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NON-SUBMISSION OF OIL REPORTS

Note by the Director

Summary:	32 Member States have not submitted oil reports to the Secretariat.
Action to be taken:	Consider what measures, if any, can be taken to ensure that Member States submit their outstanding oil reports.

1 Introduction

1.1 In October 1998 the Director submitted a document to the Assembly (document 71FUND/A.21/12) in which he set out possible ways of determining the quantities of oil received in States which had not submitted their oil reports. The Executive Committee, acting on behalf of the Assembly, took note of the fact that the 1992 Fund Assembly had considered the question and had noted the Director's view that there was no practicable and viable procedure for levying contributions in the absence of oil reports submitted by States. The Committee shared the view of the 1992 Fund Assembly, nevertheless, that the non-submission of oil reports was a matter of serious concern to other Member States and in particular to the contributors in those States (document 71FUND/EXC.59/17/A.21/24, paragraph 14.2).

1.2 The Executive Committee, acting on behalf of the Assembly, instructed the Director that, if a State did not submit its oil reports, he should make contacts with that State and emphasise the concerns expressed by the Committee in this regard. The Director was also instructed to inform the competent persons of the States concerned that the Assembly would review individually each State which had not submitted its report and that it would then be for the Assembly to decide on the course of action to be taken for each State (document 71FUND/EXC.59/17/A.21/24, paragraph 14.3).

1.3 This document sets out the situation with regard to the non-submission of oil reports by 1971 Fund Member States, and gives information on the steps taken by the Director in order to obtain the outstanding reports.

2 Situation in respect of outstanding oil reports

2.1 In letters dated 15 January 1999 Member States were invited to submit to the Secretariat their reports on contributing oil received in 1998. Competent authorities were notified that the Assembly would review individually each State which had not submitted its report and that it would then be for the Assembly to decide on the course of action to be taken for each State.

2.2 Reminder letters were sent in August 1999 to the competent authorities of 37 States with outstanding reports. The authorities' attention was again drawn to the decision that the Assembly would review individually each State which had not submitted its reports. Following these letters, reports in respect of five States have been submitted to the Secretariat.

2.3 At present oil reports are outstanding in respect of 32 Member States of the 1971 Fund (or former Member States), as set out below.

State	Years for which reports outstanding	Total number of outstanding reports	Estimated quantity (tonnes)
Albania	1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998	6	<i>No reports yet received</i>
Algeria	1997, 1998	2	400 000
Antigua and Barbuda	1996, 1997, 1998	3	<i>No reports yet received</i>
Bahrain	1997	1	0
Benin	1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998	8	0
Cameroon	1996, 1997, 1998	3	1 400 000
Colombia	1996, 1997, 1998	3	<i>No reports yet received</i>
Côte d'Ivoire	1998	1	3 000 000
Gabon	1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998	11	400 000
Gambia	1998	1	0
Guyana	1997, 1998	2	<i>No reports yet received</i>
India	1998	1	47 700 000
Indonesia	1998	1	12 000 000
Kenya	1997, 1998	2	1 500 000
Kuwait	1997, 1998	2	0
Maldives	1997, 1998	2	0
Mauritania	1995, 1996, 1997, 1998	4	<i>No reports yet received</i>
Morocco	1997, 1998	2	5 300 000
Mozambique	1996, 1997, 1998	3	<i>No reports yet received</i>
Nigeria	1986, 1997, 1998	3	700 000
Panama	1998	1	<i>No reports yet received</i>
Papua New Guinea	1997, 1998	2	0
Portugal	1998	1	15 000 000
Qatar	1996, 1997, 1998	3	0
Saint Kitts and Nevis	1993, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998	5	0
Seychelles	1998	1	0
Sierra Leone	1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998	7	<i>No reports yet received</i>
Slovenia	1992, 1993, 1997	3	0
Syrian Arab Republic	1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998	9	400 000
Tonga	1997, 1998	2	0
Tuvalu	1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998	6	0
Yugoslavia	1996, 1997, 1998	3	0

2.4 The Director considers it to be a matter of serious concern that oil reports are outstanding in respect of over two-thirds of the remaining Member States of the 1971 Fund.

