



<b>Agenda item 8</b>	IOPC/MAY26/8/1	
<b>Date</b>	17 April 2026	
<b>Original</b>	English	
<b>1992 Fund Assembly</b>	92AES30	●
<b>1992 Fund Executive Committee</b>	92EC86	
<b>Supplementary Fund Assembly</b>	SAES14	

## STATUS OF THE 2010 HNS CONVENTION

### Note by the Secretariat

<b>Summary:</b>	This document provides an update on the current status of the 2010 HNS Convention and the recent activities undertaken by the 1992 Fund Secretariat to prepare for its entry into force.
<b>Action to be taken:</b>	<u>1992 Fund Assembly and Supplementary Fund Assembly</u>  Information to be noted.

### 1 Introduction

This document provides an update on the progress being made towards the entry into force of the Protocol of 2010 to the International Convention on Liability and Compensation for Damage in Connection with the Carriage of Hazardous and Noxious Substances by Sea, 1996 (2010 HNS Convention<sup><1></sup>) as well as the work carried out by the 1992 Fund Secretariat since the last sessions of the IOPC Funds' governing bodies in November 2025.

### 2 Progress towards the entry into force of the 2010 HNS Convention

- 2.1 The 2010 HNS Convention will enter into force 18 months after the date on which it is ratified by at least twelve States, including four States each with not less than 2 million units of gross tonnage, and having received during the preceding calendar year a total quantity of at least 40 million tonnes of cargo that would be contributing to the general account. Further information regarding what constitutes contributing cargo and the different types of accounts can be found at [www.hnsconvention.org](http://www.hnsconvention.org).
- 2.2 At an event held during the 113th session of the International Maritime Organization's (IMO) Legal Committee in April 2026, the governments of Belgium, Germany, the Kingdom of the Netherlands and Sweden deposited instruments of ratification, acceptance or accession to the 2010 HNS Convention with the Secretary-General of IMO. These States also submitted contributing cargo reports for receipts by their contributors in 2025, representing a total of 27 843 245 metric tonnes.
- 2.3 As a result of the acceptance/accession/ratification of these four States the condition regarding the number of parties required to trigger the entry into force of the 2010 HNS Convention has been met. As at 15 April 2026, there are twelve Contracting States to the 2010 HNS Convention, namely Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Norway, Slovakia, South Africa, Sweden and Türkiye.

<1> Once the 2010 HNS Protocol enters into force, the 1996 Convention, as amended by the 2010 Protocol, will be called: 'the International Convention on Liability and Compensation for Damage in Connection with the Carriage of Hazardous and Noxious Substances by Sea, 2010 (2010 HNS Convention)'.

- 2.4 With the ratifications, acceptance and accessions by Belgium, Germany, the Kingdom of the Netherlands and Sweden, there are now 9 Contracting Parties that have more than 2 million units of gross tonnage in their domestic shipping registries, thus well above the four required by Article 46 of the 2010 HNS Convention.
- 2.5 The final criterion for the entry into force of the 2010 HNS Convention is expected to be met after 31 May 2026 when Canada, Denmark, Estonia, France, Norway, Slovakia, South Africa and Türkiye have submitted their contributing cargo reports for 2025. Contributing cargo amounts reported by these States will be added to the 27 843 245 tonnes of contributing cargo reported by Belgium, Germany, the Kingdom of the Netherlands and Sweden.
- 2.6 In 2024, the eight Contracting States required to report to the IMO at that time recorded over 22 million tonnes of cargo which would contribute to the general account. Contributing cargo received for these States in 2025 is expected to be consistent with the 2024 amounts, but will be assessed by the IMO after the 31 May 2026 deadline in order to confirm the entry into force date 18 months later, i.e. 30 November 2027 at the earliest.

### **3 Online HNS reporting system**

Since the last sessions of the governing bodies in November 2025, the 1992 Fund Secretariat has organised workshops with Contracting States to demonstrate the online HNS reporting platform that was successfully completed in September 2025. To date, regional workshops have been held in Copenhagen, Denmark, the Hague, the Kingdom of the Netherlands and Ottawa, Canada. Additional workshops will be organised for South Africa and Türkiye in the coming months. Feedback received from the workshops will be used to refine the online reporting platform to ensure that it will be fit for purpose once the Convention enters into force.

### **4 Outreach activities and technical assistance**

- 4.1 The Secretariat continues to take opportunities to promote the entry into force of the 2010 HNS Convention. Since the November 2025 sessions of the governing bodies, the Secretariat has delivered lectures on the HNS Convention to students at the International Maritime Law Institute and World Maritime University, the Manifest Genius Conference organised by the observer delegation Cedre in Brussels, Belgium and to staff at the Canadian Ship and Rail Fund.
- 4.2 States are encouraged to consider holding online workshops with relevant stakeholders for the purpose of highlighting to a wide audience the value of the 2010 HNS Convention, as well as explaining how to prepare HNS contributing cargo reports. The 1992 Fund Secretariat remains available to support such activities. The 1992 Fund Secretariat is also available to assist States considering ratifying or acceding to the 2010 HNS Convention.

### **5 Action to be taken**

#### 1992 Fund Assembly

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

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