

PRESS RELEASE

Winter session 2021 of the Contracting Parties Conference



Strasbourg, 13.12.2021 – The Conference of the Contracting Parties (CPC) met by video conference on 13 December 2021 for its winter session. Chaired by Mrs Muriel Bouldouyré, head of the French delegation to the CDNI, the meeting brought together the representatives of the six Contracting Parties and representatives of national institutions.

During this productive meeting, the CPC focused on the following subjects:

- the CDNI's **new work programme 2022-2023**, with ambitious, forward-looking objectives;
- the **handover of the CPC presidency**, with the conclusions of the French presidency and the Dutch delegation's outline of its presidency's objectives;
- the **situation of the Part A financing system** as a result of the health crisis;
- the implementation of the **new provisions on degassing**.



General matters

Adoption of the CDNI's 2022-2023 work programme

The CPC adopted its new work programme for the next two years. It covers the three parts of the Convention as well as general governance matters. Focused firmly on the future, **the work programme sets ambitious tasks** for the experts such as the dematerialisation of certain shipboard documents and the definition of the required international legal framework.

For [Part A](#) (oily and greasy waste), many tasks arise from the recommendations of the roundtable held on 8 April 2021. They aim to lay firm foundations underpinning a strategy for the future of the financing system.

For [Part B](#) (cargo-related waste), a major item will be preparing the entry into force of the new provisions for the handling of gaseous residues. It will include the drawing up of a new attestation of unloading to include degassing.

For [Part C](#) (other waste produced in the course of operating vessels), there are plans, inter-alia, to examine the possibility of creating a harmonised framework for financing the collection and disposal of these other waste products. The distribution of the guidelines on waste that is sorted and held on board (adopted in June 2021, see [resolution CDNI 2021-I-7](#)) will also be part of the CDNI's mandate. The inclusion of swimming pool waste water as a new waste category is yet another ambitious task.

Resolution 2021-II-2

Conclusions of the French presidency of the CPC (2020-2021)

The French presidency, successfully conducted by Mrs Bouldouyré, will finish on 31 December 2021. The meeting of the CPS was an opportunity to look back on the events and most important actions of this term of office:

- **the international health crisis:** this posed numerous challenges at every level. In practice the waste collection and reception service was maintained throughout the crisis, enabling the inland navigation sector to meet its environmental obligations, thereby testifying to the system's resilience. In terms of governance, the various bodies continued to function, work proceeded by means of interpreted online meetings, which are real challenges in terms of communication technology.
- **the round table on the future of Part A on 8 April 2021:** bringing together the Contracting States, the profession, and the relevant organisations, it aimed to identify all the solutions to be implemented to ensure the sustainability of the international financing system, and to anticipate future challenges. The round table was an opportunity to identify development areas and work priorities. The CPC adopted recommendations that were distilled into specific tasks for the work programme.
- **first step towards dematerialisation:** in June 2021, the CPC decided to allow the attestation of unloading to be presented in electronic format. With effect from 1st June next year, it will be the first CDNI document that can be used in electronic format.
- **extension of the ban on the discharge of domestic waste water to vessels with between 12 and 50 passengers:** the outcome of much work, the resolution was adopted by the CPC in June 2021. This prohibition is a major step forward in protecting the environment and water quality.

Objectives of the Dutch presidency of the CPC (2022-2023)

The Netherlands will take over the presidency of the CPC from France with effect from 1st January 2022, for a 2-year term. Mr Ivo Ten Broeke, the head of the Dutch delegation, presented his presidency's priorities, focused in particular on the following points:

- an **analysis and evaluation of the future development of the CDNI**: 30 years after the CDNI was drawn up (in the first half of the 1990s) it would seem sensible to analyse and evaluate if and how it might be possible to improve the collection and disposal of inland navigation waste. It is also essential to establish if adjustments to the Convention might result in improvements, enabling a better response to future challenges.
- **the sustainable depositing of oily and greasy waste**: to constantly improve on the CDNI's action on the environment, one might examine how the oily and greasy waste that is collected is treated, and whether this treatment can be made more environmentally friendly, if required.
- the **ratification of the amendment to the Convention aiming to include the treatment of gaseous residues**: it is essential to monitor and encourage rapid ratification to ensure that the ban on degassing is implemented as quickly as possible, thereby limiting the inland navigation sector's impact on the environment.
- the **harmonisation of the implementation of Part C**: the Dutch delegation deems it important to examine to what extent a harmonised framework can be implemented for financing the collection of Part C waste.



