



Agenda item 3	IOPC/MAY26/7/2	
Date	31 March 2026	
Original	English	
1992 Fund Assembly	92AES30	●
1992 Fund Executive Committee	92EC86	●
Supplementary Fund Assembly	SAES14	●

SUPPORT PROVIDED TO MEMBER STATES

TRIAL QUESTIONNAIRE ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTIONS

Note by the Secretariat

Summary:	This document reports on the voluntary questionnaire initiative introduced by the Secretariat to support Member States in reviewing implementation of the Conventions into domestic legislation. As at 25 March, responses have been received from eight Member States. They have provided useful insight into national implementation practices and the Secretariat is planning to offer follow-up support where appropriate. Participation to date indicates a regional imbalance, and other Member States are encouraged to participate, including by submitting partial responses. The Secretariat will analyse the responses received and will share a summary of the results with the governing bodies at a future meeting.
Action to be taken:	<u>1992 Fund Assembly and Supplementary Fund Assembly</u> Information to be noted.

1 **Background**

- 1.1 At the November 2025 sessions of the governing bodies, the Secretariat presented document [IOPC/NOV25/7/4](#), which introduced a questionnaire intended to assist Member States in assessing whether the key provisions of the Conventions are implemented in their national legal and administrative frameworks. Member States were invited to participate in the exercise on a voluntary basis.
- 1.2 The questionnaire covers a number of areas relevant to the implementation of the Conventions, including institutional arrangements and coordination, the incorporation of Convention provisions into domestic legislation, oil reporting procedures, pollution incident cooperation and participation in the governing bodies of the IOPC Funds.
- 1.3 The questionnaire provides Member States with a practical tool to review their existing arrangements and to identify any areas where further clarification or support from the Secretariat may be beneficial. Participation in the initiative is voluntary and the information provided by Member States is treated confidentially.
- 1.4 In January 2026 Circular [IOPC/2026/Circ.2](#) was issued formally inviting States to participate in the trial and providing access details to the questionnaire.

2 Progress report

2.1 Since the introduction of the questionnaire, responses have been received from the following eight Member States:

Canada	Japan
Cyprus	Malaysia
Denmark	Thailand
Estonia	United Kingdom

2.2 The responses received are comprehensive and have provided the Secretariat with valuable insight into how Member States implement the Conventions at the national level.

2.3 Based on the responses received so far, the Secretariat considers that the questionnaire has proven to be a useful tool for identifying areas where further clarification or support may be beneficial. Where appropriate, the Secretariat intends to engage with the responding Member States to provide assistance or guidance on specific aspects of the implementation of the Conventions, with the aim of ensuring that Member States fully benefit from the provisions of the Convention, if an incident were to occur which affected that Member State, and to comply with the oil reporting obligations contained within the 1992 Fund Convention.

2.4 In addition, two observer States, expressed an interest in accessing the questionnaire since it highlighted the key obligations and the areas that should be focused on when considering becoming a 1992 Fund Member State.

2.5 The Secretariat has noted that the responses received from Member States to date show a degree of regional imbalance in participation. While a number of Member States have already taken part in the initiative, participation from some regions remains limited.

2.6 The questionnaire remains available within the [document services section](#) of the IOPC Funds' website for completion and the Secretariat intends to continue to offer this service of receiving and reviewing the questionnaires on a trial basis. Member States are encouraged to participate in this initiative, particularly those that may not yet have fully developed administrative or legal systems for implementing the Conventions, as the questionnaire may help identify areas where further guidance or assistance could be provided.

2.7 Member States are also encouraged to submit responses even if they are only able to answer part of the questionnaire. Partial responses may still provide useful information and help the Secretariat identify areas where support may be required.

2.8 The Secretariat will continue to analyse the responses received and to identify any common issues or areas where further support may be beneficial. A summary of the results will be shared with the governing bodies at a future meeting.

3 Director's considerations

3.1 The Director expresses his appreciation to the Member States that have taken part in the initiative and provided responses to the questionnaire so far.

3.2 On the basis of the responses received to date, the Director considers that the initiative is proving useful in enhancing the Secretariat's understanding of how the Conventions are implemented at the

national level and in identifying areas where targeted support or guidance may be beneficial. Even in those cases where no issues are identified, the Director hopes that participating States found the exercise reassuring to confirm that they do indeed have all elements correctly implemented.

- 3.3 The Director therefore indicates his intention to continue offering the questionnaire on a voluntary basis and to engage with participating Member States, as appropriate, to provide follow-up support.
- 3.4 The Director encourages other Member States to participate in the initiative, noting that responses need not be exhaustive and that partial responses may still be valuable in identifying areas where further clarification or assistance could be provided.

4 Action to be taken

1992 Fund Assembly and Supplementary Fund Assembly

The 1992 Fund Assembly and Supplementary Fund Assembly are invited to take note of the information contained in this document.
