

**FINANCIAL REGULATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL OIL POLLUTION COMPENSATION FUND 1992
ESTABLISHED UNDER THE 1992 FUND CONVENTION**

(as amended by the Administrative Council at its 22nd session, acting on behalf of the Assembly at its 27th session held from 25 to 28 October 2022)^{<1>}

Regulation 1

Definitions

- 1.1 The “1992 Fund Convention” means the International Convention on the Establishment of an International Fund for Compensation for Oil Pollution Damage, 1992.
- 1.2 The “1992 Fund” means the International Oil Pollution Compensation Fund, 1992, established pursuant to Article 2.1 of the 1992 Fund Convention.
- 1.3 “The Supplementary Fund Protocol” means the Protocol of 2003 to the 1992 Fund Convention.
- 1.4 “The Supplementary Fund” means the International Oil Pollution Compensation Supplementary Fund 2003, established pursuant to Article 2.1 of the Supplementary Fund Protocol.
- 1.5 “Member State” means a State for which the 1992 Fund Convention is in force.
- 1.6 “Person”, “Owner”, “Pollution Damage”, “Incident” and “Guarantor” have the same meaning as in Article 1 of the 1992 Fund Convention.
- 1.7 “Associated person” has the same meaning as in Article 10.2(b) of the 1992 Fund Convention.
- 1.8 “Assembly” means the Assembly referred to in Article 17 of the 1992 Fund Convention or, where appropriate, a subsidiary body established by the Assembly in accordance with Article 18.9 of the 1992 Fund Convention.
- 1.9 “Director” means the Director referred to in Article 16 of the 1992 Fund Convention.
- 1.10 “Claim” means any application for compensation for pollution damage made to or against an owner, their guarantor or the 1992 Fund.
- 1.11 “Claimant” means any person making a claim.
- 1.12 “SDR” means the Special Drawing Right as defined by the International Monetary Fund.
- 1.13 “Internal Regulations” means the Internal Regulations of the 1992 Fund.

<1> The English version of these Financial Regulations underwent a review in August 2019. The amendments made were purely for editorial purposes and did not affect the substance of the text.

Regulation 2

Conversion of SDRs

Where an amount is expressed in SDRs in these Financial Regulations, such an amount shall be converted into pounds sterling in accordance with the method of valuation applied by the International Monetary Fund in effect for its operations and transactions at the date applicable under these Financial Regulations.

Regulation 3

The Financial Period

The financial period of the 1992 Fund shall be the calendar year.

Regulation 4

Financial Statements and Budget

4.1 The financial statements of the 1992 Fund and its annual budget shall be established in pounds sterling.

4.2 Subject to Financial Regulation 4.3, the books of accounts of the 1992 Fund shall be completed and closed at the end of each calendar year. Any surplus funds including interest from operations in a given year shall be carried forward to the next calendar year.

4.3 Annual contributions paid to the 1992 Fund under Article 12.2(b) of the 1992 Fund Convention, including any interest thereon, shall be used exclusively for the satisfaction of the payments for which they were levied. If such contributions are not used during the year when they were due, they shall be reserved in the financial statements of the 1992 Fund from year to year for this purpose.

4.4 After the periods set out in Article 6 of the 1992 Fund Convention for bringing actions in respect of a particular incident have lapsed and all claims and expenses arising out of that incident have been settled, the Assembly shall assess the situation. If there remains a substantial amount which has been reserved in accordance with Financial Regulation 4.3, the Assembly shall decide whether such amount shall be reimbursed pro rata to the persons who made contributions with respect to that incident in accordance with Article 12.2(b) of the 1992 Fund Convention, or whether such amount shall be credited pro rata to the accounts of these persons. The same shall apply if, after the settlement of all claims known to the 1992 Fund, the Assembly is satisfied that no more claims in respect of that incident will be made against the 1992 Fund and no more expenses will have to be met.

4.5 If, in the assessment referred to in Financial Regulation 4.4, the Assembly considers the amount remaining not to be substantial, this amount shall be transferred to the General Fund referred to in Financial Regulation 7.1.

4.6 In respect of each incident giving rise to claims against the 1992 Fund, the Director shall maintain a running record of all expenses incurred by the 1992 Fund.

Regulation 5

The Budget

5.1 The budget shall be established in pounds sterling.

5.2 The budget estimates to be prepared by the Director shall consist of a statement of income and expenditure for the financial period to which they relate. They shall contain appropriations for administrative expenses and estimates of expenditure for claims in accordance with Article 12.1(i)(b) and (c) of the 1992 Fund Convention.

