



International Oil Pollution
Compensation Funds

Reference	IOPC/2020/Circ.5
Date	23 March 2020
1992 Fund Assembly	●
Supplementary Fund Assembly	●

Arrangements for meetings of the IOPC Funds' governing bodies in 2020 following the COVID-19 pandemic

Further to IOPC/2020/Circ.4 announcing the postponement of the March 2020 meeting of the IOPC Funds' governing bodies, the purpose of this circular is to inform delegations and other meeting attendees of the latest developments and arrangements for meetings in 2020.

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) has announced that, due to the rapid increase of COVID-19 cases worldwide and the continuing difficulties for delegates travelling from abroad to attend meetings, the decision has been taken to postpone IMO meetings until the end of May.

In light of the growing number of IMO meetings that need to be rescheduled, the Director regrets to announce that it will not be possible to reschedule the March 2020 meeting of the governing bodies and that therefore, this meeting is cancelled. Therefore, documents issued for that meeting are no longer valid and new documents will be issued for consideration at the next meeting.

The Director would like to point out that the next regular meeting of the governing bodies is still expected to take place in 2020 and is currently scheduled to be held during the week of 2 November 2020. However, since IMO will be looking to reschedule its meetings, there is a possibility that these dates may change. The Secretariat is continuing to work in close cooperation with the IMO Secretariat to monitor developments and find suitable dates. The Secretariat will confirm the dates of this next meeting as soon as possible and in good time for delegates to make appropriate arrangements.

The Secretariat is currently working remotely and will continue to provide services as usual. Staff remain contactable via their email addresses. For any general enquiries, please email info@iopcfunds.org.

The Director would like to emphasise that despite this temporary operational change, the Secretariat remains fully committed to its work in supporting Member States and would like to thank all those affected for their understanding and patience during these exceptional circumstances.