



INTERNATIONAL  
OIL POLLUTION  
COMPENSATION  
FUND 1992

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
17th session  
Agenda item 3

92FUND/EXC.17/7  
20 June 2002  
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## INCIDENTS INVOLVING THE 1992 FUND

### NEPTANK VII

#### Note by the Director

<b>Summary:</b>	The bunker tanker <i>Neptank VII</i> , carrying some 3 100 tonnes of heavy fuel oil and 200 tonnes of diesel oil, was in collision with the general cargo vessel <i>Hermion</i> in the Singapore Strait, resulting in an escape of about 300 tonnes of heavy fuel oil. Clean-up operations at sea were organised by the shipowner and the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore. No oil is reported to have gone ashore. It is not yet possible to estimate the total amount of the claims.
<b>Action to be taken:</b>	To authorise the Director to settle claims.

### 1 The incident

- 1.1 On 12 June 2002 the bunker tanker *Neptank VII* (1 937 GT), registered in Singapore, carrying a cargo of some 3 100 tonnes of heavy fuel oil and 200 tonnes of marine diesel oil, was in collision with the Thai-registered general cargo ship *Hermion* (9 580 GT) near Sentosa Island in the Singapore Strait, within the port of Singapore.
- 1.2 The collision resulted in a hole on the port side shell plating of the *Neptank VII*'s aftermost cargo tank. It is estimated that about 300 tonnes of heavy fuel oil escaped from the tank.
- 1.3 The shipowner and the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore mobilised anti-pollution craft to combat the spill. The oil spill response, which primarily involved the application of dispersants and the deployment of booms to contain the oil, was terminated on 15 June 2002 when it was established that the remaining oil at sea did not pose a threat to the Singaporean coastline. No oil has been reported to have gone ashore.
- 1.4 The *Neptank VII* was entered with the Shipowners' Mutual Protection and Indemnity Association (Luxembourg).

**2     Limitation of liability**

- 2.1     Singapore is a Party to the 1992 Civil Liability Convention and the 1992 Fund Convention.
- 2.2     The limitation amount applicable to the *Neptank VII* under the 1992 Civil Liability Convention is 3 million SDR (£2.6 million).

**3     Claims for compensation**

It is not yet possible to make an evaluation of the total amount of the claims for compensation. It is anticipated, however, that clean-up costs will not exceed the limitation amount applicable to the ship under the 1992 Civil Liability Convention.

**4     Settlement of claims**

The Executive Committee may wish to consider whether it is prepared to authorise the Director to make final settlements on behalf of the 1992 Fund of all claims arising out of the *Neptank VII* incident to the extent that the claims do not give rise to any questions of principle which have not previously been decided by any of the governing bodies of the 1971 Fund or the 1992 Fund.

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

The Executive Committee is invited:

- (a)     to take note of the information contained in this document;
  - (b)     to consider whether it is prepared to authorise the Director to settle all claims arising from this incident; and
  - (c)     to give the Director such instructions in respect of this incident as it may consider appropriate.
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