2.5 In the case of seven States (Bahrain, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, India, Indonesia, Portugal and Seychelles) which have outstanding reports for one year only and which in the past have submitted reports, it is thought that the non-submission is an administrative oversight. The Director does not envisage any major problems in obtaining the respective outstanding reports. Furthermore, it is expected that 'nil' quantities will be reported in respect of Bahrain, the Gambia and the Seychelles.

2.6 With regard to Panama, which has not submitted any reports since becoming a Member of the 1971 Fund but which also has outstanding reports for 1998 only, the authorities have responded by providing a more appropriate address for the Fund's correspondence.

2.7 For eight States (Algeria, Guyana, Kenya, Kuwait, Maldives, Morocco, Papua New Guinea and Tonga), oil reports are outstanding for 1997 and 1998, although it is expected that 'nil' quantities will be reported in respect of four of these States (Kuwait, Maldives, Papua New Guinea and Tonga). Of the eight States, only Guyana has not submitted reports in the past. The Director hopes, therefore, that the delayed reports will be submitted in the near future.

2.8 In the case of a further eight States (Antigua and Barbuda, Cameroon, Colombia, Mozambique, Nigeria, Qatar, Slovenia and Yugoslavia), oil reports are outstanding for three years. Reports of 'nil' quantities are expected in respect of three of these States (Qatar, Slovenia and Yugoslavia). No reports have been received from Antigua and Barbuda, Colombia and Mozambique since joining the 1971 Fund. It is understood that the reports in respect of Colombia will be submitted in the near future. It is also known that new efforts are being made to submit the reports in respect of Cameroon. With regard to Nigeria, the authorities have responded by providing a more appropriate address for the Fund's correspondence.

2.9 A further eight States have not submitted oil reports for four or more years (Albania, Benin, Gabon, Mauritania, St Kitts and Nevis, Sierra Leone, Syrian Arab Republic and Tuvalu). Although it is expected that reports of 'nil' quantities will be submitted in respect of Benin, Tuvalu and St Kitts and Nevis, it is of considerable concern that reports are outstanding for eight, six and five years, respectively, for these States. With regard to Sierra Leone (which has seven years of outstanding reports), Albania (which has six years of outstanding reports) and Mauritania (which has four years of outstanding reports), the Director is particularly concerned that no reports have been submitted by these States since they became Members of the 1971 Fund. The Director is particularly anxious to receive reports from Gabon (which has eleven years of outstanding reports) and the Syrian Arab Republic (which has nine years of outstanding reports). When these two States last submitted oil reports, quantities of approximately 400 000 tonnes were received each year. If the quantities remain the same for the 'missing' years, a substantial amount is due to be invoiced to the contributors in those two States.

2.10 Overall, the Director considers that the situation regarding outstanding oil reports gives rise to grave concern for the future operation of the 1971 Fund. Although it is believed that 13 of the Member States listed in the table above will submit reports of 'nil' quantities, it is vital that the authorities of the States concerned confirm this in writing to the Secretariat. In the case of a number of States which are expected to receive contributing oil, however, the Director is confident that the reports have merely been delayed, and that they will be submitted to the Secretariat in the near future. Nevertheless, the Director is very concerned that the eight States which have not yet submitted any oil reports since becoming Members of the 1971 Fund may in fact have entities which receive more than 150 000 tonnes of contributing oil per year. Of greatest concern for the functioning of the 1971 Fund are those States referred to in paragraph 2.9 which have not submitted reports for between four and eleven years. The Director will pursue his efforts to obtain the outstanding reports. In the light of discussions at previous sessions of the 1971 Fund's governing bodies, it would appear that persistency is the only option available to the Secretariat.

3 Action to be taken by the Assembly

The Assembly is invited:

- (a) to take note of the information contained in the present document; and
 - (b) to consider what measures, if any, can be taken to ensure that Member States submit their outstanding oil reports.
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