

Procedure file

Basic information	
COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure) Directive	Procedure completed 2006/0210(COD)
Technical requirements for inland waterway vessels: implementing powers conferred on the Commission Amending Directive 2006/87/EC 1997/0335(COD)	
Subject 2.10.03 Standardisation, EC/EU standards and trade mark, certification, compliance 3.20.04 Inland waterway transport	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	TRAN Transport and Tourism	ALDE COSTA Paolo	30/10/2006
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Environment	2773	18/12/2006
European Commission	Commission DG	Commissioner	
	Energy and Transport	BARROT Jacques	

Key events			
24/10/2006	Legislative proposal published	COM(2006)0646	Summary
26/10/2006	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading		
22/11/2006	Vote in committee, 1st reading		Summary
23/11/2006	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading	A6-0402/2006	
30/11/2006	Results of vote in Parliament		
30/11/2006	Decision by Parliament, 1st reading	T6-0505/2006	Summary
18/12/2006	Act adopted by Council after Parliament's 1st reading		
18/12/2006	Final act signed		
18/12/2006	End of procedure in Parliament		
30/12/2006	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2006/0210(COD)
Procedure type	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Directive
	Amending Directive 2006/87/EC 1997/0335(COD)
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 071-p1
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	TRAN/6/42035

Documentation gateway					
Legislative proposal		COM(2006)0646	24/10/2006	EC	Summary
Committee draft report		PE380.804	06/11/2006	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A6-0402/2006	23/11/2006	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T6-0505/2006	30/11/2006	EP	Summary
Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report		CES1582/2006	13/12/2006	ESC	
Draft final act		03674/1/2006	18/12/2006	CSL	
Commission response to text adopted in plenary		SP(2007)0054	11/01/2007	EC	

Additional information	
National parliaments	IPEX
European Commission	EUR-Lex

Final act
Directive 2006/137 OJ L 389 30.12.2006, p. 0261 Summary

Technical requirements for inland waterway vessels: implementing powers conferred on the Commission

PURPOSE: to amend the European Parliament and Council Directive laying down technical requirements for inland waterway vessels and repealing Council Decision 82/714/EEC, the measures necessary for the implementation of this Directive need as a matter of urgency to be aligned with Council Decision 1999/468/EC.

PROPOSED ACT: Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council.

CONTENT: in order to avoid further delays in the entry into force of the European Parliament and Council Directive laying down technical requirements for inland waterway vessels and repealing Council Decision 82/714/EEC, the measures necessary for the implementation of this Directive need to be aligned with Council Decision 1999/468/EC as a matter of urgency.

The Directive establishes harmonised conditions for issuing technical certificates for inland waterway vessels throughout the Community's inland waterway network. The technical requirements set out in the Annexes of the Directive, for the most part, incorporate the provisions laid down in the Regulation on Inspection of Shipping on the Rhine, in the version approved in 2004 by the member states of the Central Commission for Navigation on the Rhine (CCNR). The conditions and technical requirements for issuing inland navigation certificates under Article 22 of the Revised Convention for Rhine Navigation are updated regularly and are recognised as reflecting current technological developments.

In order to prevent distortions of competition and varying levels of safety, it is desirable, specifically in the interests of promoting harmonisation at European level, to adopt equivalent technical requirements for the whole of the Community's inland waterway network and, subsequently, to update them at regular intervals in order to maintain equivalence.

The Directive laying down technical requirements for inland waterway vessels needs to facilitate the adaptation of these technical requirements in the future, by way of a comitology procedure, in the light of technical progress and of developments arising from the work of other international organisations, in particular that of the CCNR. Amendments must be made in accordance with the advisory procedure laid down by Council Decision 1999/468/EC.

With a view to involving the co-legislators more fully in scrutinising executive acts, Council Decision 2006/512/EC of 17 July 2006 (see CNS/2002/0298), amending Council Decision 1999/468/EC, introduced a regulatory procedure with scrutiny for measures of general scope intended to amend non-essential elements of a basic instrument adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 251 of the Treaty, including by deleting some of those elements or by supplementing them by the addition of new non-essential elements.

Undifferentiated application of this procedure would entail considerable delays in adapting the Annexes to the Directive laying down technical requirements for inland waterway vessels which would go against the express wishes of the co-legislators. In view of the fact that the Rhine standards are adapted regularly, these delays would be such as to produce the risk of substantial discrepancies between the levels of navigation safety on the Rhine and on other inland waterways in the Community. This would constitute a distortion in competition for Community operators wishing to operate shipping on the Rhine. It would compromise the very effectiveness of the Community inland navigation certificate.

For the above reasons, provision must be made for the Commission to be able to apply the emergency procedure provided for in Article 5a(6) of Council Decision 1999/468/EC in respect of adaptation of the Annexes or adoption of temporary provisions enabling it, after receiving the assent of the Committee, to adopt and immediately implement such measures. Furthermore, for reasons of effectiveness, the time limits normally applicable under the regulatory procedure with scrutiny should be shortened for any other measure to be taken concerning the safety of inland navigation.

Technical requirements for inland waterway vessels: implementing powers conferred on the Commission

The committee adopted the report by its chairman, Paolo COSTA (ALDE, IT), approving the proposal amending the new directive laying down technical requirements for inland waterway vessels. The proposal was aimed at incorporating into the directive the new regulatory procedure with scrutiny. The committee adopted five technical amendments (under the 1st reading of the codecision procedure).

Technical requirements for inland waterway vessels: implementing powers conferred on the Commission

The European Parliament adopted by 451 votes in favour to 9 against with 15 abstentions, a resolution drafted by the chair of its competent committee Paolo COSTA (ALDE, IT), and approved the proposal subject to some technical amendments.

Technical requirements for inland waterway vessels: implementing powers conferred on the Commission

PURPOSE: to amend Directive 2006/87/EC laying down technical requirements for inland waterway vessels in order to bring it into line with Council Decision 1999/468/EC of 28 June 1999 (comitology), as amended by Council Decision 2006/512/EC of 17 July 2006.

LEGISLATIVE ACT: Directive 2006/137/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 2006/87/EC laying down technical requirements for inland waterway vessels.

CONTENT: Directive 2006/87/EC establishes harmonised conditions for issuing technical certificates for inland waterway vessels throughout the Community's inland waterway network. (Please refer to [COD/1997/0335](#)). The technical requirements set out in the Annexes to Directive 2006/87/EC for the most part incorporate the provisions laid down in the Regulation on Inspection of Shipping on the Rhine, in the version approved in 2004 by the member states of the Central Commission for Navigation on the Rhine (CCNR). The conditions and technical requirements for issuing inland navigation certificates under Article 22 of the Revised Convention for Rhine Navigation are updated regularly and are recognised as reflecting current technological developments.

This directive provides that the Commission's powers to establish the conditions under which the technical requirements and administrative procedures set out in the Annexes to Directive 2006/87/EC are amended must be adopted in accordance with the regulatory procedure with scrutiny provided for in Article 5a of Decision 1999/468/EC.

On grounds of efficiency, the normal time-limits for the regulatory procedure with scrutiny are curtailed for the adoption of such measures amending the Annexes to Directive 2006/87/EC.

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 30/12/2006.

TRANSPOSITION: 30/12/2008 for Member States having inland waterways.