



INTERNATIONAL
OIL POLLUTION
COMPENSATION
FUND 1992

FONDS INTERNATIONAL
D'INDEMNISATION DE 1992
POUR LES DOMMAGES DUS
À LA POLLUTION PAR LES
HYDROCARBURES

FONDO INTERNACIONAL
DE INDEMNIZACIÓN DE
DAÑOS DEBIDOS A LA
CONTAMINACIÓN POR
HIDROCARBUROS 1992

92FUND/Circ.52
23 September 2005

To: Member States of the International Oil Pollution Compensation Fund 1992
and former Member States of the International Oil Pollution Compensation Fund 1971

On 22 September 2005 I received an anonymous communication with enclosures headed 'Motion for investigation due to reasonable evidences of corruption and brivery involving sénior executives in the Fund'. The communication contained various allegations against one of the candidates for the post of Director, Mr José Maura, against Meana Green Maura & Co., the law firm representing the Funds in Spain, and in effect indirectly against the International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds and its present Director. Copies of the documents received are enclosed.

Having been made aware of this communication, Mr José Maura and the Funds' Spanish lawyer, Mr Fernando Meana Green, wrote to me on the same day stating that these allegations were untrue. Copies of these letters are also enclosed.

The anonymous communication gives rise to the following observations on my part.

As regards the accusation concerning the appointment of Mr José Maura's brother to defend the Fund in the *Prestige* case, I can confirm that Mr Pedro Maura is a partner in the law firm which has been used by the Funds in Spain since 1992, well before Mr José Maura joined the Funds Secretariat. Mr Pedro Maura has never been instructed to deal with the *Prestige* case and has had nothing to do with it. In fact, when Mr José Maura was employed by the 1971 Fund as Claims Manager in 1996, it was expressly agreed with Mr Meana Green that Mr Pedro Maura would have no involvement in any case relating to the Funds.

As regards the Funds' use of this law firm, and the non-involvement of Mr Pedro Maura, I refer to the details set out in the letter from Mr Fernando Meana Green.

With regard to the second allegation in respect of corruption, bribery and the payment of commissions, it should be noted that the person sending the anonymous communication has not provided any evidence in support thereof. I have never had any indication that has given me reason to suspect that there have been any improper dealings or relations between Mr José Maura and the law firm.

I deeply regret that such anonymous accusations have been made.

Måns Jacobsson
Director