

CIRCULAR COMMUNICATION TO COMMISSIONERS  
AND CONTRACTING GOVERNMENTS  
IWC.CCG.702

**Unpaid Financial Contributions : Suspension of the Right to Vote**

Financial Regulation F.2. provides that:

‘If a Contracting Government’s annual payments, including any interest due, have not been received by the Commission within 3 months of the due date or by the day before the first day of the next Annual or Special Meeting of the Commission following the due date, or in the case of a vote by postal or other means, by the date upon which votes must be received, whichever date occurs first, the right to vote of the Contracting Government concerned shall be suspended as provided under Rule E.2 of the Rules of Procedure.’

The ‘due date’ was 28 February and the following Contracting Governments have not paid their contributions and/or the interest due within three months of that date. Therefore the rights to vote of these governments are suspended with effect from 1 June 2008:

Benin, Cote D'Ivoire, Gabon, Gambia (the), Greece, Guatemala, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Senegal, Solomon Islands, St Vincent and The Grenadines and Togo.

Costa Rica agreed a repayment schedule with the IWC last year to clear long standing debts and to resume active participation in the work of the IWC. The balance of the second of three installments remains outstanding. Costa Rica’s right to vote has been suspended with effect from 1 June 2008 pending the full receipt by the IWC of the agreed installment.

Uruguay re-adhered to the Convention in September 2007 and has stated its intention to clear financial obligations remaining from its previous membership as allowed by Financial Regulations. Uruguay is in the process of finalizing the arrangements for payment. When the Secretariat has received final notification from Uruguay regarding payments as allowed by Financial Regulations and confirmation from our bankers that the appropriate remittance from Uruguay has been received, then Uruguay’s vote will be restored.

Cameroon and Kenya, have had their right to vote suspended on an earlier occasion and the suspension remains in force.



Dr Nicky Grandy  
Secretary to the Commission