

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 44th session Agenda item 3 FUND/EXC.44/9/Add.1 13 October 1995

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INCIDENTS INVOLVING THE IOPC FUND

SEA PRINCE

Note by the Director

1 Removal of remaining oil cargo

As indicated in paragraph 2.6 of document FUND/EXC.44/9, the Korean authorities have instructed the owner of the *Sea Prince* that any remaining oil should be removed from the wreck. However, due to technical difficulties in removing the remaining oil, the shipowner transferred most of the oil from the damaged to the intact tanks. The feasibility of the removal of the wreck is being examined.

2 Clean-up operations and impact on mariculture and fisheries

- 2.1 Clean-up operations have been completed in all but three areas. It is expected that the clean-up will be completed in two of these areas by the end of October 1995. The clean-up operations in the third area, closest to the wreck, may take some more months.
- 2.2 Chemical analyses have been made in the United Kingdom of marine products taken from polluted and non-polluted areas. The analytical data is being examined.

3 Claims for compensation

3.1 The clean-up costs incurred so far amount to Won 13 490 million (£11 million). It is estimated that the final clean-up costs will be in the region of Won 20 000 million (£16 million). Advance payments in respect of the cost of clean-up operations have been made by the shipowner and the UK Club, after consultation with the Director, for a total of Won 12 120 million (£10 million).

- 3.2 Provisional claims for fishery damage have been submitted by most of the villages affected by the spill in respect of alleged damage to caged fish and alleged damage to N°1 Common fishing grounds, but so far without supporting documentation. The claims for fishery damage total Won 74 441 million (£62 million), with an additional Won 144 518 million (£120 million) for anticipated future losses.
- 3.3 A claim has been submitted for Won 35.1 million (£29 100) for alleged damage to a variety of crops and plants on Sorido, caused by wind-blown oil. This claim is being investigated.
- 3.4 Provisional claims totalling Won 4 244 million (£3.5 million) have been submitted by hoteliers and others engaged in tourism-related activities on Namhae Island and Keoje Island. Supporting documentation has not yet been provided, but it would appear that there is some overlap between these claims and corresponding claims arising from the *Yeo Myung* incident.
- 3.5 The Director has examined the claims in respect of which advance payments have been made, on the basis of the reports of the surveyors and technical experts. He is of the opinion that the payments effected so far by the shipowner and the UK Club relate to operations which fall within the definitions of "pollution damage" and "preventive measures" and that the amounts paid are reasonable.

4 Action to be taken by the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee is invited to take note of the information contained in this document.