



INTERNATIONAL
OIL POLLUTION
COMPENSATION
FUNDS

ASSEMBLY
10th session
Agenda item 17

92FUND/A.10/16
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ASSEMBLY
1st extraordinary session
Agenda item 11

SUPPFUND/A/ES.1/10

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL
17th session
Agenda item 13

71FUND/AC.17/11

APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR

CANDIDATES

Note by the Director

Summary:

As a result of the expiry of the contract of the current Director of the IOPC Funds on 31 December 2006, the post of Director will become vacant. By the closing date for the presentation of candidates, ie 30 June 2005, two nominations for the post of Director had been received namely those of Mr José Maura Barandiarán (Spain) and Mr Willem J G Oosterveen (Netherlands).

Action to be taken:

1992 Fund Assembly: appoint a new Director of the IOPC Funds.
1971 Fund Administrative Council and Supplementary Fund Assembly: information to be noted.

- 1 As a result of the expiry of the contract of the current Director of the 1992 Fund, the 1971 Fund and the Supplementary Fund, Mr Måns Jacobsson, on 31 December 2006 the post of Director will become vacant.
- 2 Pursuant to the decision at its 9th session in October 2004, the 1992 Fund Assembly will at its 10th session in October 2005 appoint a new Director who will also, *ex officio*, be Director of the 1971 Fund and the Supplementary Fund. At its 9th extraordinary session held in March 2005, the Assembly decided that in order to ensure a smooth transition from the present Director to his successor, the present Director should retain responsibility for the Organisations up to 31 October 2006, the newly-elected Director should join the Secretariat on 1 September 2006 and take over responsibility for the Organisations on 1 November 2006 and the present Director would continue to be available up to 31 December 2006 (document 92FUND/A/ES.9/28, paragraph 23.2.28.).
- 3 The 1992 Fund Assembly decided at its March 2005 session that the nominations for the post of Director should be received by the IOPC Funds Secretariat by 30 June 2005. The Director was instructed to circulate to Member States, without delay, any candidatures received by that deadline. The Assembly also decided that candidatures received by the IOPC Funds Secretariat

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after that date would not be considered for the appointment of Director and that such candidatures would not be circulated (document 92FUND/A/ES.9/28, paragraph 23.2.3).

- 4 In a circular to Member States of the 1992 Fund issued by the present Director (92FUND/Circ.45) dated 29 March 2005, nominations of candidates for the position of Director were invited from 1992 Fund Member States, to be received by the IOPC Funds Secretariat by 30 June 2005. A job specification for the post of Director adopted by the 1992 Fund Assembly was enclosed with the circular, setting out the responsibilities of the Director as well as desirable experience, skills and competences of the candidates. This job description is reproduced in Annex I. In accordance with the 1992 Fund Assembly decision it was mentioned in the circular that the States nominating a candidate should validate the candidate's experience, skills and competencies against those set out in Annex I by indicating to what extent the candidate fulfilled these attributes.
- 5 By 30 June 2005, two nominations had been received by the IOPC Funds Secretariat:
 - Mr José Maura Barandiarán, nominated by the Government of Spain, received on 4 April 2005; and
 - Mr Willem J G Oosterveen, nominated by the Government of the Netherlands, received on 31 May 2005.
- 6 The nominations, together with the supporting documents, were circulated to 1992 Fund Member States in circulars 92FUND/Circ.45/1 and 92FUND/Circ.45/2, dated 5 April 2005 and 1 June 2005 respectively.
- 7 The documents relating to the nomination of Mr José Maura Barandiarán are set out in Annex II and those relating to the nomination of Mr Willem J G Oosterveen are reproduced in Annex III.
- 8 The procedures for the appointment will be dealt with in a separate document presented by the Chairman of the 1992 Fund Assembly.
- 9 **Action to be taken by the governing bodies**
 - 9.1 The 1992 Fund Assembly is invited to appoint a new Director to take up office on 1 November 2006.
 - 9.2 The Supplementary Fund Assembly and the 1971 Fund Administrative Council are invited to:
 - (a) take note of the information contained in this document; and
 - (b) to note the appointment of a new Director made by the 1992 Fund Assembly.

