



INTERNATIONAL  
OIL POLLUTION  
COMPENSATION  
FUND

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
36th session  
Agenda item 3

FUND/EXC.36/9  
1 October 1993

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## INCIDENTS INVOLVING THE IOPC FUND

### KEUMDONG N°5

#### Note by the Director

- 1 On 27 September 1993, the Korean sea-going barge KEUMDONG N°5 (532 GRT), under tow and laden with approximately 2 400 tonnes of heavy fuel oil, collided in heavy fog with the Panamanian bulk carrier BI JIA SHAN (GRT unknown) off the south coast of the Korean peninsula (Republic of Korea). As a result of the collision, some 1 100 tonnes of the cargo of the KEUMDONG N°5 was spilt into Yeosu Bay. The KEUMDONG N°5 sank and is at present lying partly submerged.
- 2 The ship was entered with the Standard Steamship Owners' Protection & Indemnity Association (Bermuda) Ltd (the Standard Club).
- 3 The oil has affected some 100 kilometres of coastline. The clean-up operations will probably take several months.
- 4 Only limited resources for oil spill response are available in the area. Unfortunately, the incident occurred the day prior to the beginning of a four-day public holiday, which made it difficult to organise the oil spill response. The Governor of the Province affected by the spill has declared a state of emergency. The authorities are considering the use of military personnel for the on-shore clean-up.
- 5 A large area of water has also been affected by the oil. Extensive aquaculture is carried out in this area. It is likely, therefore, that the incident will give rise to claims for loss of income suffered by fishermen in significant amounts.

6 The Director has, together with the Standard Club, engaged a Korean surveyor to monitor the clean-up operations, together with an expert from the International Tanker Owners' Pollution Federation Ltd (ITOPF).

7 It is not possible at this stage to make any accurate estimate of the total amount of the damage resulting from the incident. Nevertheless, the Director believes that the total cost to the IOPC Fund as a result of this case will exceed £10 million.

8 The limitation amount applicable to the shipowner is estimated at Won 78 million (£66 000).

9 The Director is following the investigation into the cause of the incident.

**Action to be Taken by the Executive Committee**

10 The Executive Committee is invited to:

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