river and above do not, under the PIANC system, fall within the category of waterways used by river/sea vessels. This is at variance with the facts.

4. Many other European inland waterways are in a similar situation.

5. The main dimensions of vessels and pushed convoys under the ECMT and UN ECE classification system cannot always be the only criterion preventing R/S-class vessels from being included within it. In Ukrainian Government's view, therefore, the classification system for river/sea waterways proposed by PIANC can be accepted only as a provisional one and with reservations "permitting" the use of R/S-class vessels on all inland waterways of class Va and above.

6. As a minimum, the provision on class hierarchy set forth in resolution No. 30, specifying that "a vessel normally operating on waterways of one class could be used on waterways belonging to a higher category without restriction as to the parameters covered by the classification", should be applied.

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