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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Inland Water Transport

Fifty-second session  
Geneva, 13-15 October 2008  
Agenda item 9 (b)

**HARMONIZED PROCEDURE FOR CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS  
FOR RECOGNITION OF SHIP'S CERTIFICATES AND BOATMASTERS'  
LICENCES: MUTUAL RECOGNITION OF BOATMASTERS' LICENCES**

**Submitted by the Central Commission for the Navigation  
of the Rhine (CCNR)\***

Note by the secretariat: At its fifty-first session, SC.3 asked the secretariat to gather the basic documents of CCNR and the European Commission on the recognition of boatmasters' licences with a view to drawing up a common document on that subject (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/178, para. 26). The annex to this document contains protocols 17 and 18, adopted by CCNR in May 2008, on recognition of the national boatmasters' licences of certain member States, Romanian category A and B boatmasters' licences, and the Romanian radar certificate. The Working Party may wish to take these protocols into consideration, and to transmit the document as one of its basic documents to its group of volunteer experts on the recognition of boatmasters' licences.

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\* The secretariat reproduces the document as received.

## Annex

### I. PROTOCOL No. 17: RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL BOATMASTERS' LICENCES OF CERTAIN MEMBER STATES

#### Resolution

The Central Commission,

*Reaffirming* its desire to promote the integration and development of the European inland waterway market,

*Recalling* the importance which it attaches to “the continued operation of Rhine navigation within a legal framework which is as simple, clear and harmonized as possible”, as reaffirmed in the Basel Declaration of 16 May 2006,

*Aware* that the recognition on the Rhine of boatmasters' licences other than the Rhine boatmasters' licence is a measure aimed at simplifying the requirements placed on professionals and will significantly boost the economic dynamism of the sector,

*Considering* that the recognition of boatmasters' licences other than the Rhine boatmasters' licence is a priority task that justifies the application as soon as possible of the required amendments to the Rhine Licensing Regulations,

*Considering* therefore that such recognition warrants amendment of the Rhine Licensing Regulations on the basis of article 1.07 of those Regulations,

*Acting* pursuant to Additional Protocol No. 7 to the Mannheim Convention,

*Acting* on the proposal of its Committee for Social Security, Employment and Training Questions,

#### I

Recognizes the validity on the Rhine of the following German boatmasters' licences:

- Boatmasters' licence (*Schifferpatent*) A; and
- Boatmasters' licence (*Schifferpatent*) B,

issued by the competent German authorities under the “*Verordnung über Befähigungszeugnisse in der Binnenschifffahrt*”, of 15 December 1997, most recently amended by article 501 of the regulation of 31 October 2006 (BGBl I p. 2407 ff),

subject to compliance with the following additional criteria:

- Such licences shall be accompanied by a certificate of sector knowledge, in conformity with the model contained in annex A3 of the Rhine Licensing Regulations, in order to be valid on the section between the Iffezheim locks (p.k. 335.92) and the Spijk ferry (p.k. 857.40), inclusive;
- Licence holders aged 50 or over shall submit a certificate of physical and mental fitness, in accordance with annex B3 of the Rhine Licensing Regulations, and to be renewed in accordance with the procedures set out in those Regulations.

The German delegation undertakes to transmit to CCNR any further amendments to its national regulations relating to the issuance of boatmasters' licences recognized under this resolution.

## II

Recognizes the validity on the Rhine of the following Netherlands boatmasters' licences:

- *Groot vaarbewijs A*;
- *Groot vaarbewijs B*;
- *Groot vaarbewijs I*;
- *Groot vaarbewijs II*,

issued by the competent Netherlands authorities under the Act entitled "*Binnenschepenwet, Stb. 1981, 678*", as amended by "*Stb. 2007.176*",

subject to compliance with the following additional criteria:

- Such licences shall be accompanied by a certificate of sector knowledge, in conformity with the model contained in annex A3 of the Rhine Licensing Regulations, in order to be valid on the section between the Iffezheim locks (p.k. 335.92) and the Spijk ferry (p.k. 857.40), inclusive;
- Licence holders shall be at least 21 years of age;
- Holders of *Groot vaarbewijs I* or *Groot vaarbewijs II* licences shall be authorized to sail on the Rhine only until the age of 50;
- Holders of the *Groot vaarbewijs A* or the *Groot vaarbewijs B* licences aged 50 or over shall submit a certificate of physical and mental fitness, in accordance with annex B3 of the Rhine Licensing Regulations, and to be renewed in accordance with the procedures set out in those Regulations.

The Netherlands delegation undertakes to transmit to CCNR any further amendments to its national regulations relating to the issuance of boatmasters' licences recognized under this resolution.