5.3 The budget estimates shall include the information referred to in Article 12.1 of the 1992 Fund Convention and shall be accompanied by such information as may be required by the Assembly and such further information as the Director may deem necessary.

5.4 The Director shall submit budget estimates at least 45 days prior to the session of the Assembly at which they are to be considered for adoption.

5.5 If for unforeseen reasons additional annual contributions are required, the Director may submit supplementary estimates to the Assembly and request an amendment of the budget.

Regulation 6

Appropriations

6.1 The appropriations adopted by the Assembly shall constitute an authorisation to the Director to enter into commitments and make payments for the purposes for which the appropriations were adopted and up to the amounts so voted.

6.2 The Director may exceed an appropriation in respect of any single class of expenditure by 5%.

6.3 Transfers between appropriations within chapters of the budget (Roman figures) may be made without limitation. Transfers between appropriations in the budget between chapters may be made up to 10%, calculated on the appropriation to which the transfer is made.

6.4 Appropriations shall remain available for twelve months following the end of the year to which they relate to the extent that they are required to discharge commitments in respect of goods delivered and services rendered in the financial year and to discharge any other outstanding legal commitments of the financial year.

6.5 Payments for claims under Article 12.1(i)(b) and (c) of the 1992 Fund Convention, including provisional payments, may be made, in respect of any claim from the General Fund referred to in Financial Regulation 7.1 or a Major Claims Fund referred to in Financial Regulation 7.2, as the case may be, to the extent authorised under the Internal Regulations.

Regulation 7

Funds

7.1 General Fund

(a) There shall be established a General Fund from the following sources:

- (i) annual contributions levied pursuant to Article 12.2(a) of the 1992 Fund Convention (including interest on unpaid contributions) for the satisfaction of payments referred to in Article 12.1(i)(a) and (b) of the 1992 Fund Convention and any monies borrowed in connection with such payments. Such contributions shall include those levied to meet the first four million SDRs of payments in respect of any one incident where the aggregate amount of the payments of all claims and claims related expenditure exceeds four million SDRs;

- (ii) reimbursement with interest of any advances made under Financial Regulation 7.1(c)(ii) to a Major Claims Fund for provisional payments made by the 1992 Fund;
 - (iii) income received from the investment of monies in the General Fund, transfers from Major Claims Funds according to Financial Regulation 4.5 and other miscellaneous income;
 - (iv) reimbursement with interest of any loans made under Financial Regulation 7.1(c)(iv) to a Major Claims Fund for payments of claims;
 - (v) any amount recovered by the 1992 Fund by way of recourse to be credited to the General Fund.
- (b) A working capital shall be maintained at such a level as the Assembly may decide from time to time.
- (c) The monies in the General Fund shall be used:
- (i) for the satisfaction of payments referred to in Article 12.1(i)(b) of the 1992 Fund Convention including the first four million SDRs of payments in respect of any one incident where the aggregate amount of the payments of all claims and claims related expenditure exceeds four million SDRs;
 - (ii) to make provisional payments pursuant to Internal Regulation 7.8;
 - (iii) to meet the costs and expenses of the administration of the 1992 Fund and any other expenditure which may be authorised by the Assembly;
 - (iv) to make loans to a Major Claims Fund for the satisfaction of payments referred to in Article 12.1(i)(c) of the 1992 Fund Convention, above the first four million SDRs in respect of any one incident, to the extent that sufficient money is not available in that Major Claims Fund.

7.2 Major Claims Funds

- (a) There shall be established separate Major Claims Funds for each incident giving rise to payments referred to in Article 12.1(i)(c) of the 1992 Fund Convention. Where the contributors liable to pay contributions to Major Claims Funds under Article 12.2(b) of the 1992 Fund Convention with respect to two or more incidents are identical, the Director may amalgamate these Major Claims Funds into one single Major Claims Fund.
- (b) Each Major Claims Fund shall consist of funds received from the following sources:
- (i) annual contributions levied under Article 12.2(b) of the 1992 Fund Convention (including interest on unpaid contributions) for the satisfaction of payments in respect of a particular incident referred to in Financial Regulation 7.2(a), and any monies borrowed in connection with such payments;
 - (ii) income received from the investment of monies in the Major Claims Fund;
 - (iii) reimbursement with interest of loans made to the General Fund or another Major Claims Fund under Financial Regulation 7.2(d);
 - (iv) any amount recovered by the 1992 Fund by way of recourse to be credited to that Major Claims Fund.

