

## PRESS RELEASE

### Air protection and regulation of the degassing of inland navigation vessels: The Kingdom of the Netherlands deposits the instrument ratifying the amendment to the CDNI



(Source: Secretariat of the CDNI)

**Strasbourg, 03.07.2020** – The Kingdom of the Netherlands has deposited the **instrument of acceptance** of the amendment to the Convention on the collection, deposit and reception of waste produced during navigation on the Rhine and inland waterways (CDNI). This major amendment to the Convention aims to **ensure the protection of the air** by strictly regulating the **degassing of inland navigation vessels**.

This instrument of acceptance was signed on 13 March 2020 by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands but could not, until today, be physically deposited with the depositary in Strasbourg due to the Covid-19 health crisis. The instrument was finally able to be deposited by Ambassador Roeland Böcker, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the Council of Europe. The deposition was made to Mr Bruno Georges, Secretary General of the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine (CCNR), who is the depositary authority.

The amendment aims to introduce a gradual prohibition of degassing in the scope of application of the CDNI to prevent gaseous cargo residues (vapours) that are harmful to the environment being released

into the atmosphere. These residues arise from certain liquid cargoes loaded by vessels, and which must be evacuated prior to loading the next cargo. The six Contracting States of the CDNI adopted these new regulations which provide for the **necessary procedures and facilities receiving and handling these gaseous residues**.

The Kingdom of the Netherlands is the second Contracting State to deposit the instrument after the Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg (see the [press release](#)). The ratification procedure is in progress in the four other CDNI States.

The amendment will **come into force six months after the last instrument of ratification has been deposited**.

A dedicated webpage addressing the new provisions on degassing and their implementation, containing all the relevant information has been published recently: <https://www.cdni-iwt.org/degassing-regulation/?lang=en>

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### About the CDNI ([www.cdni-iwt.org](http://www.cdni-iwt.org))

*The Convention of 9 September 1996 on the collection, deposit and reception of waste produced during navigation on the Rhine and inland waterways (CDNI) has been in force since 1 November 2009. It has six Contracting States (Germany, Belgium, France, Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Switzerland); its aim is to protect the environment, and in particular, water. To this end, the CDNI puts in place rules aiming to discourage the production of waste, to channel this waste towards a network of dedicated reception stations throughout the navigable waterway network, to finance these initiatives at the international level in accordance with the "polluter pays" principle, as well as to monitor compliance with the bans on discharging the waste in question into the surface water. One amendment of the Convention, currently being ratified, concerns the reception of gaseous residues of liquid cargoes with the aim of protecting the atmosphere.*

### Contact

CDNI Secretariat c/o CCNR  
2 Place de la République  
F-67082 STRASBOURG CEDEX  
Tel.: + 33 (0)3 88 52 96 42  
E-Mail: [Secretariat@cdni-iwt.org](mailto:Secretariat@cdni-iwt.org)  
Website: <https://www.cdni-iwt.org/>

*The CDNI's Secretariat function is provided by the Secretariat of the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine (CCNR).*

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