

**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE  
INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE  
Working Party on Inland Water Transport  
Geneva**

# **Small Craft Used Exclusively for Pleasure Navigation**

**Resolution No. 41**



**UNITED NATIONS**

**New York and Geneva, 1998**



**SMALL CRAFT USED EXCLUSIVELY FOR  
PLEASURE NAVIGATION**

**Resolution No. 41**

(adopted by the Working Party  
on Inland Water Transport on 16 October 1998)

The Working Party on Inland Water Transport,

Having regard to resolution No. 24 on the European Code for Inland Waterways (CEVNI), as amended by resolutions Nos. 26, 27 and 37, to resolution No. 13, revised, on the International Certificate (international card) for Pleasure Craft and to resolution No. 14, revised, on the International Certificate (international card) concerning the Competence of Pleasure Craft Operators,

Noting that, through the application of these resolutions by Governments and river commissions, the corresponding regulations in force on European inland waterways have to a large extent been harmonized,

Noting the increasing number of small craft used exclusively for pleasure navigation on inland waterways and, inter alia, the development of water bikes,

Noting the desirability, in the interest of safety of navigation, of taking into account the above-mentioned developments in inland navigation and their consequences for the regulations in force,

Noting further the desirability of incorporating all the provisions concerning small craft used exclusively for pleasure navigation in a single resolution,

1. Recommends Governments, international governmental organizations, economic or other unions and river commissions to take such steps as may be necessary for their regulations on small craft used exclusively for pleasure navigation to be harmonized to the greatest extent possible, with the recommendations annexed to this resolution;

2. Requests Governments, international governmental organizations, regional economic integration organizations, and river commissions to inform the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe whether they accept this resolution and its annex;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe to place the question of the application of this resolution periodically on the agenda of the Working Party on Inland Water Transport with a view to keeping the list of countries applying the resolution up to date and updating or amending the annex hereto, as necessary.

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Annex

**I. SCOPE**

The provisions of this annex shall apply to small craft used exclusively for pleasure navigation. <sup>1/</sup>

**II. IDENTIFICATION MARKINGS**

1. Without prejudice to the provisions of article 2.02 of CEVNI a small craft may not sail unless it bears an identification marking issued or recognized by the competent authority. <sup>2/</sup>
2. The owner of a small craft shall be responsible that the craft is marked with the identification marking.
3. The institution issuing the identification marking shall issue a certificate thereof.
4. The identification marking certificate referred to in paragraph 3 above shall be kept on board of the small craft while it is under way.
5. The identification marking certificate shall be presented whenever officials of the competent authorities so request.
6. The identification marking shall be affixed in clearly legible Latin letters and Arabic numerals, in a light colour on a dark ground or in a dark colour on a light ground, on both sides of the craft, in the middle of the hull or on the bow. The characters shall be not less than 150 mm high and 100 mm broad with a stroke thickness of 20 mm. <sup>3/</sup>

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<sup>1/</sup> The competent authorities may exempt certain categories of small craft from the requirements of this annex.

<sup>2/</sup> The competent authority may exempt certain categories of small craft from the need to comply with this requirement.

<sup>3/</sup> The competent authority may allow the use of national alphabet and smaller sizes of letters and numerals; however, these letters and numerals shall be not less than 100 mm high.

### **III. EQUIPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION**

1. The competent authorities may require that small craft when under way be equipped as follows:

- (a) have a reserve means of propulsion (a paddle, an oar or a motor, depending on the type and size of the craft);
- (b) for each person on board a lifebelt, life jacket or air pillow readily available;
- (c) a mooring rope at least as long as the craft securely attached to the craft;
- (d) have an effective and serviceable means of steering;
- (e) at night, a waterproof torch or a lamp.

1.1 On certain waterways a radar reflector may be required to be carried on board.

2. The competent authority may require that motorized small craft comply with the following requirements:

- (a) they shall be designed and built so as to avoid the risk of fire or explosion;
- (b) they shall have their exhaust silenced and discharging in such a way as to cause no danger or nuisance to others;
- (c) except those fitted only with an outboard motor with integral fuel tank crafts shall carry a fire extinguisher;
- (d) craft of less than 7 m in length and capable of developing a speed of more than 20 km/h that are open or capable of being steered from a flying bridge shall be fitted with a device to automatically stop the engine if the helmsman leaves the steering position;
- (e) all open or cabin craft shall carry a bailer and an anchoring device with 10 metres of line.

### **IV. MANOEUVRABILITY REQUIREMENTS**

The competent authority may prohibit the use of small craft or certain categories of small craft on certain waterways or sectors of waterways if it

is not fitted with an engine ensuring a minimum speed of 6 km/h through the water.

#### **V. STEERING OF SMALL CRAFT**

1. The boatmaster of a motorized small craft with a power of more than 3.68 kW shall hold a licence issued or recognized by the competent authority, certifying that he/she is qualified to navigate the craft. <sup>4/</sup>
2. The competent authority may establish:
  - (a) a power limit (3.68 kW) which is higher than that indicated in paragraph 1 above;
  - (b) a minimum age and particular requirements concerning the issue of the licence certificate referred to in paragraph 1 above.

#### **VI. RESTRICTIONS**

1. Without prejudice to other regulations, the competent authority may prohibit sailing, water-skiing, the use of water bikes, windsurfing and similar sports on all waterways or on certain waterways or sectors of waterways or certain marked channels indicated by the authority.

The competent authority may, however, permit these activities for certain waterways or sectors of waterways by day and in good visibility.

2. In the sectors indicated by the competent authority for water-skiing, the use of water bikes, windsurfing, other similar sports and bathing shall not be permitted.
3. It shall be prohibited to tow persons through the air over the waterway.

#### **VII. WATER-SKIING**

1. Waterways or sectors of waterways on which water-skiing is permitted, shall be indicated by sign E.17 of annex 7 of CEVNI.
2. The competent authority may establish a minimum age for the qualified person accompanying the boatmaster of a small craft towing one or more water-skiers and supervising the water-skiers in accordance with article 6.35 of CEVNI.
3. A water-skier shall comport himself in such a way as not to create a nuisance or danger for other users of the waterway.

#### **VIII. WATER BIKES**

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<sup>4/</sup> This requirement may be waived by the competent authority.

1. Waterways or sectors of waterways on which the use of water bikes is permitted shall be indicated by sign E.24 of annex 7 of CEVNI.
2. A water bike boatmaster shall comport himself in such a way as not to create a nuisance for other users of the waterway.
3. A water bike boatmaster shall ensure that the water bike's engine is not left running to no purpose or for an unnecessarily long time when the water bike is not under way.
4. Every person on a water bike under way shall be required to wear a life-jacket.
5. Water bikes shall be required to leave enough room for other vessels and small craft to hold their course and to manoeuvre; water bikes may not require such vessels to give way to them.

**IX. WINDSURFING**

Waterways or sectors of waterways on which windsurfing is permitted shall be indicated by sign E.20 of annex 7 of CEVNI.

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