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ANNEX I

JOB SPECIFICATION FOR POST OF DIRECTOR

Adopted by the 1992 Fund Assembly at its March 2005 session

OVERVIEW

There are three Fund Organisations, the International Oil Pollution Compensation Fund 1971 (1971 Fund) established under the 1971 Fund Convention, the International Oil Pollution Compensation Fund 1992 (1992 Fund) established under the 1992 Fund Convention and the International Oil Pollution Compensation Supplementary Fund (Supplementary Fund) established under a Protocol adopted in 2003.

The International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds (IOPC Funds) are world-wide inter-governmental organisations, i.e. set up by States, providing compensation to victims of oil pollution damage resulting from spills of persistent oil from tankers. The Funds are financed by levies on certain types of oil carried by sea. The levies are paid by entities which receive oil after sea transport, normally not by States. The Funds are administered by a joint Secretariat located in London with 27 staff members. The Secretariat is headed by a Director appointed by Member States. This compensation regime may evolve over the coming years.

It is possible that the IOPC Funds Secretariat will, in a few years time, also administer the Fund to be established under the Convention on Liability and Compensation for Damage in Connection with the Carriage of Hazardous and Noxious Substances by Sea (HNS Convention).

ROLE OF THE DIRECTOR

The role of the Director is defined in Article 29 of the 1992 Fund Convention and corresponding provisions apply in respect of the 1971 Fund and the Supplementary Fund. Article 29 states:

1. The Director shall be the chief administrative officer of the Fund. Subject to the instructions given to him by the Assembly, he shall perform those functions which are assigned to him by this Convention, the Internal Regulations of the Fund and the Assembly.
2. The Director shall in particular:
 - (a) appoint the personnel required for the administration of the Fund;
 - (b) take all appropriate measures with a view to the proper administration of the Fund's assets;
 - (c) collect the contributions due under this Convention while observing in particular the provisions of Article 13, paragraph 3;
 - (d) to the extent necessary to deal with claims against the Fund and carry out the other functions of the Fund, employ the services of legal, financial and other experts;
 - (e) take all appropriate measures for dealing with claims against the Fund within the limits and on conditions to be laid down in the Internal Regulations, including the final settlement of claims without the prior approval of the Assembly where these Regulations so provide;
 - (f) prepare and submit to the Assembly the financial statements and budget estimates for each calendar year;
 - (g) prepare, in consultation with the Chairman of the Assembly, and publish a report of the activities of the Fund during the previous calendar year;

- (h) prepare, collect and circulate the papers, documents, agenda, minutes and information that may be required for the work of the Assembly and subsidiary bodies.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Director is the legal representative of the IOPC Funds and has overall responsibility for all aspects of the IOPC Funds' activities and for the operation of the Secretariat, pursuant to Article 29 above. He/she has the primary responsibility to ensure that the joint Secretariat of the three Funds carries out its functions in accordance with the Fund Conventions, the Internal and Financial Regulations and the decisions of the governing bodies.

The Director's responsibilities can be grouped into four broad categories:

- Settlement of compensation claims;
- Management of the Secretariat;
- Management of the IOPC Funds' assets, including levying of contributions;
- Preparation of the sessions and decisions of the Assembly and the Executive Committee as well as the implementation of these decisions.

These responsibilities can be described in more detail as follows:

a. **Strategy and policy**

Within the parameters laid down by the governing bodies, the Director deals with matters of strategic importance, policy issues, long-term planning and high-level contacts with governments, non-governmental organisations and private entities as well as deciding the position to be taken by the Funds on important legal, financial and technical matters. He/she endeavours to provide consistency in the interpretation of the Civil Liability and Fund Conventions and transposes the decisions of the governing bodies into Fund policies.

b. **Leadership/general management**

In view of the small size of the Secretariat (at present 27 staff members) and the characteristics of the three Funds, the Director is personally involved in all significant substantive aspects of the operations of the Secretariat.