### III

Recognizes the validity on the Rhine of the following Belgian boatmasters' licences:

- *Certificat de conduite/Vaarbewijs A*;
- *Certificat de conduite/Vaarbewijs B*,

issued by the competent Belgian authorities under the Act of 21 May 1991 and the Royal Decree of 23 December 1998, as amended by the Royal Decree of 27 March 2007,

subject to compliance with the following additional criteria:

- Such licences shall be accompanied by a certificate of sector knowledge, in conformity with the model contained in annex A3 of the Rhine Licensing Regulations, in order to be valid on the section between the Iffezheim locks (p.k. 335.92) and the Spijk ferry (p.k. 857.40), inclusive;
- Licence holders shall be at least 21 years of age;
- Licence holders aged 50 or over shall submit a certificate of physical and mental fitness, in accordance with annex B3 of the Rhine Licensing Regulations, and to be renewed in accordance with the procedures set out in those Regulations.

The Belgian delegation undertakes to transmit to CCNR any further amendments to its national regulations relating to the issuance of boatmasters' licences recognized under this resolution.

### IV

Adopts, in accordance with article 1.07 of the Rhine Licensing Regulations, the amendments to annex C1 of the Rhine Licensing Regulations, as annexed to this resolution.

These amendments shall be in force from 1 October 2008 until 30 September 2011.

## Annex

## ANNEX TO PROTOCOL 17

– Annex C1 to the Rhine Licensing Regulations to read as follows:

**Boatmasters' licences recognized as equivalent**

| State | Licence recognized as equivalent | Additional criteria   | National issuing authority or authorities   | Model of recognized equivalent licence |
|-------|----------------------------------|---|---|--|
| D     | <i>Schifferpatent A</i>          | - To be accompanied by certificate of sector knowledge, in conformity with model contained in Rhine Licensing Regulations, annex A3, in order to be valid on section between Iffezheim locks (p.k. 335.92) and Spijk ferry (p.k. 857.40) inclusive;                               | Wasser- und Schifffahrtsdirektion Nord und Wasser- und Schifffahrtsdirektion Nordwest | Model                                  |
| D     | <i>Schifferpatent B</i>          | - Licence holders aged 50 years or over to submit certificate of physical and mental fitness, in accordance with Rhine Licensing Regulations, annex B3, to be renewed in accordance with procedures set out in Regulations.   | Wasser- und Schifffahrtsdirektionen Nord, Nordwest, Mitte, West, Südwest, Süd und Ost |  |
| NL    | <i>Groot vaarbewijs A</i>        | - To be accompanied by certificate of sector knowledge, in conformity with model contained in Rhine Licensing Regulations, annex A3, in order to be valid on section between Iffezheim locks (p.k. 335.92) and Spijk ferry (p.k. 857.40) inclusive;                               | CCV, afdeling binnenvaart<br>P.C. Boutenslaan 1<br>Postbus 1970<br>2280 DV Rijswijk   | Model                                  |
| NL    | <i>Groot vaarbewijs B</i>        |   |   |  |
|       |                                  | - Holders of <i>Groot vaarbewijs A</i> or <i>Groot vaarbewijs B</i> licences aged 50 or over, to submit certificate of physical and mental fitness, in accordance with Rhine Licensing Regulations, annex B3, to be renewed in accordance with procedures set out in Regulations. |   |  |

| State | Licence recognized as equivalent | Additional criteria   | National issuing authority or authorities | Model of recognized equivalent licence |
|-------|----------------------------------|---|---|--|
| NL    | <i>Groot vaarbewijs I</i>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To be accompanied by certificate of sector knowledge, in conformity with model contained in Rhine Licensing Regulations, annex A3, in order to be valid on section between Iffezheim locks (p.k. 335.92) and Spijk ferry (p.k. 857.40) inclusive;</li> <li>- Licence holders to be at least 21 years of age;</li> <li>- The licence holder authorized to sail on Rhine only until age 50.</li> </ul> | Issued until 1 March 2001 by KOFS         | Model                                  |
| NL    | <i>Groot vaarbewijs II</i>       |   |   |  |

| State | Licence recognized as equivalent            | Additional criteria   | National issuing authority or authorities  | Model of recognized equivalent licence |
|-------|---|---|--|--|
| B     | <i>Certificat de conduite/ Vaarbewijs A</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To be accompanied by certificate of sector knowledge, in conformity with model contained in Rhine Licensing Regulations, annex A3, in order to be valid on section between Iffezheim locks (p.k. 335.92) and Spijk ferry (p.k. 857.40) inclusive;</li> <li>- Licence holders to be at least 21 years of age;</li> <li>- Licence holders aged 50 years or over to submit certificate of physical and mental fitness, in accordance with Rhine Licensing Regulations, annex B3, to be renewed in accordance with procedures set out in Regulations.</li> </ul> | S.P.F. Mobilité et Transports/F.O.D. Mobiliteit en vervoer Direction Générale Transport Terrestre/ Directoraat- Generaal Vervoer Te Land City Atrium Rue du Progrès 56 B-1210 Brussels | Model                                  |
| B     | <i>Certificat de conduite/ Vaarbewijs B</i> |   |  |  |

