



INTERNATIONAL
OIL POLLUTION
COMPENSATION
FUNDS

Agenda item: 3	IOPC/APR12/3/2/1	
Original: ENGLISH	3 April 2012	
1992 Fund Assembly	92AES17	
1992 Fund Executive Committee	92EC55	
1971 Fund Administrative Council	71AC28	•
1992 Fund Working Group 6	92WG6/4	
1992 Fund Working Group 7	92WG7/1	

INCIDENTS INVOLVING THE IOPC FUNDS – 1971 FUND

PLATE PRINCESS

Note by the Secretariat

Objective of document:	To notify Member States of the judgement rendered by the Supreme Tribunal of Venezuela on 21 November 2011 for the purpose of expediting immediate payment to Venezuelan nationals.
Action to be taken:	<u>1971 Fund Administrative Council</u> Give the Director such instructions in respect of the handling of this incident as it may deem appropriate.

1 Introduction

- 1.1 On 6 March 2012 the Director of the IOPC Funds received a communication from the Embassy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the United Kingdom informing him that all the ordinary and extraordinary appeals in respect of the legal proceedings taken in the courts in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela in respect of the *Plate Princess* incident had been exhausted with the rendering of judgement No. Exp. AA20-C-2011-000615 of 21 November 2011. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela has requested that the decision be notified to the States Parties to the 1992 Fund Convention and of the Protocol of 1992 to amend the International Convention on the Establishment of an International Fund for Compensation for Oil Pollution Damage, 1971, for the purpose of expediting immediate payment to Venezuelan nationals in accordance with the provisions of the said Protocol. The communication from the Embassy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the United Kingdom is at the Annex.
- 1.2 This judgement by the Supreme Tribunal of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela of 21 November 2011 is available in Spanish from the Secretariat upon request. Translations into English and French of this judgement will be available from the Secretariat at the time of the meeting. Alternatively, the text will be available in all three languages at www.iopcfund.org/ongoing.htm.

2 Action to be taken

1971 Fund Administrative Council

The 1971 Fund Administrative Council is invited:

- (a) to take note of the information contained in this document; and
- (b) to give the Director such instructions in respect of the handling of this incident as it may deem appropriate.

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ANNEX

*Embassy of the Bolivarian
Republic of Venezuela
London*

047/2012

The Embassy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the United Kingdom conveys its highest compliments to the Director of the International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds (IOPC Funds), and has the honour to inform him that, since the ordinary and extraordinary recourses in the judicial proceedings instituted in the courts of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, relating to the PLATE PRINCESS incident, have been exhausted, under Judgement No. AA20-C-2011-000615 of 21.11.2011, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela requests that the decision should be notified to the States Parties to the 1992 Fund Convention and of the Protocol of 1992 to Amend the International Convention on the Establishment of an International Fund for Compensation for Oil Pollution Damage, 1971, for the purpose of expediting the immediate payment of compensation to our nationals in accordance with the provisions of the said Protocol.

The Embassy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the United Kingdom reiterates to the Director of the International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds (IOPC Funds) the assurances of its highest esteem and consideration.

Stamp of the Embassy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the United Kingdom

Signature

London, 5 March, 2012

To the Director of the International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds (IOPC Funds)
23 Portland House
Bressenden Place
London SW1E 5PN

cc David Bruce
Chairman, 1971 Fund Administrative Council

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