

INTERNATIONAL OIL POLLUTION COMPENSATION FUND

FONDS INTERNATIONAL D'INDEMNISATION POUR LES DOMMAGES
DUS A LA POLLUTION PAR LES HYDROCARBURES

ASSEMBLY -
3rd session
Agenda item 3

FUND/A.3/2/Add.1
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GRANT OF OBSERVER STATUS

Note by the Director

1. After the issuance of document FUND/A.3/2 two more organizations have applied for Observer Status with the IOPC Fund, i.e.

- (a) International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation Limited, by letter of 31 December 1979,
- (b) Baltic and International Maritime Conference, by letter of 9 January 1980.

The principal features of these two organizations are briefly summarized as follows.

(a) International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation Limited

The International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation Limited supervises and administers the operation of the "Tanker Owners Voluntary Agreement Concerning Liability for Oil Pollution (TOVALOP)", the voluntary agreement signed by tanker owners to establish a compensation system for the cost of pollution and clean-up. TOVALOP entered into force in October 1969 and 97% of the world's tankers are now members.

In addition to the administration of TOVALOP, the Federation has become closely involved in many major oil incidents of recent years both in advising on the technical problems of containing pollution and of clean-up and in assisting negotiations on compensation. Its technical department has become established as the most important international emergency unit in the world. It advises on cost effective clean-up programmes and provides consultancy services to governments and international organizations on contingency planning and clean-up. It is advising the IOPC Fund in respect of one major spill.

The Federation's responsibilities and activities are closely related to, and will contribute to, the IOPC Fund's work.

(b) Baltic and International Maritime Conference (BIMCO)

The Baltic and International Maritime Conference (BIMCO) consists of 943 shipowner members with a total tonnage of 169 million GRT, 1963 broker members and 50 "club-members", i.e. P & I Clubs, Defence Associations, Shipping Federations etc. The members come from 91 countries.

The objects of BIMCO are to unite shipowners and other persons and organizations connected with the shipping industry in order to consider and, if expedient, take action on all matters affecting the industry, to communicate to members instances of objectionable shipping practices and any other useful information affecting the industry, and to improve shipping documents. As the largest private association in the world in the maritime industry, BIMCO maintains contact with all persons and organizations in the shipping industry as to all matters connected with that industry. Some of these activities are of concern to the IOPC Fund.

2. The Assembly is invited to take a decision on these further applications for Observer Status.
