



International Oil Pollution  
Compensation Funds

<b>Agenda Item 7</b>	IOPC/APR25/7/2	
<b>Date</b>	13 March 2025	
<b>Original</b>	English	
<b>1992 Fund Assembly</b>	92AES29	●
<b>1992 Fund Executive Committee</b>	92EC84	
<b>Supplementary Fund Assembly</b>	SAES13	●

## INFORMATION SERVICES

### Note by the Secretariat

**Summary:**

Since the November 2024 sessions of the IOPC Funds' governing bodies, the Secretariat has introduced a number of improvements to key areas of the IOPC Funds' website which are highlighted in this document.

The new publications that have been made available since the last meeting of the IOPC Funds' governing bodies are reported. Information is provided relating to the updating of the IOPC Funds' introductory video and the credentials explanatory animation.

**Action to be taken:**

1992 Fund Assembly and Supplementary Fund Assembly

Information to be noted.

### 1 Introduction

- 1.1 The Secretariat provides a wide range of accessible information services to support Member States, contributors and, in particular, those affected by oil spill incidents involving the IOPC Funds. It also endeavours to ensure the availability of suitable materials and tools to support the organisation's efforts to increase awareness of the international liability and compensation regime among wider audiences.
- 1.2 Key tools under those services are the IOPC Funds' website ([www.iopcfunds.org](http://www.iopcfunds.org)) and the publications the organisation produces. This document highlights the improvements that have been introduced to the website since the November 2024 sessions of the governing bodies and the publications which have been made available.

### 2 Website

- 2.1 The IOPC Funds' website comprises the main site and the Document Services section.
- 2.2 At the November 2024 sessions of the governing bodies it was reported that several improvements had been introduced to the website's structure and navigation to enhance accessibility to key areas. Shortly before the November 2024 sessions, new designs and layouts had been applied to specific sections of the site, including the homepage and the governing bodies page. It was noted that this new design would be applied gradually across the site over time.
- 2.3 Information relating to oil reporting and contributions had previously been located under a sub-section of the site and consisted of one single page of content. Given the importance of that area of work to the functioning of the organisation, a new top-level section has been created with a wider range of relevant information in a far clearer format. The content has been divided into separate pages within the section. This includes a page explaining what to report and how in respect of

contributing oil receipts, as well as a page explaining the levying of contributions and how the organisation is financed.

- 2.4 Furthermore, a new oil data and statistics section is under development to provide online users with quick access to the latest reported oil figures, the latest levies and the payment of contributions as well as historical statistics that may be of interest. Finally, a 'Frequently Asked Questions' section will be created specifically for queries relating to oil reporting and contributions in an effort to directly assist those government representatives responsible for submitting oil reports, those contributors who submit reports to the relevant State Authority, and those employees within contributing entities who manage the payment of invoices to the IOPC Funds each year.
- 2.5 Ongoing projects – Notification of the establishment of an EEZ or designation of an area under Article 3(a)(ii) of the 1992 Fund Convention
- 2.5.1 At its 1st session, the 1992 Fund Assembly noted that the geographical scope of application of the 1992 Fund Convention included the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) established under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. It was recognised that in order to determine the geographical scope of application of the 1992 Fund Convention in respect of a given Member State, it was necessary for the 1992 Fund to know whether that State had established an EEZ or designated an area under Article 3(a)(ii) of that Convention (document [92FUND/A.1/34](#), paragraph 21.1).
- 2.5.2 The 1992 Fund Assembly adopted a Resolution at its 1st session (1992 Fund Resolution N°4) to the effect that States which established an EEZ or designated an area under Article 3(a)(ii) of the 1992 Fund Convention before ratifying the 1992 Fund Convention were invited to notify the Secretary-General of IMO accordingly when they deposited their instruments of ratification in respect of that Convention, and that States which established an EEZ or designated an area after ratification were invited to notify the Director accordingly (document [92FUND/A.1/34](#), paragraph 21.2 and Annex IV).
- 2.5.3 As at 12 March 2025, information on the EEZ or designated areas has been submitted by only 32 of the 121 1992 Fund Member States. Therefore, with the agreement of the United Nations Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (UN DOALOS), the Secretariat has begun to add the corresponding information which is already published on the DOALOS section of the UN website to the IOPC Funds' online country profiles of those States which have not yet complied with 1992 Fund Resolution N°4.

### **3 Publications**

- 3.1 The 2023 Financial Statements of the 1992 Fund and Supplementary Fund were published as online publications in December 2024.
- 3.2 The Guide to Persistent and Contributing Oils that was approved by the governing bodies in April 2024 was published in November 2024.
- 3.3 In March 2025, a new Guidance document was published for Member States to be followed when investigating the circumstances surrounding an oil pollution incident involving uninsured and unsafe ships. The guidance was developed following discussions at the April 2024 sessions of the IOPC Funds' governing bodies on the increasing transportation of oil by such ships. The text was endorsed by the governing bodies at their November 2024 sessions.
- 3.4 The Annual Report 2024 and an updated general overview brochure are expected to be published in March 2025.

3.5 All IOPC Funds' publications are available in English, French and Spanish under the Publications section of the website.

**4 Short introductory video**

The IOPC Funds' introductory video is a useful educational tool which is accessed regularly on the 'About Us' section of the website. The video is available in all three official languages of the organisation. It covers the role, structure and activities of the IOPC Funds, as well as an overview of the legal framework behind the international liability and compensation regime. It is intended to provide a general introduction for those not familiar with the organisation and its work and brings all the basic information from reporting of contributing oil to the claims admissibility criteria together in one place. The video is being updated with the latest figures and relevant footage and is expected to be released in April 2025.

**5 Short animation video for credentials submission and meeting registration**

In October 2024, the Secretariat published a new animated instructional video outlining the process for submitting letters of credentials and registering for the IOPC Funds' meetings. The aim of the video is to facilitate the submission of credentials by Member States. Initially produced in English only, the video has been updated for the April 2025 meeting and is now available in French and Spanish also.

**6 Action to be taken**

1992 Fund Assembly and Supplementary Fund Assembly

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

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