



INTERNATIONAL
OIL POLLUTION
COMPENSATION
FUND 1992

FOURTH INTERSESSIONAL
WORKING GROUP
Agenda item 2

92FUND/WGR.4/7/6
9 June 2007
Original: ENGLISH

NON-TECHNICAL MEASURES TO PROMOTE QUALITY SHIPPING FOR CARRIAGE OF OIL BY SEA

Submitted by Greece

Summary:	Having considered the proposal by Canada and France relating to the possible withdrawal of CLC Certificates based on the quality of a ship, as set out in document 92FUND/WGR.4/7/2, Greece has a number of serious concerns. These concerns are set out in this document.
-----------------	--

Action to be taken:	Information to be noted.
----------------------------	--------------------------

1 Introduction

- 1.1 Greece has serious concerns about the proposal by Canada and France as presented in document 92FUND/WGR.4/7/2.
- 1.2 In particular, the above States propose in paragraph 1.4 of their document the adoption of measures 'that would provide States with a mechanism to review and, where appropriate, to withdraw CLC certificates based on the quality of a ship'. We strongly oppose this proposal as we consider that it is wrongly based on the assumption that the CLC certificate mechanism is related to the quality of the certified vessel.
- 1.3 The meaning of a CLC certificate is that the issuing State has examined and approved only the existence of financial security of the registered owner to cover potential claims against its vessels arising from the CLC provisions. According to the discussions in the previous meetings of the Working Group, if the relevant Blue Card has been issued by a P&I Club which is a member of the International Group, the State will issue the CLC certificate almost automatically. Otherwise, the State is obliged to check thoroughly the credibility of any other insurance body and to decide accordingly about whether or not to issue the certificate.
- 1.4 Moreover, the recently announced new measures of the International Group of P&I Clubs regarding the inspection of the vessels insured by its members assure us that the tankers with a Blue Card provided by them will be 'quality' vessels. Therefore, they address the main concerns of the French/Canadian proposal.
- 1.5 Greece understands that the mandate of the Working Group is to propose measures to eliminate substandard transportation of oil. This does not entail proposing measures which will create more bureaucracy and, in any case, have no added value for the victims of oil pollution incidents.

2 Action to be taken by the Working Group

The Working Group is invited to take note of the information contained in this document.