The Director ensures that the Secretariat is organised and managed in accordance with best practices in similar organisations so as to enable it to function effectively and efficiently and to ensure that staff members are well-motivated and committed. He/she takes the necessary steps to develop the Secretariat function so as to enable the Secretariat to adapt to developments. He/she is also responsible for the operations of local offices set up in Member States where major oil pollution incidents have occurred and for the management of a considerable number of experts engaged by the Organisations to deal with various aspects of incidents and compensation claims.

c. **Claims handling**

The Director ensures that the claims handling procedure is efficient and of high quality, and that claims are dealt with in accordance with the Conventions, the Internal Regulations and the policy laid down by the governing bodies. He/she considers issues relating to the admissibility of claims which give rise to questions of principle or are of a sensitive nature and decides whether claims should be submitted to the governing bodies for consideration. He/she conducts ministerial or other high-level negotiations in Member States where important incidents have occurred.

d. Financial matters

The Director considers and approves the draft financial statements for submission to the External Auditor and the draft budget for submission to the governing bodies. He/she ensures that there are adequate financial controls. Within the mandate given by the governing bodies, he/she decides on the levying of contributions, on what measures should be taken when States fail to submit oil reports and on what steps should be taken against contributors in arrears. The IOPC Funds handle significant amounts of money and hold considerable assets. Within the parameters laid down by the governing bodies, he/she is responsible for the management of the IOPC Funds' assets and decides on the investment of these assets. The Director attends the meetings of the Funds' Audit Body and their Investment Advisory Body.

e. Meetings and documentation

The Director convenes sessions of the governing bodies and ensures that the appropriate documents are prepared for these sessions.

f. Representation

The Director represents the Funds at the policy level at meetings with Governments of Member and non-Member States as well as at meetings of other intergovernmental organisations. He/she represents the Funds at conferences, seminars and workshops, giving speeches and presentations. He/she also represents the Funds in relation to the media.

CANDIDATE PROFILE

The successful candidate will have extensive administrative and management experience at senior level, demonstrated leadership experience and a strong track record in dealing with public and private sector organisations at senior level. He/she needs to be a highly effective communicator, with demonstrable skills in negotiation and diplomacy, and the ability to deal credibly and authoritatively with governments and other parties in the shipping, insurance and oil industries as well as with victims of oil pollution.

1. Knowledge/Professional experience

Specifically, the 1992 Fund Assembly has expressed the view that the successful candidate would **ideally** have the following knowledge and professional experience:

- expert knowledge of the Civil Liability and Fund Conventions and other related Conventions;
- experience in handling complex legal issues relevant to the work of the Funds and ability to understand various legal systems;
- experience of claim-handling matters;
- ability to assess and take decisions on expert advice in legal and other matters;
- experience in financial matters, general management and handling of staff matters;
- experience of the public sector and grasp of decision processes and reasoning of governments;
- familiarity with high-level negotiations;
- experience of working with governments at all levels as well as with public and private bodies;
- experience of international conferences and intergovernmental meetings;
- experience in dealing with the media;
- excellent oral and written communication skills including ability to draft complex documents.

2. Personal attributes

In addition, the 1992 Fund Assembly has indicated that the successful candidate would be expected to have the following personal attributes:

- objectivity and integrity;
- fairness;
- diplomacy;
- sensitivity to political issues related to the work of the Funds;
- excellent decision-making skills;
- flexibility and openness to change;
- excellent inter-personal skills;
- organisational and management skills;
- ability to set priorities;
- ability to delegate and to motivate staff and others who work on behalf of the Funds;
- attention to detail;
- fluency in one of the official languages of the Funds (English, French and Spanish) and a good working knowledge of one of the other two official languages, bearing in mind the working environment of the Secretariat and related organisations.

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ANNEX II

CANDIDATURE OF MR JOSE MAURA BARANDIARÁN

SPANISH EMBASSY IN LONDON

Note Verbale N^o. 16

The Embassy of Spain in London presents its compliments to the International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds and has the honour to refer to the Funds' Circular 92FUND/Circ.45 of 29 March 2005 concerning the nomination of candidates for the position of Director of the IOPC Funds for the forthcoming election of Director of the International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds (IOPC Funds) that will be held during the 10th Assembly of the IOPC Funds from 17 to 21 October 2005.

Spain attaches great importance to the work of the IOPC Funds and is one of their main contributing countries. Spain was a Member of the 1971 Fund and is currently a Member of the 1992 Fund and the Supplementary Fund, participating very actively in all their governing bodies.

Reiterating its commitment to the work of the Funds and in accordance with the decision of the 9th extraordinary Assembly of the 1992 Fund, Spain has the honour to submit the candidature of Mr José Maura Barandiarán, current Head of the Claims Department of the Funds, for the position of Director of the International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds for the elections that will be held during the 10th Assembly of the 1992 Fund.

