



International Oil Pollution  
Compensation Funds

Reference	IOPC/2020/Circ.11
Date	4 August 2020
1992 Fund Assembly	●
Supplementary Fund Assembly	●

## Open letter from the Director of the IOPC Funds

Dear distinguished delegates,

I sincerely hope you are all safe and well despite the difficult times we are living in as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The IOPC Funds are working closely with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in monitoring the situation and following the guidelines given by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Government of the United Kingdom as Host Government.

The 1992 Fund has continued paying compensation to claimants in the usual manner, and the Secretariat has continued protecting the assets of the IOPC Funds in these uncertain times. Meetings of the Audit Body and the Investment Advisory Body have been held remotely.

The Secretariat is working hard on the preparation of the next meeting of the IOPC Funds' governing bodies, which is due to take place in November 2020; and will aim to publish the documents for the meeting well in advance so that delegations have more time than usual to consider them.

The pandemic has had a major impact in the way our meeting will have to be convened. The Secretariat is fully occupied and focused on making adjustments and completing the work required to assist Member States in managing their participation in the meeting. The Secretariat will endeavour to ensure that the meeting is run in the most efficient manner possible.

I am unable to provide you with a more exact timing for the November 2020 meeting at this stage as the 2020 IMO meeting schedule is in the process of being reconstructed. As to the format of the meeting, we will need to reassess the situation before we can decide on whether the meeting will be held in person, remotely or whether the best option will be to hold a hybrid meeting.

As the situation continues to evolve, I am committed to keeping you all updated, and I will continue to consult with the Chairs of the governing bodies.

Although we continue to find ourselves in unusual and challenging circumstances, I would nevertheless like to wish you all a well-rested summer break.

José Maura  
Director, IOPC Funds