

**INTERNATIONAL
OIL POLLUTION
COMPENSATION
FUNDS**

**FONDS INTERNATIONAUX
D'INDEMNISATION POUR
LES DOMMAGES DUS À LA
POLLUTION PAR LES
HYDROCARBURES**

**FONDOS INTERNACIONALES
DE INDEMNIZACIÓN DE
DAÑOS DEBIDOS A LA
CONTAMINACIÓN POR
HIDROCARBUROS**

States' ratification of or accession to the 2010 HNS Protocol in order to facilitate the entry into force of the 2010 HNS Convention as soon as possible.

In general, whilst there may well be fewer incidents in comparison to the days of the 1971 Fund, the risks nevertheless remain and the incidents that have occurred in recent years, although small in terms of damage incurred, have often raised new challenges for the 1992 Fund and its Member States. Around handling claims for compensation, the IOPC Funds therefore, uses its

- 2.4 The Secretariat regularly gives lectures to students of maritime law from various universities and runs an annual Short Course which is a week-long programme for self-funded participants nominated by 1992 Fund Member States, covering all aspects of the work of the IOPC Funds and the international compensation regime. The claims workshops and annual short course in particular help to prepare Member States ahead of any major oil pollution incident.
- 2.5 The Secretariat also dedicates significant efforts into enhancing awareness and understanding of the IOPC Funds through the publication of numerous brochures and documentation and increased investment into the Organisations' online information services. The Claims Information Pack, published in 2014 is specifically aimed at preparing States and potential claimants for a spill. As well as the 1992 Fund Claims Manual which sets out the admissibility criteria followed by the 1992 Fund, it also includes an example claim form and sector specific guidelines to assist claimants from the fisheries and mariculture sector and from the tourism sector in presenting a valid claim. Further guidelines are under development for other sectors such as guidelines for presenting claims for clean up and preventive measures and also those for claims for environmental damage. All Guidelines are considered and adopted by Member States at sessions of the 1992 Fund Assembly.
- 2.6 The governing bodies of the IOPC Funds meet twice a year in order to fulfill the requirements set out under Article 18 of the 1992 Fund Convention and Article 16 of the Supplementary Fund Protocol. Under those Articles the governing bodies are required, amongst other things, to give instructions concerning the administration of the Funds to the Director and to supervise the proper execution of the Conventions and of their own decisions. These sessions are also used to adopt new policy and practice to ensure the Conventions to continue to function as intended. The 1992 Fund Assembly has established a number of Working Groups over the years to consider certain issues relating to the transport of oil by sea. These Working Groups have provided a forum for States to share their practices and experiences in dealing with large scale oil pollution incidents and related issues and in many cases have led to States agreeing uniform practices or criteria.
- 2.7 As a result of the 1992 Fund sixth intersessional Working Group, in July 2014 the 1992 Fund published a booklet entitled 'Guidance for Member States'. This Guidance document contains measures which Member States might wish

3 Recent key developments in the IOPC Funds in the field of oceans and the law of the sea