- (c) Contributions to any Major Claims Fund shall be separately credited to the individual contributors.
- (d) The monies in any Major Claims Fund shall be used for payments referred to in Financial Regulation 7.2(a) or otherwise be applied in accordance with Financial Regulations 4.4 and 4.5. Such monies may also be used to make loans to the General Fund or to another Major Claims Fund, to the extent that sufficient money is not available in the relevant funds.
- (e) Any loans taken pursuant to Financial Regulation 8, any advances made from the General Fund for provisional payments under Financial Regulation 7.1(c)(ii), and any loans taken from the General Fund under Financial Regulation 7.1(c)(iv) or from a Major Claims Fund under Financial Regulation 7.2(d) shall be credited to the relevant Major Claims Fund.
- (f) A Major Claims Fund shall be closed when, in the light of the assessment made under Regulation 4.4 the balance on that Major Claims Fund has been repaid to contributors or transferred to the General Fund, as the case may be.

7.3 Provident Fund

- (a) Contributions to the Provident Fund established in accordance with Staff Regulation 26 which are paid by each staff member and by the 1992 Fund in respect of that staff member as well as any withdrawals by a staff member shall be shown separately.
- (b) The assets of the Provident Fund shall be invested together with the assets of the 1992 Fund.

Regulation 8

Loans

Where annual contributions determined by the Assembly do not in fact produce sufficient and timely funds for the payments to be made by the 1992 Fund for the satisfaction of claims, provisional payments or other expenses incurred in the operation of the 1992 Fund, the Director may make arrangements for obtaining short-term credit facilities or loans meeting the cash-flow requirements of the 1992 Fund. If the Director is unable to arrange the required credit facilities or loans on terms which they feel are reasonable, they shall refer the matter to the Assembly.

Regulation 9

Management of Monies

9.1 The Director shall be responsible for the management of all monies accruing to the 1992 Fund. One or more officers of the 1992 Fund (other than the Director) shall be appointed to administer all banking accounts operated by the 1992 Fund, maintaining a proper cash account in which all receipts and payments shall be recorded in chronological order. Such officers shall not have powers to incur liabilities, or to authorise the payment or collection of monies except to the extent authorised by the Director under Financial Regulation 11.1(c).

9.2 The Director may authorise officers to act as signatories on behalf of the 1992 Fund in giving payment instructions. The 1992 Fund's bankers shall be empowered to accept payment instructions on behalf of the 1992 Fund when signed as follows:

- (a) for any sum up to £100 000, by any two officers from category A or B;
- (b) for any sum in excess of £100 000, by one officer from category A plus one officer from category A or B.

For the purposes of this Regulation, the categories are as follows:

Category A Director, Deputy Director/Head of the Claims Department, Head of the External Relations and Conference Department, and the Head of the Administration Department

Category B Chief of Finance and Finance Manager

Further conditions in respect of the delegation of authority under this Regulation shall be laid down by the Director in Administrative Instructions.

Regulation 10

Investment of Assets

10.1 With a view to securing the assets of the 1992 Fund, the Director may invest any funds which are not required for the short-term operation of the 1992 Fund. In making any investments, all necessary steps shall be taken to ensure the maintenance of sufficient liquid funds for the operation of the 1992 Fund, to avoid undue currency risks and generally obtain a reasonable return on the investments of the 1992 Fund.

10.2 The Director shall submit to each regular session of the Assembly particulars of the current investments of the 1992 Fund and of any changes which have taken place since their previous report.

10.3 The 1992 Fund shall have a joint Investment Advisory Body with the Supplementary Fund, whose members are appointed by the Assembly. The Body shall advise the Director in general terms on investment matters, in accordance with the mandate decided by the Assembly set out in Annex I to these Regulations.

