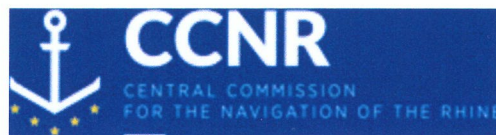


REAFFIRMATION OF THE COLLABORATION  
BETWEEN  
THE CENTRAL COMMISSION FOR THE NAVIGATION OF THE  
RHINE (CCNR)  
AND  
THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR HYDROLOGY  
OF THE RHINE BASIN (CHR)



**The Secretary General of the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine (CCNR)**

**and**

**The Chairperson of the International Commission for the Hydrology of the Rhine basin (CHR)**

Hereinafter referred to as "the Parties";

Taking cognizance of the common interests of the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine and the International Commission for the Hydrology of the Rhine Area;

Reaffirming the recognition of the mutual observer status of the Commissions;

Evoking the CCNR's responsibility for the Rhine from the Middle Rhine Bridge near Basel to Gorinchem in the Netherlands;

With reference to the "Strategy for the CCNR" ([https://www.ccr-zkr.org/files/documents/strategyCCNR/Strategy\\_de.pdf](https://www.ccr-zkr.org/files/documents/strategyCCNR/Strategy_de.pdf)) and the aim contained therein to continue to improve tried-and-tested collaboration with the CHR;

With reference to the "Mannheim Declaration", (<https://www.zkr-kongress2018.org/900-de.html>) on the sustainable development of Rhine waterway navigation, and further inland waterway transportation routes;

With reference to the "CHR Strategy 2020 - 2030";

Taking the following into consideration:

- the close collaboration of the two commissions, and the desire to strengthen this collaboration, especially in the area of applied hydrological research and data exchange,
- that the CCNR is an international organization with the aim of promoting the profitability of Rhine shipping activities, while ensuring both safety and freedom of movement for shipping on the Rhine,
- that the CHR is an international organization with the aim of expanding its knowledge on the hydrology of the Rhine basin, as well as contributing to the solution of cross-border hydrological challenges,
- that climate change and shallow water conditions will pose increased challenges to inland navigation and inland waterway infrastructure,
- that further improving collaboration between the two commissions would result in improved advancement of expert knowledge; and
- that this expert knowledge could be made accessible to users in a more targeted manner, resulting in the Rhine navigation and inland waterway navigation being developed in a more sustainable manner;

the Parties hereby reaffirm the following intentions:

### **Article 1. Objectives**

By way of this joint statement, the Parties reaffirm their intention to further strengthen their current collaboration in the field of applied hydrologic research and data exchange; they further commit to keeping each other informed via reports and related events.

The aim of this enhanced collaboration, specifically, is to expand our knowledge on the effects of climate change and shallow (low) water conditions. This knowledge is indeed an important basis for ensuring sustainable and future-oriented inland waterway shipping.

The Parties reaffirm that they will actively participate in mutual plenary sessions.

The parties agree to discuss the progress of this mutual collaboration every 2 years at Secretariat meetings. The Chair for these meetings alternates on a rotational basis, every two years.

The parties agree to make a joint assessment of their mutual collaboration after 5 years.

### **Article 2. Topics for Collaboration**

Possible topics for collaboration in the period 2021-2030 are:

- Climate change and its effects on the discharge regime of the Rhine;
- Low-water conditions and its implications for the discharge regime of the Rhine;
- Socio-economic scenarios and its impact on the discharge regime of the Rhine;
- Changes in (the pace of) snow and glacier melting and its effects on the discharge regime of the Rhine;
- Morphology and sediment transport, both quantitative and qualitative;
- Changes in the river bed at relevant Rhine monitoring stations, over the last 200 years.

Both parties may propose further topics for collaborative research, via a simple written procedure, at any time.

### **Article 3. Final Provisions**

No rights or obligations may be derived from this Declaration.

This Declaration shall enter into force on the day that the last signature is tendered, and shall remain in force unless terminated by either one of the parties. Termination is possible at any time, by either party.

The competent agents for the CCNR, the Board of Directors for Infrastructure and Environment, and for the CHR, the Executive Board, are responsible for its implementation.

Conflicts regarding interpretation and implementation of the Declaration will be resolved by mutual agreement.

Wageningen, on the 21 of October, 2021

SECRETARY GENERAL

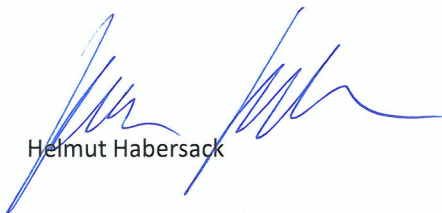
THE CCNR



Bruno Georges

PRESIDENT

THE CHR



Helmut Habersack

Signed in duplicate