

ASSEMBLY -
1st session
Agenda item 13

DETERMINATION OF HEADQUARTERS STATE

Note by the French delegation

As all the States participating in the first session of the Assembly of the Fund have been informed through diplomatic channels, the French Government would welcome the establishment in Paris of the Headquarters of the Fund and is accordingly putting forward its official candidature.

In recent years France has been particularly seriously affected by marine pollution casualties, the grounding of the "Amoco Cadiz" being the most recent and the most serious of all time. France has consistently demonstrated its paramount concern for pollution problems. It therefore wishes by practical and long-term action to promote the operation of the Fund. To that end, France is willing to place the necessary premises at its disposal on very favourable material terms (rental and location). Furthermore, the French Government is offering to the Fund a cash advance of 100 000 dollars, to be available immediately, in addition to the 300 000 dollars which the Secretary-General of IMCO has just been authorized to allocate, thereby enabling the Fund to meet more easily its initial operating costs. Lastly, the French Government has made the necessary arrangements for a start to be made within a very short space of time on negotiating an agreement concerning the privileges and immunities of the Fund.

For their part, the French maritime organizations will give the Fund every assistance necessary and will remain at its disposal to solve any technical or material problem that may arise.

The French Government, which is the second largest contributor to the Fund and whose accession resulted in the coming into force of the 1971 Convention, sets the greatest store by the successful outcome of its candidature.