10.4 The assets of the 1992 Fund shall be held and invested by the Director in accordance with Financial Regulation 10.1 and the following principles:

- (a) the 1992 Fund's assets shall be held in pounds sterling or, if the Director considers it appropriate, in other currencies to meet claims and claims-related expenses;
- (b) the assets shall be placed on term deposit or by purchase of Certificates of Deposit with banks or building societies enjoying a high reputation and standing in the financial community; the term of these investments shall not exceed one year;
- (c) the maximum investment in any bank or building society of the 1992 Fund's assets shall not normally exceed 25% of these assets or £10 million, whichever is the higher;
- (d) the maximum investment in any bank or building society by the 1992 Fund and the Supplementary Fund shall not together normally exceed £15 million or £20 million in respect to

the Funds' house bank(s) or not normally exceed £25 million when the two Funds' combined assets exceed £300 million;

- (e) any exceptions to the normal limit in Financial Regulation 10.4(c) and (d), shall be reported to the Assembly at its next regular session.

These principles shall be reviewed from time to time.

10.5 Instructions relating to the 1992 Fund's investments, as well as instructions relating to the transfer of funds from one financial institution to another for the credit of the 1992 Fund's deposit accounts, shall be given by the Director. The Director may authorise another officer or officers to act on their behalf. Instructions shall be given:

- (a) in writing, signed jointly by two authorised officers; or
- (b) orally by one authorised officer followed by written confirmation signed jointly by two authorised officers.

10.6 For purposes of investment, all monies in the General Fund, Major Claims Funds, Contributors' Accounts and any special accounts may be merged. Any resulting income shall accrue to the respective fund or account pro rata, provided however that interest on the Contributors' Accounts shall be calculated as set out in Internal Regulation 3.9.

Regulation 11

Internal Control

11.1 The Director shall:

- (a) give such detailed directions as are necessary to ensure effective financial administration and the exercise of economy;
- (b) cause all payments to be made on the basis of supporting vouchers and other documents which ensure that the services or goods have been received except where normal commercial practice requires payment to be made in advance;
- (c) designate the officers who may receive monies, enter into commitments, purchase goods and make payments on behalf of the 1992 Fund;
- (d) maintain an internal financial control which shall provide for an effective current examination and/or review of financial transactions in order to ensure:
 - (i) the regularity of the receipt, custody and disposal of all monies and other financial resources of the 1992 Fund;
 - (ii) the conformity of commitments and expenditures with the appropriations or other financial provisions voted by the Assembly;
 - (iii) the economic use of the resources of the 1992 Fund;
 - (iv) conformity with the 1992 Fund Convention, the Financial Regulations and the Internal Regulations.

11.2 Except to the extent provided for in Financial Regulation 11.1(c), no commitments shall be entered into without the prior authorisation of the Director.

11.3 Imprest cash advances for official purposes may be made to staff members who must at all times be in a position to account for them.

11.4 The cost of all property acquired not exceeding an agreed value threshold, currently £500 per item, will be immediately charged as an expense. Purchased assets which exceed that threshold will be capitalised at cost and depreciated to their residual value over their useful economic life. A fixed assets register will be established to record all tangible fixed assets which exceed the agreed value threshold and have been capitalised. Such a fixed assets register will be an integral part of the financial accounting system and will record the asset value, useful economic life, depreciation and net book value for each asset. The fixed assets register will be made available to the External Auditor as a part of the accounting records presented for audit.

11.5 In respect of matters other than claims for compensation, the Director may make payments or waive a right to recovery, even if there is no legal obligation for the 1992 Fund to do so, provided that, in the Director's view, this is appropriate in order to safeguard the Fund's financial or other interests. The Audit Body and the External Auditor should be provided with a statement on such payments or waivers. Any payment or waiver exceeding £25 000 requires the prior approval by the Chair of the Assembly and information on such payment or waiver shall be reported to the Assembly together with the financial statements.

11.6 The Director may, after full investigation, authorise the writing off of losses of cash and deletion from inventory of stores and other assets, provided that a statement thereon shall be submitted to the External Auditor with the accounts.

11.7 The Director shall, in connection with submitting the financial statements to the External Auditor, inform the External Auditor whether they are aware of any reported cases of fraud, presumptive fraud or money laundering during the financial year in question.

Regulation 12

The Financial Statements

12.1 The 1992 Fund shall maintain such books of accounts and prepare such financial statements as are necessary for each financial period in accordance with the 1992 Fund's Financial Regulations and stated accounting policies and in compliance with International Public Sector Accounting Standards, where appropriate.

12.2 The books of accounts, which shall be maintained on a double entry basis, shall record:

- (a) the receipts and payments of all funds;
- (b) the income and expenditure of all funds;
- (c) the assets and liabilities of the 1992 Fund;
- (d) the status of appropriations, including:
 - (i) the original budget appropriations;
 - (ii) the appropriations as modified by any transfers;
 - (iii) the amounts charged against those appropriations.

