

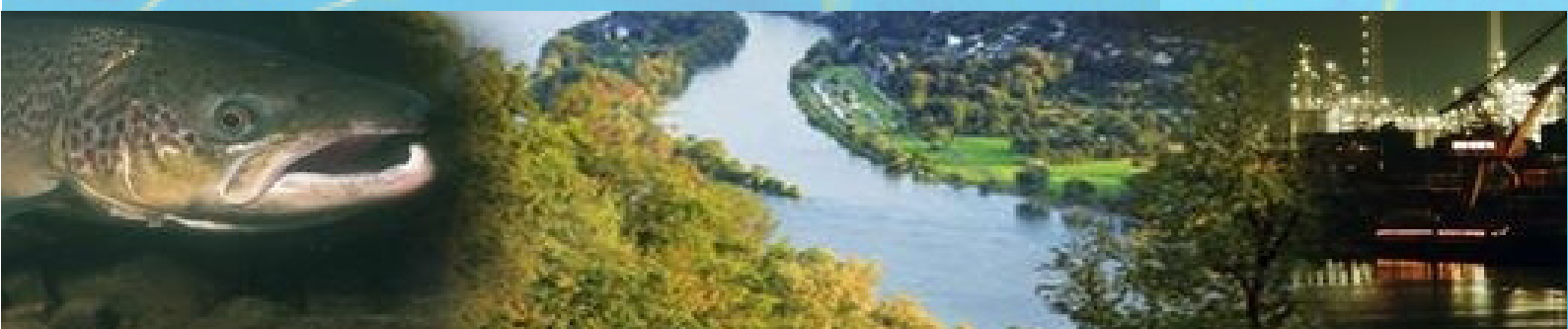


Rules of Procedure and Financial Regulations
for the Cooperation
of the International Commission
for the Protection of the Rhine (ICPR)
with the Coordinating Committee (CC) Rhine

Internationale
Kommission zum
Schutz des Rheins

Commission
Internationale
pour la Protection
du Rhin

Internationale
Commissie ter
Bescherming
van de Rijn





Internationale Kommission zum Schutz des Rheins
Commission Internationale pour la Protection du Rhin
Internationale Commissie ter Bescherming van de Rijn

Rules of Procedure and Financial Regulations for the Cooperation of the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine (ICPR) with the Coordinating Committee (CC) Rhine

Preamble

- (1) The Ministers of the States in the Rhine catchment created the informal Coordinating Committee Rhine (CC) in 2001 so as to grant the coordination in the international Rhine river basin district required within the implementation of the Water Framework Directive (Directive 2000/60/EC).
- (2) In October 2007, the Ministers of the States in the Rhine catchment also charged the ICPR (PLEN-CC) with the coordination required within the implementation of the Floods Directive (Directive 2007/60/EC) in the international Rhine river basin district.
- (3) As not all states in the Rhine catchment are at the same time Contracting Parties to the Convention on the Protection of the Rhine, cooperation between the ICPR and the Coordinating Committee Rhine (CC) is defined in the Rules of Procedure at hand.
- (4) According to Article 7, Paragraph 4 of the Convention on the Protection of the Rhine the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine (ICPR) has given itself Rules of Procedure and Financial Regulations applicable to the Commission's work and its Secretariat.

1 Composition of the Coordinating Committee Rhine (CC)

Apart from the Governments of the Contracting Parties to the ICPR (Federal German Republic, French Republic, Grand Duchy Luxemburg, Kingdom of the Netherlands and Swiss Confederation) the Governments of the Republic of Austria, the Principality of Liechtenstein, the Region Wallonia and the Italian Republic¹ are represented in the Coordinating Committee.

¹ Formally, Italy is part of the international river basin district Rhine but in practice and due to the small geographical share in the catchment, it does not participate in the work of the Coordinating Committee Rhine.

2 Features of Cooperation

2.1 With a view to a coordinated implementation of EU directives in the Rhine river basin district, the ICPR determines rules of cooperation as agreed upon with the Republic of Austria, the Principality of Liechtenstein and the Region Wallonia lying in the Rhine catchment but which are not Contracting Parties to the ICPR.²

2.2 The decision-making body of the ICPR, the annual ICPR Plenary Assembly and the Coordinating Committee Rhine have their meetings in common. As far as they concern the coordinated implementation of EU directives in the Rhine river basin and the proportionate budget, decisions of the joint PLEN-CC meeting are taken unanimously. Abstentions of one or more delegations do not contradict unanimity.

2.3 A coordinated work organisation with jointly drafted mandates for all bodies created is at the basis of this coordination.

2.4 According to item 6.4 of the Rules of Procedure and Financial Regulations of the ICPR, the ICPR instructs the secretariat to support the work of the Coordinating Committee Rhine (CC).

2.5 The working languages of the cooperation are German, French and Dutch.

2.6 The President chairs the PLEN-CC in common together with the representative of the country hosting the PLEN-CC as Co-Chairman.

2.7 The President of the ICPR is the chairman of the Strategy Group, and the CC-President (for one calendar year) is co-chairman of the Strategy Group. Due to its special situation with respect to EU directives, the Swiss delegation is informally involved in the preparatory work.

3 Cost Sharing

3.1 The expenses for work supporting specific EU related products and activities arising for the ICPR are listed as **special budget of the ICPR budget according to item 10.9 of the Rules of Procedure and Financial Regulations of the ICPR** and are borne by the EU Member States, Regions and EEA Members represented in the Coordinating Committee Rhine (CC).

3.2 For practical reasons, the use of the infrastructure of the ICPR Secretariat (office and staff expenses) when supporting the Coordinating Committee Rhine (CC) are annually globally fixed to **30 % of the regular ICPR budget** and are added to the special budget. As a non EU Member, the Swiss Confederation does not contribute to this 30 % share of the ICPR budget.

4 Ratio formula

The **Special Budget and the 30 % of the regular ICPR budget** are financed by payments of the Member States to the Convention on the Protection of the Rhine which are EU Member States and by gratia payments of the Republic of Austria, the Principality of Liechtenstein and the Region Wallonia. Within this framework:

- (i) The German Federal Republic, the French Republic and the Kingdom of the Netherlands pay 32.0 % each;
- (ii) The Grand Duchy of Luxemburg and the Republic Austria pay 1.5 % each;
- (v) The Principality Liechtenstein and the Region Wallonia pay 0.5 % each.

² See item 7 of the ICPR Rules of Procedure and Financial Regulations related to Article 2.1

5 General Commitments

Unless otherwise determined in the Rules of Procedure at hand, the Rules of Procedure and Financial Regulations of the ICPR serve as a guideline in questions relating to the cooperation between the ICPR and the Coordinating Committee Rhine (CC).

6 Entry into Force

These Rules of Procedure and Financial Regulations enter into force on 1st July 2010.