Mr José Maura Barandiarán is well qualified and has wide experience in the field of activities of the IOPC Funds. Mr Maura is a lawyer and a graduate in business administration, and he has had a career in the field of international maritime law and the international compensation regime. He has experience in the work of the P&I Clubs and in the defence and legal representation of the interests of the IOPC Funds. For the past nine years, he has held positions of responsibility in the IOPC Funds Secretariat. During his brilliant career, he has carried out high-level managerial, political and representational tasks for the IOPC Funds. He is currently responsible for handling claims, which is considered to be one of the most important aspects of the work of these Organizations.

In addition to these undeniable qualities, Mr Maura enjoys considerable prestige among the representatives of the Member States and in the maritime sector in general, and Spain considers him therefore to be a candidate with the knowledge, experience and ability required for assuming the responsibilities of Director of the IOPC Funds. Attached is Mr José Maura Barandiarán's *Curriculum Vitae*.

The Embassy of Spain in London takes this opportunity to renew to the International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds the assurances of its highest consideration.

London, 1 April 2005

INTERNATIONAL OIL POLLUTION COMPENSATION FUNDS
Portland House, Stag Place
London, SW1E 5PN



JOSE MAURA BARANDIARAN

Address: 78 Cornwall Gardens, London, SW7 4AZ, United Kingdom
Date of birth: 19 November 1960
Nationality: Spanish
Marital status: Married
Telephone office: +44 207 592 7100/14
Telephone mobile: +44 773 082 2313
E mail: jose.maura@iopcfund.org

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**IOPC Funds
Head of Claims Department
2002 to date**

Head of the Claims Department (D1 level of the United Nations) of the International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds (IOPC Funds). Responsible for managing and coordinating incidents involving the IOPC Funds. The role includes appointing and managing a team of claims managers, administrators and assistants and supervising the work carried out at the claims offices that have been opened by the IOPC Funds in countries affected by oil pollution incidents. It also includes coordination of the work of experts appointed by the IOPC Funds to assess claims for compensation.

**IOPC Funds
Claims Manager
1996-2001**

Managing incidents including *Aegean Sea* (Spain, 1992), *Sea Empress* (UK, 1996), *Nissos Amorgos* (Venezuela, 1997), *Erika* (France, 1999) and *Prestige* (Spain, France and Portugal 2002).

**Fernando Meana
Green & Co
Lawyer
1993-1996**

Called to the Bar Association of Madrid and joined *Fernando Meana Green & Co.*, a law firm practising in Madrid and specialising in maritime law. Dealt with numerous cases, mainly for P&I Clubs. Represented the interests of the IOPC Funds before the Spanish Courts in the *Aegean Sea* incident.

**Britannia P&I Club
Claims Manager
1998-1993**

Worked with a shipowners' Protection & Indemnity Club, the *Britannia Steamship Insurance Association Ltd.* in London, as Claims Manager. At the time, *Britannia* insured approximately 15% of the world's merchant tonnage and 95% of the Spanish tonnage. Handled matters concerning the Spanish and Egyptian fleets entered with the Club (arrest of ships, claims for cargo damage, collisions, sinkings, etc).

**Training in Maritime Law
1987-1988**

Worked for a number of different companies in London to gain experience in the maritime world including *Richards Hogg International Ltd.* (average adjusters) *Sedwick Marine & Cargo Ltd.* (insurance brokers), International Maritime Bureau (maritime fraud investigators) and *Clyde & Co.* (solicitors).

EDUCATION

**1992
1987
1985**

Master Business Administration, MBA (City University, London, United Kingdom)
Master of Laws, LL.M. (Bristol University, Bristol, United Kingdom)
Law Degree (University of Deusto, Bilbao, Spain)

LANGUAGES

Fluent in the three official languages of the IOPC Funds:
- English
- French
- Spanish

