



# ERC Recommendation

## 31-06

The harmonised content of certificates issued by administrations for the GOC and ROC to facilitate the mutual recognition of these certificates

**Approved 18 May 1999**

**Amended 22 May 2015**

**ERC RECOMMENDATION 31-06 OF 18 MAY 1999 ON THE HARMONISED CONTENT OF CERTIFICATES ISSUED BY ADMINISTRATIONS FOR THE GOC AND ROC TO FACILITATE THE MUTUAL RECOGNITION OF THESE CERTIFICATES AMENDED 22 MAY 2015**

“The European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations,

*considering*

- a) that the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System(GMDSS) General Operator's Certificate (GOC) and the Restricted Operator's Certificate (ROC) are certificates related to the Maritime Mobile and Maritime Mobile Satellite Services according to Article 1 of the ITU Radio Regulations and governed by other provisions of the ITU Radio Regulations as well as other international and national regulations;
- b) that the basic requirements for the content of certificates are defined in Radio Regulations 47.19 to 47.26;
- c) that the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW) as amended stipulates the additional requirements for training and certification for GMDSS certificates for use on vessels operating under the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) vessels;
- d) that the Directive 2012/35/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 November 2012 amending Directive 2008/106/EC on the minimum level of training of seafarers gives procedures and criteria for the recognition of certificates issued by third countries;
- e) that the Directive referred to in considering d) relates to seafarers onboard ships that are subject to the SOLAS Convention;
- f) that it is still desirable to harmonise the content of the certificates issued for the GOC and ROC for the purpose of mutual recognition of those certificates in CEPT and non-CEPT countries;
- g) that administrations are responsible for taking such measures as they judge necessary to verify the operational and technical qualifications of a person seeking a GOC or a ROC;
- h) that the issue and registration of GOCs and ROCs involves considerable work for administrations;
- i) that administrations should issue their GOC's and ROC's in accordance with ERC Decision (99)01 of the Electronic Communications Committee of the Conference of European Postal and Telecommunications Administrations;
- j) that the application of ERC Decision (99)01 by CEPT and non-CEPT administrations greatly facilitates the mutual recognition of GOC and ROC certificates;
- k) that harmonisation of the content of certificates issued for the GOC and ROC would support the simplification of procedures to be executed by administrations when fulfilling their tasks regarding recognition of foreign GOC and ROC;
- l) that some administrations combine their STCW certificate together with the GOC and ROC;

*recommends*

1. that administrations base the content of their certificates for GOC and ROC on that given in the Annex 1 to this Recommendation.

*Note:*

*Please check the Office documentation database <http://www.ecodocdb.dk> for the up to date position on the implementation of this and other ERC/ECC Recommendations.*

**ANNEX 1: CONTENT OF CERTIFICATES ISSUED IN ACCORDANCE WITH CEPT/ERC DECISION (99)01, AMENDED 2015**

1. Certificates issued by administrations to successful candidates of the General Operator's Certificate (GOC) and Restricted Operator's Certificate (ROC) examined in accordance with ERC Decision (99)01 should as a minimum contain the information listed below:
  - that information required by the ITU Radio Regulations (as given in 47.19 to 47.26);
  - a reference to CEPT/ERC Decision (99)01;
  - a statement reminding holders that they are under an obligation to preserve the secrecy of correspondence;
2. Administrations may combine their STCW Certificates and Endorsements with their GOC and ROC certificates. When combining these certificates, administrations should meet the requirements of the STCW Convention concerning the content of STCW Certificates and Endorsements as well as those requirements listed above for the GOC and ROC Certificates;
3. Administrations may include other information as necessary in addition to that listed above.