



92FUND/Circ.69  
SUPPFUND/Circ.16  
71FUND/Circ.91  
16 April 2010

### **Venue for the Spring 2011 sessions of the governing bodies**

During the October 2009 sessions of the IOPC Funds' governing bodies, the delegation of Morocco proposed that the 2011 spring meetings of the governing bodies be held in the Kingdom of Morocco in the city of Marrakech on a budget-neutral basis for the Organisations. The 1992 Fund Administrative Council, acting on behalf of the 1992 Fund Assembly, provisionally accepted the kind offer and the Moroccan delegation was invited to submit a document containing full details of the offer to the next meeting of the governing bodies in October 2010, for further consideration, and to enable all delegations to consider their attendance.

The Director has since received a formal invitation from the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Morocco (attached), kindly offering to cover various costs involved in the running of the Funds' meetings. These include, *inter alia*, travel and accommodation of the necessary members of staff and interpreters, hire of an equipped conference room and offices, IT equipment and reproduction of documents, coffee breaks and a reception, thus ensuring that, should the 1992 Fund Assembly decide to confirm the October 2009 decision of the Administrative Council and accept the offer, it would be budget-neutral for the IOPC Funds.

The Moroccan Government has also provided further information (also attached) which may be of interest to delegates relating to travel and visa requirements. In light of any positive decision to accept their invitation at the October 2010 meetings, the Government has also offered to provide a variety of additional information in the form of a leaflet for delegates, including details of accommodation, the conference venue and facilities and any relevant local information.

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ANNEX I

ORIGINAL: FRENCH

Rabat, March 25, 2010

Kingdom of Morocco

The Prime Minister

Mr. Willem Oosterveen  
Director of the International Oil Pollution  
Compensation Funds  
(IOPC Funds)

Subject: Invitation to hold the spring 2011 IOPC Funds meetings in the Kingdom of Morocco.

Mr. Director,

I am pleased to hereby officially invite you, on behalf of the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco, to hold the IOPC Funds' meetings, scheduled for spring 2011, in the Kingdom of Morocco and, specifically, in the city of Marrakech.

The Kingdom of Morocco reiterated its commitment to the success of this event during your visit to Morocco, accompanied by members of the Secretariat and two Chairmen of the IOPC Funds' governing bodies, in February 2010.

I would like to point out that this change in location to hold the IOPC Funds' sessions will not incur your Organisation any additional expenses since the Kingdom of Morocco will assume costs related to organising this event, namely:

- Travel and accommodation costs for members of the IOPC Funds Secretariat and interpreters;
- Hiring a fully-equipped conference hall and additional workrooms;
- Coffee breaks and a reception hosted by the Government of Morocco.

I hope that this invitation, accepted in principle by the Funds' Administrative Council in October 2009, will receive the approval of all IOPC Funds Member States.

Please accept my highest regards.

Abbas EL FASSI

Prime Minister

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ANNEX IIUseful Information for Travel to Morocco**Airport**

The Marrakech-Menara International Airport is the second busiest airport in Morocco in terms of traffic after Mohammed V Airport in Casablanca. The airport is located 3 km from the city centre, welcomes 4 million passengers a year and is used by 52 airlines linking with 21 destinations, of which 18 are international. There are many direct flights to Marrakech from: London, Paris, Madrid, Brussels, Geneva, Luxembourg, Milan, Oslo and Amsterdam. [www.royalairmaroc.com](http://www.royalairmaroc.com)

Several flights provide a link between Marrakech-Menara Airport and Mohammed V International Airport on a daily basis. The latter is Morocco's main airport and one of Africa's largest, with a capacity of 16.4 million passengers. The airport is used by 50 regular airlines that fly from 80 destinations. [www.onda.ma](http://www.onda.ma)

**Visas**

According to Moroccan regulations, any foreigner wishing to visit Morocco must hold a valid passport or any other travel document recognised as such by the Moroccan State.

The passport or travel document's period of validity must at least cover the length of the visitor's stay in Morocco (at least three months). Tourist visits to Morocco are limited to three months or the length of the visa issued where applicable.

Foreign nationals whose countries are subject to the visa requirements must hold travel documents accompanied with an entry visa issued by the Moroccan Embassy or Consulate in their place of residency.

Foreign nationals whose countries are visa-exempt must hold passports or any other valid travel document recognised by the Moroccan State. National identity cards are not recognised as a means of entering Moroccan territory.

**Countries exempt from Moroccan entry visa requirements are:**

- ✓ Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Congo (Brazzaville), Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France + Monaco, Germany, Greece, Guinea (Conakry), Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, Iceland, Italy, Ivory Coast, Japan, Kuwait, Latvia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Netherlands, Niger, Norway, New Zealand, Oman, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Puerto Rico, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Korea, Spain + Andorra, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States of America, Venezuela;
- ✓ Hong Kong and Singapore (*visits without a visa are limited to 30 days*);

United Nations Experts who hold passports or *laissez-passer* issued by the UN are exempt from visa requirements for entry into Morocco. **All nationals from countries not listed above are subject to entry visa requirements to visit Morocco.**

For participation in the 'IOPC Funds' governing bodies' meetings in spring 2011 to be held in Marrakech, pending Member States' approval, visas and authorisations for entry into Morocco, would be issued as quickly as possible to all delegates whose countries are subject to visa requirements.