COMPETENCE KEY FEATURES

Knowledge of the Civil Liability and Fund Conventions	Nine years experience at the IOPC Funds, together with legal training and defending the IOPC Funds as part of their legal team, have provided an expert knowledge of the Conventions and their practical application.
Handling Complex Legal Issues in Various Legal Systems	Working for the IOPC Funds and as a lawyer acting for P&I Clubs, has provided considerable experience in negotiations, sometimes difficult, at different levels. When amicable settlements with claimants are not possible, the IOPC Funds have to defend the criteria for admissibility of claims established by the Member States before the courts of the country where the damage has occurred. This has happened in several countries including Spain, France, the United Kingdom and Venezuela, providing valuable experience of different legal systems within which the IOPC Funds have to operate.
Incident and Claims Management	The work for the IOPC Funds has involved frequent contact with the victims of pollution damage, their unions and legal representatives, providing the opportunity to develop a considerable expertise in dealing with claims in a fast and efficient manner and gaining a good understanding of the importance of the financial as well as the human aspects of managing an incident.
General and Strategic Management	Experience as a member of the Management Team in dealing with the day-to-day management of the Secretariat as well as with the medium and long term issues involved. This has required dealing with issues of political and strategic importance as well as with legal, technical and financial decisions.
Working with Governments, Public and Private Bodies	An important part of the role of Head of the Claims Department has been establishing relationships between the organisation and the authorities in the Member States affected by oil spills. He has worked with different levels of Government in Spain, France, the United Kingdom and Venezuela amongst others. The role up to now has been primarily of a technical and legal nature, but the political and diplomatic aspects have become increasingly important.
Intergovernmental Meetings	Participated in the conferences that adopted the 1996 International Convention on liability and compensation for damage in connection with the carriage of hazardous and noxious substances by sea (HNS Convention) and the Protocol of 2003 to the International Convention on the Establishment of an International Fund for Compensation for Oil Pollution Damage, 1992.
International Seminars and Conferences	Extensive experience representing the IOPC Funds at seminars, conferences and workshops in Africa, Asia, Europe, Middle East, North America, Caribbean and Latin America. He has also represented the IOPC Funds at the International Maritime Academy of the International Maritime Organisation.
Media Relations	Considerable experience in giving interviews on television, radio and in the press in different countries as spokesman on behalf of the IOPC Funds as a result of the growing importance of oil spills in public opinion. Attended media communication training courses with the IOPC Funds' experts in Paris.
Personal Attributes	In the course of his work he has acted with the utmost objectivity, exercising fairness and diplomacy both with Member States, claimants, experts and colleagues. He has a good appreciation of the need for flexibility and openness to change in the operation of the compensation regime. Both by qualification and experience he possesses excellent management skills, with the ability to prioritise, delegate and motivate.

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ANNEX III

CANDIDATURE OF MR WILLEM J G OOSTERVEEN

Royal Netherlands Embassy
38 Hyde Park Gate
LONDON SW7 5DP



Ambassade van het
Koninkrijk der Nederlanden

Ref: 27/05/05/el

The Royal Netherlands Embassy presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds and has the honour to inform the latter that the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands has decided to nominate Mr Willem J.G. Oosterveen as a candidate for the position of Director of the International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds, with reference to Circular 92FUND/Circ.45, dated 29 March 2005.

Mr Oosterveen, whose curriculum vitae is attached, has a thorough knowledge of the activities of the International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds. He chaired the Executive Committee from 1995 to 1998 and the Assembly from 1999 to March 2005. He has served as representative of the Kingdom of the Netherlands at many meetings of the governing bodies and working groups of the IOPC Funds since 1991. Mr Oosterveen's professional activities over the years, as Senior Legal Advisor to the Minister of Justice, Government representative for the Netherlands in international forums and judge of the Court of Appeal of The Hague, further demonstrate that he is an excellent candidate for the position of Director.

As to Mr Oosterveen's personal attributes, the Government of the Netherlands believes that his performance over the years has demonstrated that he clearly meets the requirements of the candidate profile as decided by the Assembly at its 9th Extraordinary Session held in March 2005. In particular he has fulfilled his responsibilities as Chairman of the Executive Committee and of the Assembly, with objectivity, integrity and fairness, consistently seeking to promote the interests of the Organisation as a whole. He has demonstrated diplomatic and excellent interpersonal skills, enabling him to motivate staff and other people with a view to the common benefit of the Funds. He is a good listener, sensitive to his environment, including the political dimension involved. He has a perfectionist attitude and pays scrupulous attention to detail, he is able to set priorities and delegate where needed. He has the ability to reach balanced decisions quickly and effectively on the basis of a solid analysis of the situation, preferably with input from various angles, yet he is flexible enough to adapt to change and improvise where needed.