Part A: oily and greasy waste

Preliminary analysis of the state of the system as a consequence of the health crisis

The 2021 annual report of the IIPC (International Clearance and Coordination Body) noted a significant fall in receipts of -5.74% in 2020. As instructed by the CPC, the IIPC presented a preliminary analysis of the state of the system as a consequence of the health crisis, based on quarterly clearances. One will note:

- a **marked increase in receipts in 2021** compared both with 2020 and with 2019; this increase is attributable to the increase in the disposal charge.
- **A return to equilibrium in the balance between costs / receipts for the 2nd and 3rd quarters of 2021**, but which remains to be confirmed for the 4th quarter, and the beginning of 2022.
- a **fall in volumes supplied** in 2021 compared with 2019, which may mean that the economic situation of the IWT sector has not returned to its pre-crisis level.

This observation demonstrates that the increase in the system's receipts is entirely because of the increase in the disposal charge. It came into force just in time to avoid a deterioration in the financial situation. The Contracting Parties agree however that **the objective of the increase in the disposal charge, namely the structural improvement of the relationship between receipts and expenditure has not been achieved.**

A more in-depth analysis of the full year figures for 2021 will have to be conducted to comprehensively evaluate the state of the system and understand the balance between the system's outgoings and receipts. This information will be prepared for the 2022 annual report and will be the basis for discussions on the amount of the disposal charge.

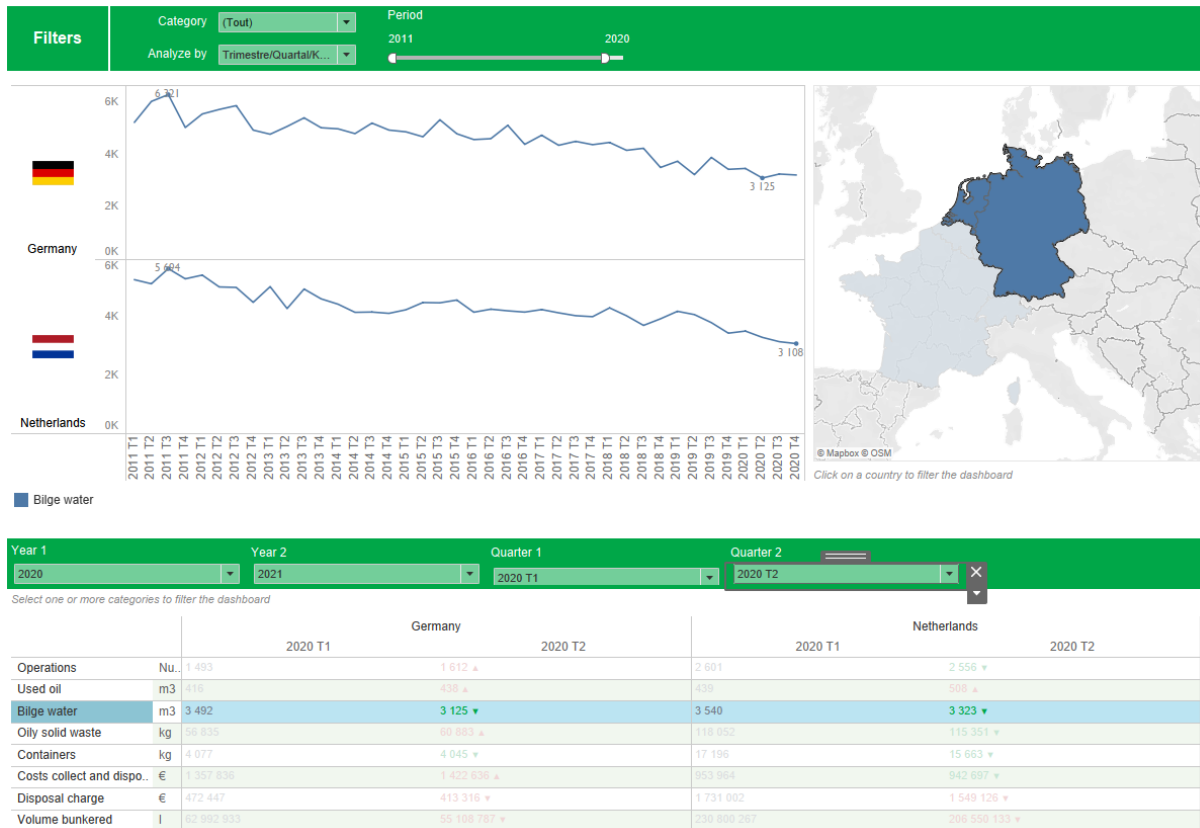
The disposal charge will be maintained at €8.50/1000 litres on 1st January 2022 ([resolution CDNI 2021-I-3](#)).

