



## PRESS RELEASE

### **Mutual Recognition of service record books: Entry into force of the Administrative arrangement on 1 July 2011**

The CCNR and the competent national Administrations of the Republic of Austria, the Republic of Bulgaria, Hungary, the Republic of Poland, Romania, the Slovak Republic and the Czech Republic have concluded an « Administrative arrangement on the mutual recognition of service record books » on 8 December 2010 in Strasbourg.

This Arrangement has entered **into force on 1 July 2011**, in accordance with its Article 11.

However, the Czech and Hungarian service record books are not yet concerned by the entry in force of the Arrangement, for the conditions precedent posited towards them cannot be lifted yet. It should nevertheless be borne in mind that the Czech service record books are already recognised as being valid on the Rhine by virtue of CCNR Resolution 2000-I-26.

As a result, the Administrative Arrangement has entered into force on 1 July 2011 on the Rhine and on all the waterways of those States covered by the signatories, with the exception of the Czech Republic and Hungary, which means that from that date onwards the service record books for the Rhine, Austria, Poland, Slovakia, Romania and Bulgaria are mutually recognised.

Consequently, entries made in the aforementioned service record books on medical fitness or journeys and navigation time completed are recognised as being valid on all those previously mentioned waterways. Qualification valid on the Rhine shall on the other hand be entered by a competent Rhine authority in accordance with Rhine regulations, on the page of the service record book reserved for such entries.

The entry into force of the Arrangement should substantially alleviate the administrative burdens imposed on European boatmen and facilitate their access to the overall European inland water transport network.

Further information related to the Arrangement and the recognised service record books can be found on the CCNR internet website at: [www.ccr-zkr.org](http://www.ccr-zkr.org).

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