Mr Oosterveen believes that the essence of the task of the Director is to make the Secretariat of the Organisation operate such as to ensure, as much as possible, that the Funds operate smoothly for the benefit of the international community, thus doing justice to the spirit of the Conventions underlying the international regime for oil pollution damage. In this context he attaches great importance to improving the Secretariat's working methods on a regular basis, where possible, based on feedback from all Member States and other stakeholders. He is also particularly interested in trying to involve as many Member States as possible in the decision-making processes of the governing bodies of the Organisation. Such enhanced participation would not only do greater justice to the fact that the IOPC Funds constitute, in terms of membership, a large international organisation, it would also add to the legality of decisions taken by the Organisation's governing bodies. The quorum problems encountered in recent times clearly illustrate that insufficient participation could put the proper functioning of the Funds at risk.

The Government of the Netherlands therefore recommends Mr Oosterveen to Member States for the post of Director of the IOPC Funds.

The Royal Netherlands Embassy avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat of the International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds the assurances of its highest consideration.

London, 27 May 2005



Secretariat International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds
London

Curriculum vitae

Name Willem J.G. Oosterveen
Date of birth 1 November 1956
Place of birth The Hague, The Netherlands

Education

1976 - 1981 Law degree, majoring in private law, Leiden University
1970 - 1976 Secondary education, Daltonscholengemeenschap, The Hague

Professional career

1999 – present Judge at the Court of Appeal of The Hague (part-time)
1998 – present Representative of the Minister of Justice in the Board of the Stichting Waarborgfonds Motorverkeer (national guarantee fund for uninsured motor vehicles)
1993 – present Advisor to the Minister, Senior Legal Advisor; including coordination of legal advisors working in the fields of transport law, (environmental) liability law, insurance law and e-law
1993 – present Member of the Board of the Netherlands Maritime and Transport Law Association (affiliated to the Comité Maritime International)
1999 – 2005 Chairman of the Assembly of the International Oil Pollution Compensation Fund 1992
1995 – 1998 Chairman of the Executive Committee of the International Oil Pollution Compensation Fund 1971
1990 – 1993 Legal Advisor, Legislation Department, Ministry of Justice
1983 – 1990 Associate professor, Private Law Section, Faculty of Law, Leiden University
1981 – 1982 Military service

Languages

Dutch fluent
English fluent
French good working knowledge
German good working knowledge

Specific professional experience at national and international level includes:

2001 – present Member of the Nuclear Law Committee of the OECD/NEA and member of the delegation of the Netherlands to the Diplomatic Conference which adopted the Protocols of 2004 to the 1960 Paris Convention on Third Party Liability in the field of nuclear energy and to the 1963 Brussels Convention supplementary to the Paris Convention
1991 – present Head of the delegation of the Netherlands to the Assembly, Executive Committee and various formal and informal working groups of the IOPC Fund 1971, the IOPC Fund 1992 and the IOPC Supplementary Fund

- 1991 – present Head of the delegation of the Netherlands to the Legal Committee of the International Maritime Organisation
- 2003 Head of the delegation of the Netherlands to the Diplomatic Conference which adopted the 2003 (Supplementary Fund) Protocol to the International Convention on the Establishment of an International Fund for Compensation for Oil Pollution Damage, 1992
- 2002 Head of the delegation of the Netherlands to the Diplomatic Conference which adopted the 2002 Protocol to the Athens Convention relating to the Carriage of Passengers and their Luggage by Sea, 1974
- 1995 – 2002 Head of the delegation of the Netherlands to the UNCITRAL Working Group on Electronic Commerce (Vienna/New York)
- 1997 – 2001 Spokesman for the Netherlands at various EU Council Working Groups on e-law topics, such as electronic signatures and electronic commerce
- 2001 Head of the delegation of the Netherlands to the Diplomatic Conference which adopted the International Convention on Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage 2001
- 2001 Spokesman for the Netherlands at the Diplomatic Conference (Budapest) which adopted the Budapest Convention on the contract for the carriage of goods by inland waterways 2001 (CMNI Convention)
- 1991 – 2000 Member of the Comité Droit Fluvial of the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine (Strasbourg)
- 1991 – 1997 Head of the delegation of the Netherlands to the IMO/UNCTAD Joint Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Maritime Liens and Mortgages and Related Subjects (London/Geneva)
- 1996 Head of the delegation of the Netherlands to the Diplomatic Conference which adopted the 1996 HNS Convention and the 1996 Protocol to the LLMC Convention

Publications in books and legal journals, including:

- 1990 – present *Books 3, 5 and 6 of the Civil Code, Text and Commentary* (“Tekst & Commentaar Boeken 3, 5 en 6 nieuw BW”), Kluwer, Deventer (Reference book on the Dutch Civil Code, updated annually);
- 2004 *Some recent developments regarding liability for damage resulting from oil pollution – from the perspective of an EU Member State*, in *Environmental Law Review* 2004, vol. 6, Issue 41;
- 2004 *The Law implementing the EU Directive on E-Commerce* (“De Aanpassingswet Richtlijn Elektronische Handel”), in *Ars Aequi*, 2004;
- 2003 *Looking forward: the Conventions revisited*, in: Commemorative Publication for the 25th Anniversary of the IOPC Funds, 2003;
- 1999 *Liability of service providers* (“Aansprakelijkheid van service providers”), in *Private Law in the 21st century* (“Privaatrecht in de 21ste eeuw”), Conference Book, Kluwer, Deventer, 1999;
- 1999 *The electronic signature* (“De elektronische handtekening”), in: *Private Law in the 21st century* (“Privaatrecht in de 21ste eeuw”), Conference Book, Kluwer, Deventer, 1999;
- 1997 *Book 8 of the New Civil Code; current state of affairs* (“Boek 8 van het BW; de stand van zaken”) in *Transport Law in Book 8 of the Civil Code* (“Vervoersrecht in Boek 8 BW”),

- Preliminary Report to the Netherlands Commercial Law Association & the Netherlands Maritime and Transport Law Association, 1997;
- 1997 *Improved possibilities for compensating damage caused by incidents involving oil tankers* (“Verbeterde mogelijkheden voor vergoeding van schade door ongevallen met olietankers”), in *Ars Aequi* 1997;
- 1997 *Some international developments in the field of environmental damage and the limits of the concept of damage in private law* (“Enige internationale ontwikkelingen op het gebied van milieuschade en de grenzen van het civielrechtelijk schadebegrip”), in *Civil Code Journal Yearbook* (“BW-krant Jaarboek”) 1997;
- 1992 *Legal acts and conclusion of contracts* (“Totstandkoming van rechtshandelingen, overeenkomst c.a.”), in *Overview Private Law according to the present Civil Code* (“Overzicht vermogensrecht naar huidig BW”), Gouda Quint, Arnhem 1992;
- 1988 *Editor of Commemorative Publication for the 150th Anniversary of the Dutch Civil Code* (“Recht vooruit: Opstellen verzameld t.g.v. 150 jaar BW”), Kluwer, Deventer 1988 (jointly with P. Neleman and M.S. Bijleveld);
- 1988 *The law on hidden faults* (“De verborgen gebreken-regeling”), in *Old and New* (“Oud en Nieuw”), *Civil Code Journal Yearbook* (“BW-krant Jaarboek”) 1988;
- 1987 *Conclusion of contracts: intention, trust and reliance* (“Overeenkomsten, totstandkoming; wil en vertrouwen; ongunstiger toestand”); *Journal for Private Law* (“Tijdschrift voor Privaatrecht”), Belgium, 1987.

Lectures given at conferences and post-graduate courses (selection):

- 2005 Speaker in short course on “The new EC Directive on environmental liability: a comparison with the US restoration-based natural resource damages regime and the 1992 International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage”, International Oil Spill Conference 2005, Miami, USA
- 2004 Lecturer, post-graduate course on Transport Law, Grotius Academy, Rotterdam
- 2004 Speaker at the conference “Environmental liability in the EU”, University of Exeter, UK
- 1999 Lecturer, post-graduate course on the legal aspects of electronic communications and electronic commerce, for Loeff, Claeys, Verbeke, Solicitors, Rotterdam
- 1993 – 1995 Lecturer, post-graduate course on the New Dutch Civil Code for the judiciary (Stichting Studiecentrum Rechtspleging)
- 1994 Lecturer, post-graduate course on the New Dutch Civil Code for Loeff & van der Ploeg, Solicitors, Rotterdam
- 1989 – 1993 Lecturer, national post-graduate course on the New Dutch Civil Code (Landelijke PAO Nieuw BW)
- 1991 – 1992 Lecturer, post-graduate course on the New Dutch Civil Code for the National Ombudsman
- 1991 Lecturer, post-graduate course on the New Dutch Civil Code for the Ministry of Justice