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Subject: COUNCIL DECISION on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union within the European Committee for drawing up standards in the field of inland navigation and within the Central Commission for Navigation of the Rhine on the adoption of models in the field of professional qualifications in inland navigation

COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2019/...

of ...

**on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union
within the European Committee for drawing up standards in the field of inland navigation
and within the Central Commission for Navigation of the Rhine
on the adoption of models in the field of professional qualifications in inland navigation**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 91(1), in conjunction with Article 218(9) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Whereas:

- (1) The Revised Convention for Rhine Navigation ('the Convention') entered into force on 14 April 1967.
- (2) Pursuant to Article 46 of the Convention, the Central Commission for Navigation of the Rhine (CCNR) is able to adopt resolutions which are binding for its members.
- (3) The European Committee for drawing up standards in the field of inland navigation (CESNI) was created on 3 June 2015 in the framework of the CCNR in order to develop technical standards for inland waterways in various fields, in particular as regards vessels, information technology and crew.
- (4) At its next meeting, which is due to take place on 15 October 2019, CESNI will adopt standards on models in the field of professional qualifications in inland navigation. The CCNR will also adopt a resolution that will incorporate those models into the Regulations for Rhine navigation personnel.
- (5) It is appropriate to establish the position to be taken on the Union's behalf in CESNI and the CCNR, as the standards on models in the field of professional qualifications will decisively influence the content of Union law, namely Directive (EU) 2017/2397 of the European Parliament and of the Council¹.

¹ Directive (EU) 2017/2397 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 December 2017 on the recognition of professional qualifications in inland navigation and repealing Council Directives 91/672/EEC and 96/50/EC (OJ L 345, 27.12.2017, p. 53).

- (6) In order to facilitate mobility and ensure safety, it is important that the models used by crew members for the purpose of ensuring the recognition of their qualifications be as harmonised as possible under the different legal regimes across Europe. In particular, Member States that are also members of the CCNR should be authorised to support decisions harmonising CCNR rules with those applied in the Union.
- (7) The models developed by CESNI for qualification certificates, for the service record book, for the logbook, for a single document combining qualification certificates and the service record book and for practical examination certificates constitute a harmonisation of European standards.
- (8) The position of the Union should be expressed by the Member States that are members of CESNI and the CCNR, acting jointly,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

1. The position to be taken on behalf of the Union within the European Committee for drawing up standards in the field of inland navigation (CESNI) on 15 October 2019 shall be to agree to the adoption of the European standards on models in the field of professional qualifications in inland navigation set out in the attachment to this Decision.
2. The position to be taken on behalf of the Union at the meeting of the plenary session of the Central Commission for Navigation of the Rhine (CCNR) shall be to support all proposals that align the requirements of the Regulations for Rhine navigation personnel with those of the European standards on models in the field of professional qualifications in inland navigation set out in the attachment to this Decision.

Article 2

1. The position referred to in Article 1(1) shall be expressed by the Member States that are members of CESNI, acting jointly.
2. The position referred to in Article 1(2) shall be expressed by the Member States that are members of the CCNR, acting jointly.

Article 3

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

Done at Brussels,

For the Council

The President