12.3 The financial statements to be prepared and submitted to the Assembly by the Director in accordance with Article 29.2(f) of the 1992 Fund Convention, and on which the External Auditor will report in accordance with Financial Regulation 14.16, shall comprise:

- (a) (i) a statement of appropriations and budget out-turn;
 - (ii) a statement of financial performance for all funds;
 - (iii) a statement of financial position;
 - (iv) a Cash Flow Statement;
- (b) such notes as may be necessary for a better understanding of the financial statements, including a statement of significant accounting policies and details of contingent liabilities, ie of all known or likely claims against the 1992 Fund and of claims related expenditures estimated for the next financial year.

12.4 The books of accounts of the 1992 Fund shall be kept in pounds sterling. Foreign currency bought for pounds sterling and invested in accordance with Financial Regulation 10.4(a) shall be translated into pounds sterling at the financial year end at the rate of exchange at the last banking day of the year as published in the London Financial Times.

12.5 The books of accounts and financial statements for the financial period shall be submitted by the Director to the External Auditor by 30 April following the end of that financial period.

Regulation 13

Audit Body

The 1992 Fund shall have a joint Audit Body with the Supplementary Fund, whose members are appointed by the Assembly. The Audit Body shall report to the Assembly in accordance with the mandate set out in Annex II to these Regulations.

Regulation 14

External Audit

14.1 An External Auditor, who shall be the Auditor-General (or officer holding the equivalent title) of a Member State, or a commercial firm with the requisite capabilities nominated by a Member State or identified by the Audit Body, shall be appointed in the manner and for the period decided by the Assembly. Ordinarily, such appointment will be for four years and be the result of a tender process conducted by the Audit Body and its subsequent recommendation to the Assembly.

If the Audit Body assesses the External Auditor's performance to be satisfactory, the External Auditor's initial appointment may be extended for a further period of up to four years. The External Auditor may serve for this further period if the Audit Body after undertaking an objective assessment of the qualifications and performances of the incumbent External Auditor recommends to the Assembly an extension of the term of appointment. After serving as an External Auditor for two consecutive periods, the appointment of the External Auditor may, in exceptional circumstances, be extended. The Assembly decides on the manner and the period applicable to such an extension based on a recommendation by the Audit Body.

14.2 The audit shall be conducted in conformity with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) as issued by the International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board (IAASB) and, subject to any special directions of the Assembly, in accordance with Financial Regulations 14.12 to 14.21.

14.3 The External Auditor may make observations with respect to the efficiency of the financial procedures, the accounting system, the internal financial controls and, in general, the administration and management of the 1992 Fund.

14.4 The External Auditor shall be completely independent and solely responsible for the conduct of the audit.

14.5 The External Auditor shall discuss with the Audit Body the nature and scope of each forthcoming audit and shall normally be represented at the meetings of that Body.

14.6 The Assembly may request the External Auditor to perform certain specific examinations and issue separate reports on the results.

14.7 The Director shall provide the External Auditor with the facilities they may require in the performance of the audit.

14.8 For the purpose of making a local or special examination or of effecting economies of audit cost, the External Auditor may engage the services of any national Auditor-General (or equivalent title) or commercial public auditors of known repute or any other person or firm who, in the opinion of the External Auditor, is technically qualified.

14.9 The External Auditor shall issue a report on the audit of the financial statements and relevant schedules, which shall include such information as they deem necessary in regard to matters referred to in Financial Regulation 14.3.

14.10 The External Auditor shall transmit their Report to the Chair of the Assembly not later than 30 June following the end of the accounting year to which the financial statements relate. This Report shall be communicated by the Director to the members of the Assembly and to the members of the Audit Body as soon as possible thereafter.

14.11 The External Auditor shall be invited to be present at the meeting of the Assembly at which their Reports are to be discussed.

14.12 The External Auditor shall perform such audit of the accounts of the 1992 Fund as they deem necessary in order to be satisfied:

- (a) that the financial statements are in accordance with the books and records of the 1992 Fund;
- (b) that the financial transactions reflected in the statements have been in accordance with the rules and regulations, the budgetary provisions and other applicable directives;
- (c) that the securities and monies on deposit and on hand have been verified by certificates received direct from the 1992 Fund's depositaries or by actual count;
- (d) that all material weaknesses in the accounting and internal control systems identified during the audit have been reported;
- (e) that procedures satisfactory to the External Auditor have been applied to the recording of all assets, liabilities, surpluses and deficits in accordance with the Financial Regulations, stated accounting policies and International Public Sector Accounting Standards where appropriate.

