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INTERNATIONAL OIL POLLUTION
COMPENSATION FUND

ASSEMBLY - 1st session
Agenda item 13

DETERMINATION OF HEADQUARTERS STATE

Communication from the Government
of the United Kingdom

The Secretary-General has received the following communication from the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland:

10 November 1978

Dear Secretary-General,

I have the honour to refer to the International Convention on the Establishment of an International Fund for Compensation for Oil Pollution Damage 1971, which came into force on 16 October 1978, and to the First Assembly which will take place from 13-17 November 1978.

The Assembly is expected to take a decision on the question of the location of the Headquarters of the Fund. I have the honour and pleasure to inform you that Her Majesty's Government would warmly welcome the establishment of the Fund in London, and would consider itself honoured by a decision to that effect. Her Majesty's Government sees advantages for the Fund itself in such a position, in particular because we believe it would greatly benefit from close association with, and access to the expertise of, the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization. Such a close association would also assist the Fund to be operated economically, an objective which will no doubt be shared by all Contracting States.

It is, therefore, the intention of the United Kingdom delegation to propose to the first Assembly that, in accordance with the Resolution of the 1971 Conference, IMCO should be invited to provide the Fund with accommodation and with all necessary further assistance for its establishment in London, and to offer this Government's help for the same purpose.

If the Assembly see merit in having the Fund located in London, Her Majesty's Government is, of course, ready to negotiate a Headquarters Agreement with it, and would be willing to table a draft at the First Assembly in order to facilitate consideration on this matter.

Please accept, Sir, the assurance of my highest consideration.

(Signed) STANLEY CLINTON DAVIS

Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Companies,
Aviation and Shipping,
Department of Trade
