

## SPRING 2022 PLENARY SESSION OF THE CCNR

Ref: CC/CP (22)09



The Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine (CCNR) held its plenary spring session on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2022, in Strasbourg. Among the plenary session's main topics were exceptional measures to facilitate the mobility of navigation personnel, the protection of personal data within the framework of the activities of the vessel inspection bodies, as well as waterway developments. Mr François Alabrune, the head of the French delegation, chaired the meeting. Mr Jörg Rusche took part for the first time as [Deputy Secretary General](#), having taken up his new duties in May 2022.

### EXCEPTIONAL MEASURES FOR FACILITATING THE MOBILITY OF PERSONNEL

The CCNR adopted exceptional measures to facilitate the mobility of inland navigation personnel on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022. For a transitional period pending adoption of the new Regulations for Rhine Navigation Personnel (RPN), the CCNR invites its Member States not to sanction crew members on inland waterway vessels on the Rhine who present certificates of qualification, service record books or logbooks issued in accordance with Directive (EU) 2017/2397. Conversely, the CCNR also invites its Member States to take measures to ensure that during document checks, including beyond the Rhine, crew members may continue to present certificates of qualification, service record books and logbooks, issued in accordance with the RPN still currently in force, without any sanctions. This special measure is temporary. It shall apply initially until the new RPN enters into force, or until 30 September 2022 should the new RPN not have been adopted by this date. The corresponding [resolution](#) and dedicated [press release](#) are available on the CCNR website.

### FOR BETTER INFORMATION ON THE PROTECTION OF PERSONAL DATA

The plenary session was the opportunity to adopt amendments to the Rhine Vessel Inspection Regulations (RVIR). The inspection request model was updated to include information on the protection of personal data. The model provides for a dedicated space for such information, but without mentioning a specific text, which will depend on the provisions in force in the CCNR's Member States. The amendments

ensure better information for the profession concerning personal data protection rights when requesting an inspection certificate. The amendments will come into force on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2023.

### RHINE WATERWAY-RELATED ISSUES

The CCNR has approved various work projects on the Rhine, such as:

- the construction of a water extraction point for supplying a reed bed at Beinheim;
- the creation of a fish ladder on the hydroelectric power station at Rhinau;
- the demolition of the "Merwede" bridge.

The CCNR also welcomes the development pressures planned for 2022 to improve navigation conditions on the Rhine: the supply of bedload at Iffezheim and on the Lower Rhine, the stabilisation of the riverbed downstream of Iffezheim and at Bockum-Krefeld, the extension of mooring space at Mannheim and rock dredging trials.

None of these changes in water levels hinder the navigation of the Rhine. On the contrary, the measures adopted by the CCNR contribute to the prosperity of Rhine and European navigation and a high degree of safety both for navigation and its environment.

### ECONOMIC SITUATION OF INLAND NAVIGATION IN EUROPE

In partnership with the European Commission, in February the CCNR published its [thematic report](#) "An evaluation of new market opportunities for inland waterway transport", and in April 2022 its [Market Insight](#). The resolution adopted in the plenary session incorporates the main findings of the new 2022 annual Market Observation report. It will be available on the CCNR website in July. The 2022 annual report will be published in September 2022. For information, the CCNR's full annual and biannual reports and thematic reports can be downloaded in PDF format in German, French, Dutch or English at <https://www.ccr-zkr.org/13020800-en.html> or consulted directly online at: <https://www.inland-navigation-market.org>.

### ABOUT THE CCNR

The Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine (CCNR) is an international organisation that exercises an essential regulatory role in the navigation of the Rhine. It is active in the technical, legal, economic and environmental fields. In all its areas of action, its work is guided by the efficiency of transport on the Rhine, safety, social considerations, and respect for the environment. Many of the CCNR's activities now reach beyond the Rhine and are directly concerned with European navigable waterways more generally. The CCNR works closely with the European Commission as well as with the other river commissions and international organisations.

### COOPERATION WITH THE MAJOR INLAND NAVIGATION ACTORS

Beneficial exchanges took place in the context of the CESNI, the market observation and PLATINA3. The outcome of the [CESNI meeting of 12 April 2022](#) is available in full online. PLATINA3 activities are also continuing, including the holding of the 4th workshop in Strasbourg, under CCNR auspices, on 7 and 8 June 2022. Various communication activities targeted at inland navigation actors concerning [CCNR roadmap](#) for reducing inland navigation emissions, adopted on 9th December 2021 are also in progress.

### NEXT PLENARY SESSION

The next plenary session of the CCNR will be in Strasbourg on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022.



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