



INTERNATIONAL
OIL POLLUTION
COMPENSATION
FUND 1971

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
52nd session
Agenda item 3

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INCIDENTS INVOLVING THE 1971 FUND

NAKHODKA

Note by the Director

1 Claims handling

1.1 The 1971 and 1992 Funds, the shipowner and the UK Club are establishing jointly a Claims Handling Office in Kobe to be managed by a firm of Japanese surveyors, General Marine Surveyors & Co Ltd. The claims handling will be monitored by the Funds' Japanese lawyer.

1.2 The staff of the Claims Handling Office will at regular intervals visit the eight prefectures which comprise the affected area, so as to enable claimants and their representatives to discuss the claims with the staff.

1.3 The technical examination of the claims will be carried out by the staff of the Claims Handling Office in close co-operation with the staff of the International Tanker Owners Pollution Federation Ltd (ITOPF). Experts in specialised fields will be engaged for the assessment of claims, as required.

2 Wreck removal

A contract for the removal of the grounded bow section has been concluded between the shipowner and a Japanese salvage company. The intention is that the wreck should be brought to a scrapyard.

3 Investigation into the cause of the incident

3.1 The Japanese and Russian authorities have agreed to co-operate in the investigation into the cause of the incident.

3.2 The 1971 and 1992 Funds are following the investigation through their Japanese lawyer with the assistance of technical experts.

4 **Action to be taken by the Executive Committee**

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