14.13 The External Auditor shall for the purpose of their Reports be the sole judge as to the acceptance in whole or in part of certifications and representations by the Director and may proceed to such detailed examination and verification as they choose of all financial records including those relating to supplies and equipment.

14.14 The External Auditor and their staff shall have free access at all convenient times to all books, records and other documentation which are, in the opinion of the External Auditor, necessary for the performance of the audit. Information classified as privileged and which the Director agrees is required by the External Auditor for the purposes of the audit, and information classified confidential shall be made available on application. The External Auditor and their staff shall respect the privileged and confidential nature of any information so classified which has been made available and shall not make use of it except in direct connection with the performance of the audit. The External Auditor may draw the attention of the Assembly to any denial of information classified as privileged which in their opinion was required for the purpose of the audit.

14.15 The External Auditor shall have no power to disallow items in the accounts but shall draw to the attention of the Director for appropriate action any transaction concerning which they entertain doubt as to legality or propriety. Audit objections to these or any other transactions arising during the examination of the accounts shall be immediately communicated to the Director.

14.16 The External Auditor shall express and sign an opinion on the financial statements which states whether:

- (a) the financial statements present fairly the financial position as at the end of the period and the results of its operations for the period then ended;
- (b) the financial statements were prepared in accordance with the stated accounting principles;
- (c) the accounting principles were applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding financial period;
- (d) transactions were in accordance with the Financial Regulations and legislative authority.

14.17 The report of the External Auditor to the Assembly on the financial operations of the period should mention:

- (a) the type and scope of the examination;
- (b) matters affecting the completeness and accuracy of the accounts, including where appropriate:
 - (i) information necessary to the proper interpretation of the accounts;
 - (ii) any amounts which ought to have been received but which have not been brought to account;
 - (iii) any amounts for which a legal or contingent obligation exists and which have not been recorded or reflected in the financial statements;
 - (iv) expenditures not properly substantiated;
 - (v) whether proper books of accounts have been kept. Where in the presentation Statement there are deviations of material nature from the generally accepted accounting principles applied on a consistent basis, these should be disclosed;

- (c) other matters which should be brought to the notice of the Assembly, such as:
- (i) cases of fraud, presumptive fraud or money laundering;
 - (ii) wasteful or improper expenditure of the 1992 Fund's money or other assets (notwithstanding that the accounting for the transaction may be correct);
 - (iii) expenditure likely to commit the 1992 Fund to further outlay on a large scale;
 - (iv) any defect in the general system or detailed regulations governing the control of receipts and disbursements or of supplies and equipment;
 - (v) expenditure not in accordance with the intention of the Assembly after making allowance for duly authorised transfers within the budget;
 - (vi) expenditure in excess of appropriations as amended by duly authorised transfers within the budget;
 - (vii) expenditure not in conformity with the authority which governs it;
- (d) the accuracy or otherwise of the supplies and equipment records as determined by stocktaking and examination of the records.

In addition, the Reports may contain reference to:

- (e) transactions accounted for in a previous year concerning which further information has been obtained or transactions in a later year concerning which it seems desirable that the Assembly should have early knowledge.

14.18 The External Auditor may make such observations with respect to their findings resulting from the audit and such comments on the Director's financial report as they deem appropriate to the Assembly or to the Director.

14.19 Whenever the External Auditor's scope of audit is restricted, or they are unable to obtain sufficient evidence, the External Auditor shall refer to the matter in their Report, making clear the reasons for their comments and the effect on the financial position and the financial transactions as recorded.

14.20 In no case shall the External Auditor include criticism in their Report without first affording the Director an adequate opportunity of explanation on the matter under observation.

14.21 The External Auditor is not required to mention any matter referred to in the foregoing which, in their opinion, is insignificant in all respects.

Regulation 15

Decisions Involving Expenditures

15.1 No decision shall be taken by any organ of the 1992 Fund involving expenditure unless it has before it a report from the Director on the administrative and financial implications of the proposal.

15.2 Where, in the opinion of the Director, such proposed expenditure cannot be made from the existing appropriations, it shall not be incurred until the Assembly has made the necessary appropriations.