## **II. PROTOCOL 18: RECOGNITION OF ROMANIAN CATEGORY A AND B BOATMASTERS' LICENCES AND THE ROMANIAN RADAR CERTIFICATE**

### **Resolution**

The Central Commission,

*Reaffirming* its desire to promote the integration and development of the European inland waterway market,

*Recalling* the importance which it attaches to “the continued operation of Rhine navigation within a legal framework which is as simple, clear and harmonized as possible”, as reaffirmed in the Basel Declaration of 16 May 2006,

*Aware* that the recognition on the Rhine of boatmasters' licences other than the Rhine boatmasters' licence is a measure aimed at simplifying the requirements placed on professionals and will significantly boost the economic dynamism of the sector,

*Considering* that the recognition of boatmasters' licences other than the Rhine boatmasters' licence is a priority task that justifies the application as soon as possible of the required amendments to the Rhine Licensing Regulations,

*Considering* therefore that such recognition warrants amendment of the Rhine Licensing Regulations on the basis of article 1.07 of those Regulations,

*Acting* pursuant to Additional Protocol No. 7 to the Mannheim Convention,

*Acting* on the proposal of its Committee for Social Security, Employment and Training Questions,

### **I**

Will recognize, on entry into force of the administrative arrangement annexed to resolution 2008-I-19, the validity on the Rhine of Romanian category A and B boatmasters' licences (*brevet de căpitan fluvial A/B*) issued by the Romanian Naval Authority in accordance with Ministerial Decree No. 318/2006 of 3 March 2006,

subject to compliance with the following additional criteria:

- Such licences shall be accompanied by a certificate of sector knowledge, in conformity with the model contained in annex A3 of the Rhine Licensing Regulations in order, to be valid on the section between the Iffezheim locks (p.k. 335.92) and the Spijk ferry (p.k. 857.40), inclusive;

- Licence holders shall be at least 21 years of age;
- Licence holders aged 50 or over shall submit a certificate of physical and mental fitness, in accordance with annex B3 of the Rhine Licensing Regulations, and to be renewed in accordance with the procedures set out in those Regulations.

## II

Will recognize, on entry into force of the administrative arrangement annexed to resolution 2008-I-19, the validity on the Rhine of the Romanian certificate for inland radar navigation (*certificat de utilizator radar pe căile navigabile interioare*) issued by the Romanian Naval Authority in accordance with Ministerial Decree No. 318/2006 of 3 March 2006.

## III

Adopts, in accordance with article 1.07 of the Rhine Licensing Regulations, and subject to entry into force of the administrative arrangement, the amendments to annex C1 of the Rhine Licensing Regulations annexed to this resolution.

These amendments shall be in force from 1 October 2008 until 30 September 2011.



**ANNEX TO PROTOCOL 18**

– Annex C1 to the Rhine Licensing Regulations shall read as follows:

**Recognized equivalent boatmasters' licences**

| State | Licence recognized as equivalent | Additional criteria  | National issuing authority or authorities   | Model of recognized equivalent licence |
|-------|----------------------------------|--|---|--|
| RO    | Boatmasters' licence A           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To be accompanied by certificate of sector knowledge in conformity with model contained in Rhine Licensing Regulations, annex A3, in order to be valid on section between Iffezheim locks (p.k. 335.92) and Spijk ferry (p.k. 857.40) inclusive;</li> <li>- Licence holders to be at least 21 years of age;</li> <li>- Licence holders aged 50 or over to submit certificate of physical and mental fitness, in accordance with Rhine Licensing Regulations, annex B3, to be renewed in accordance with procedures set out in Regulations.</li> </ul> | Romanian Naval Authority,<br>Constanta Port No. 1,<br>900900 Constanta, Romania<br>Tel: 0241/616.129;<br>0241/60.2229<br>Fax: 0241/616.229;<br>0241/60.1996<br>e-mail: rna@rna.ro | Model                                  |
| RO    | Boatmasters' licence B           |  |   | Model                                  |

– Annex C2 to the Rhine Licensing Regulations to read as follows:

| State | Licence recognized as equivalent                     | Additional criteria | National issuing authority or authorities   | Model of recognized equivalent licence |
|-------|--|---------------------|---|--|
| RO    | Boatmasters' certificate for inland radar navigation | -                   | Romanian Naval Authority,<br>Constanta Port No. 1,<br>900900 Constanta, Romania<br>Tel: 0241/616.129;<br>0241/60.2229<br>Fax: 0241/616.229;<br>0241/60.1996<br>e-mail: rna@rna.ro | Model                                  |

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