

26th RCD ADCO meeting, Malta 24th-25th May 2012

Minutes of Open Meeting

Agenda Item 1 – Opening of the meeting

The Chairman from the Malta Competition and Consumer Affairs Authority opened the meeting welcoming participants and representatives of ICOMIA, EBI and CEN present for the open session.

Agenda Item 2 – Approval of Agenda for open session

Agenda for open session approved.

Agenda Item 3 – Approval of minutes of open session of last meeting

Minutes of the open session of last meeting approved.

Agenda Item 4 – Report by the RCD ADCO chair on the outcome of the last session

Chair gave a brief report on the agenda items discussed in the closed session meeting

ICOMIA asked whether there were any decisions taken in the closed meeting, where chair informed that none were for general discussion.

Agenda Item 5 – Action points from 25th RCD ADCO meeting in Warsaw

- Re agenda pt 11 of 24th ADCO meeting; relevant data by ADCO members necessary to complete survey on recreational craft registration to be provided by France – still lacking data.
- Relevant information to be provided to European Boating Industry on the questions raised by EBI under agenda pt 8a of the 25th ADCO meeting – no information was received for which reason EBI proposed to be considered complete. Proposal agreed by all. Information found on CIRCA.

Agenda Item 6 – Update of new legislative Framework alignment Package (Implementation of the goods package)

Malta gave a brief overview of the responsibilities and duties of MCCA under regulations 764/2008 and 765/2008 followed by information on the New Legislative Framework highlighting the aims of the alignment of existing legislation. It was also emphasised that better communication between manufacturers, notified bodies and the competent authorities both in general and with respect to recreational craft would minimise problems encountered at a later date.

Agenda Item 7 – Progress of revision of RCD

The Commission gave a brief review on what has been done to date together with the status of the RCD revision. Commission also informed those present for the meeting that the next council meeting will be held on the 13th July 2012.

Agenda Item 8 – Owner’s manual in electronic version

The representative of the European boating industry brought forward a proposal of having an electronic version of the owner’s manual together with a printed version and if agreed upon should the manufacturer supply only the electronic version and leave the printed version for the dealer/importer to print in the national language.

Norway: not against an electronic version as long as a printed version is available to the consumer but questioned the DOC.

EBI: reply was that DOC would be always available on a separate sheet.

ICOMIA: questioned what obliges a printed version?

Commission: Directive does not specify it, only the standard requests that it should be a printed version.

ICOMIA: Reason behind the electronic version and the distributor to print the hard copy is to print only the required language and save on administration fees not needing to print all languages.

Ireland: questioned how can Section 2.5 of the RCD be satisfied with an electronic copy.

Germany: is of the opinion that the owner should have a printed version of the official language.

In general it was agreed by all member states that as long as the consumer is given a printed copy in the official language of the Member State where it is registered, it should not be a problem.

Agenda Item 9 – Progress report on LPG

Representative from ICOMIA expressed that little has been done by RSG on this issue and not much progress. ICOMIA questioned whether changing to LPG should be considered as a major conversion?

ICOMIA is of the opinion that ADCO should be kept in the loop of what is happening with regards to use of LPG in recreational craft. ICOMIA also showed concern on who could help in the research with regards to emissions, evidence on whether LPG is cleaner or not, it might be the automotive industry since LPG is already being used in the automotive industry.

Malta: The modification will have an effect on the product and subsequently to its safety, and hence it should be considered as a major conversion.

ICOMIA: priority will always be that the product is safe.

Commission: in the new approach and new legislative framework if the conversion is affecting the compliance with the essential requirements it should be re tested.

Ireland: Queried whether conversion should be done by a competent person or just based on a standard?

Agenda Item 10 – Any other business

- Commission stated that although forced to move on to the new CIRCA BC platform, it is insisted to use old CIRCA for RCD until new system is operating as should be.
- Ireland revived the issue of Agenda Item 13 of the closed meeting whether Sweden was satisfied with the conclusion – Chair suggested re-discussing in a closed session.
- Chair brought up the issue of joint actions. Chair urged ADCO to consider a joint action to enhance market surveillance. One of the benefits of joint actions is the harmonisation in methodology and actions.

Finland: in favour of joint action

UK: questioned should the commission be involved?

Chair: Only if funding is required. One can always start with simple things eg name plates, fixation of CIN numbers, manuals etc

Commission: Services would support such an action it is an ideal initiative. But the commission sees a problem with the rotational chairmanship so a volunteer is required to lead the process not changing hands each time due to change of leadership.

Malta volunteered to take the leadership as long as it could be done electronically.

Member states ready to join in the joint action till date were Malta, Finland, Switzerland, Iceland and Italy.

Agenda Item 11 – Closing of the meeting

ICOMIA thanked all participants

Commission thanked all participants for their presence and input to the group.

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