Regulation 16

Implementation

16.1 The Director may issue administrative instructions necessary to implement these Financial Regulations.

16.2 The Director may employ external assistance in exercising any of their responsibilities for the financial management of the 1992 Fund.

Regulation 17

Amendments

These Financial Regulations may be amended by the Assembly.

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ANNEX I

MANDATE OF THE JOINT INVESTMENT ADVISORY BODY OF THE 1992 FUND AND THE SUPPLEMENTARY FUND

(amended in October 2022)

- 1 The Investment Advisory Body of the International Oil Pollution Compensation Fund 1992 and the International Oil Pollution Compensation Supplementary Fund is composed of three persons appointed by the Assembly of the International Oil Pollution Compensation Fund 1992 for three years.
- 2 The mandate of the Investment Advisory Body is:
 - (a) to advise the Director in general terms on investment matters;
 - (b) in particular, to advise the Director on the tenor of the Funds' investments and the suitability of institutions used for investment purposes;
 - (c) to draw the Director's attention to any developments which may justify a revision of the Funds' investment policy as laid down by the governing bodies; and
 - (d) to advise the Director on any other matters relevant to the Funds' investments.
- 3 The Body shall meet at least three times a year. The meetings shall be convened by the Director. Any member of the Body may request a meeting to be held. The Director, the Head of the Administration Department, the Chief of Finance and the Finance Manager shall be present at the meetings.
- 4 The members of the Body shall be available for informal consultations with the Director in case of need.
- 5 The Body shall submit, through the Director, to each regular session of the governing bodies, a report on its activities since the previous regular sessions of the governing bodies.

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ANNEX II

COMPOSITION AND MANDATE OF THE JOINT AUDIT BODY OF THE 1992 FUND AND THE SUPPLEMENTARY FUND

(amended in April 2019)

COMPOSITION

- 1 The members of the Audit Body shall perform their functions independently and in the interest of the Organisations as a whole and shall not receive any instructions from anyone, including their Governments.
- 2 The Audit Body shall be composed of seven members elected by the 1992 Fund Assembly: six named individuals nominated by 1992 Fund Member States and one named individual not related to the Organisations ('external expert') with expertise and experience in financial and audit matters, nominated by the Chair of the 1992 Fund Assembly. Nominations, accompanied by the curriculum vitae of the candidate, should be submitted to the Director in response to a call for nominations made by the Director. The Chair of the 1992 Fund Assembly will, in consultation with the Chair of the Supplementary Fund Assembly, propose the names of two of the elected members of the Audit Body for consideration and approval by the governing bodies as Chair and Vice-Chair of the Audit Body.
- 3 Members of the Audit Body shall hold office for three years, once renewable. Should nominations for election to the Audit Body not be sufficient to fill vacancies at an election, existing members of the Audit Body having served two terms will be eligible for a once-only re-election, provided they are re-nominated by one or more 1992 Fund Member States. The external expert shall hold office for three years, twice renewable.
- 4 Travel and subsistence expenses of the members of the Audit Body shall be paid by the Organisations. The Assembly of the 1992 Fund will, from time to time, decide on the quantum of the honorarium paid to the six elected members and the fee paid to the external expert. The timing and method of payment will be agreed between the Audit Body and the Director.

MANDATE

- 5 The Audit Body shall:
 - (a) review the adequacy and effectiveness of the Organisations' management and financial systems, financial reporting, internal controls, operational procedures, risk management and related matters;
 - (b) promote the understanding and effectiveness of the audit function within the Organisations, and provide a forum to discuss matters referred to in (a) above and matters raised by the external audit;
 - (c) discuss with the External Auditor the nature and scope of each forthcoming audit and provide input to the development of the strategic audit plan;
 - (d) review the Organisations' Financial Statements and reports;
 - (e) consider all relevant reports by the External Auditor, including reports on the Organisations' Financial Statements, and make appropriate recommendations to the Funds' governing bodies;

- (f) manage the process for the selection of the External Auditor; and
 - (g) undertake any other tasks or activities as requested by the Funds' governing bodies.
- 6 The Chair of the Audit Body shall report on its work to each regular session of the 1992 Fund Assembly and the Supplementary Fund Assembly.
- 7 Every three years the functioning of the Audit Body and its mandate shall be reviewed by the 1992 Fund Assembly and the Supplementary Fund Assembly on the basis of an evaluation report from the Chair of the Audit Body.
-