



INTERNATIONAL
OIL POLLUTION
COMPENSATION
FUND 1992

ASSEMBLY
9th extraordinary session
Agenda item 27

92FUND/A/ES.9/25
1 March 2005
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ANY OTHER BUSINESS

GRANT OF OBSERVER STATUS

Note by the Director

Summary:	The International Union of Marine Insurance (IUMI) has applied for observer status with the 1992 Fund.
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Action to be taken:	Decide whether to grant observer status to the IUMI.
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1 The issue

- 1.1 Article 18.10 of the 1992 Fund Convention provides that the Assembly determines which intergovernmental and international non-governmental organisations shall be admitted to take part, without voting rights, in meetings of the Assembly and subsidiary bodies. The Assembly adopted at its 1st session "Guidelines on Relations between the International Oil Pollution Compensation Fund 1992 (1992 Fund) and Intergovernmental Organisations and International Non-Governmental Organisations" (document 92FUND/A.1/34/1). These guidelines contain the following criteria for the granting of observer status to international non-governmental organisations:

Observer status may be granted by the Assembly to an international non-governmental organisation, at its request, if:

- (a) the organisation concerned is of truly international character and its objectives are in harmony with those of the 1992 Fund;
- (b) it has aims, responsibilities or activities in the fields related to those of the 1992 Fund or which are of concern or interest to the 1992 Fund, particularly in connection with pollution and environmental matters, maritime and shipping affairs, marine insurance, production or transport of oil or relevant questions of international law; and

- (c) it is able to make a contribution to the work of the 1992 Fund, for example by providing specialised information, advice or expertise, or by identifying or helping to procure the services of experts or consultants, or by otherwise furnishing technical assistance or by making research facilities available.
- 1.2 Fourteen non-governmental organisations have observer status to the 1992 Fund (BIMCO, CEFIC, CMI, CPMR, Cristal Limited, FETSA, FOEI, INTERTANKO, ICS, the International Group of P&I Clubs, ISU, ITOPF, IUCN and OCIMF).
- 1.3 The International Union of Marine Insurance (IUMI) has requested observer status with the 1992 Fund. A letter from the IUMI setting out the aims and purposes of the organisation is contained at the Annex.
- 1.4 The Director is of the view that the IUMI meets the criteria for the granting of observer status to international non-governmental organisations set out in paragraph 1.1 and therefore recommends that the organisation should be granted observer status to the 1992 Fund.

2 Action to be taken by the Assembly

The Assembly is invited:

- (a) to consider whether the International Union of Marine Insurance fulfils the criteria laid down in the above-mentioned guidelines; and
- (b) to take a decision on its application for observer status.

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IUMI

International Union of Marine Insurance

A S Nunn
Special Liaison Officer To IMO
Jolliffes Cottage
Stour Row
Shaftesbury
Dorset SP7 0QW

Director
International Oil Pollution Funds 1971 & 1992
Portland House
Stag Place
London

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COMMENTS	

Dear Sir

Further to conversations and correspondence with the Conference Administrator I am pleased to provide some information about the International Union of Marine Insurance (IUMI) which may assist the Assembly in considering our application for Observer status with the IOPC Funds.

The International Union of Marine Insurance is a professional body run by and for its members. It provides an essential forum to discuss and exchange ideas of common interest and to protect and advance member's interests. It also provides through its worldwide communication network – a platform from which views on matters of concern to its members are disseminated to the marine and shipping industry, International Organisations and international media. IUMI has a unique status in the world of marine insurance, who's members are dedicated to expand trade and to enter emerging markets.

IUMI founded in 1874 is an Association of 52 national or market Marine Insurance Associations World Wide the aims are:-

- To discuss problems in marine insurance and to exchange experience
 - To consider matters related to International legislation, Loss Prevention and Safety.
 - To collect and disseminate information.
 - To further develop marine insurance.
- IUMI is not involved in the formulation of rating schedules, clauses or conditions.

The Administration is through an Executive Committee (President Patrick DeLa Morinerie, France.) and Technical Committees specialising in Ocean Hull, Legal and Liability, Loss Prevention, Cargo, Inland Hull, Yachts, Fishing Vessels and Offshore Oil and Energy matters. (General Secretary Fritz Stabinger, Switzerland.) An Annual Meeting in various major centres takes place each September (2004 Singapore, 2005 Amsterdam.) where problems are debated with members of the various Associations including Workshops. Leading industry figures are invited as Keynote Speakers.

C.F.Meyer-Strasse 14, P.O. Box, CH-8022 Zurich, Switzerland
Tel. 0041 1 208 28 68, Fax 0041 1 208 28 00
E-mail: mail@iumi.com, Internet: http://www.iumi.com



IUMI was among the first six Non Government Organisations elected to Observer Status at IMO, attends meetings regularly and currently is represented at ongoing discussions on Athens Protocol, Places of Refuge, Recycling and SUA Convention. IUMI has appointed liaison officers or observers to UNCTAD, ICC, CMI, ICS and LACS.

It is the wish of IUMI to continue to widen an exchange with Maritime Organisations with similar interests and particularly with the IOPC Funds. We suggest that the common factors concerning marine accidents, pollution, liability and the oil industry are areas of vital interest to the Fund and IUMI and we can certainly learn from your deliberations and we may on occasions be able to contribute.

Yours sincerely

ASNunn.

Cc Gen Sec.