The [IIPC's annual reports](#) are published on the CDNI's website. They also contain an exhaustive description of the reception station network by country.

Dynamic clearance data viewing tool (dashboard)

The CPC approved the go-live of a new tool for users: a dashboard featuring a **dynamic display** pulling together all the clearance data as far back as 2011 (these data are published by means of resolutions).

This tool aims to enable the user to **gain an overview of system data** (quantity of waste deposited, costs and receipts, volumes supplied) over a multi-year period, to **compare them, and thus to understand system developments and trends**.



Source: dashboard data extract display

Example: comparison of bilge water data collected in Germany and the Netherlands

- quarterly movement since 2011 (top graph)
- change between the 1st quarter and the 2nd quarter of 2020 (bottom table)

The go-live on the CDNI website is scheduled for the beginning of 2022, the information will be notified by means of a newsletter.



Part B: cargo-related waste

Ratification status of the provisions for dealing with gaseous residues of liquid cargoes

The Contracting Parties reported on the progress made with the ratification procedures for amending the Convention adopted in June 2017 (see [resolution 2017-I-4](#)).

To date, **three signatory States have ratified** the new provisions for dealing with gaseous residues of liquid cargoes. **Luxembourg** deposited the instrument of ratification on [7 February 2020](#). **The Netherlands** deposited its instrument of approval at the end of the lockdown period on [3 July 2020](#). **Germany** deposited the instrument on [9 February 2021](#). As for Belgium, France and Switzerland, their work on ratification is continuing at national level. Parliamentary procedures were affected by the health crisis.

The amended Convention will come into force six months after the final instrument of ratification has been lodged with the depository authority, the Secretary-General of the [Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine \(CCNR\)](#).

Some degassing stations are already operational and accessible. The CPC confirmed the online publication of a public map of degassing stations for information purposes. They can be geo-located by means of an interactive map available [here](#).

All the information on degassing regulations can be found on the [dedicated page](#) on the website.

Any other business

The CDNI website is getting a makeover

The CDNI website's design and tree structure has been updated to improve access to CDNI information and documents. The new features include a revamped homepage, more streamlined access to documents, a new layout for meetings and news, and the addition of a search engine for frequently asked questions (FAQ). The CDNI website URL will remain the same, namely: www.cdni-iwt.org.

FAQ

The CPC regularly takes note of the answers to the frequently asked questions (FAQ) prepared by the CDNI/G Working group and approves their publication on the CDNI website www.cdni-iwt.org under the [FAQ heading](#) (available only in French, German and Dutch). The aim of the answers is to make it easier to apply the CDNI and to promote consistent interpretation.

At its December 2021 meeting, the CPC approved three new FAQs on the following subjects:

- the format of the "documentary proof" referred to in article 7.04;
- the degassing arrangements for a vessel prior to a shipyard stay;
- the attestation of unloading in the case of unmanned craft.

2022 meetings

The next meeting of the CPC will be on 21 June 2022.

The working group will meet on 22 and 23 March 2022.

The IIPC will meet on 19 May.

The hearing of the approved organisations will be held at the end of June.

All the meeting dates, and agendas, are available on the CDNI website's [dedicated page](#).

About the CDNI (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 1st November 2009. It has six Contracting States (Belgium, France, Germany, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Switzerland) and aims to protect the environment, and especially water. To this end, the CDNI establishes the rules for:

- **encouraging the prevention** of waste production,
- **directing this waste to a network of dedicated reception stations** throughout the navigable waterway network,
- **providing international financing** for these initiatives having regard to the “**polluter pays**” principle
- **monitoring** compliance with the bans on discharging the waste in question into the surface water.

One amendment to the convention, currently being ratified, concerns the receipt of gaseous residues of liquid cargoes with the aim of protecting the atmosphere.

Contact

CDNI Secretariat c/o CCNR

Palais du Rhin – 2, Place de la République – CS10023

F-67082 STRASBOURG CEDEX

Tél : + 33 (0)3 88 52 96 42

Email: Secretariat@cdni-iwt.org

Web: <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).
