

CIRCULAR COMMUNICATION TO COMMISSIONERS
AND CONTRACTING GOVERNMENTS
IWC.CCG.944

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 by the earliest of these dates:

- 3 months following the due date; or
- the day before the first day of the next Annual or Special Meeting of the Commission if such a meeting is held within 3 months following the due date; or,
- in the case of a vote by postal or other means, the date upon which votes must be received if this falls within 3 months following the due date,

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' for the financial contributions for 2010/2011 was 28 February 2011. The following Contracting Governments have not paid their contributions and/or the interest due within three months of that date:

Antigua & Barbuda, Argentina, Belize, Congo, Costa Rica, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Hungary, Laos, Mali, Mauritania, Palau, Slovak Republic, St Lucia, St Vincent & The Grenadines, Suriname and Togo.

The rights to vote of these governments are therefore suspended with effect from 29 May 2011.

Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Gambia, Guatemala, Kenya, Nicaragua, Peru, Romania, Senegal, Solomon Islands and Uruguay have had their right to vote suspended on an earlier occasion and the suspension remains in force.

The Government of Colombia does not currently have voting rights as it is a new Contracting Government and therefore Rule E.2.(b) of the Rules of Procedure applies i.e. 'The commissioner of a new Contracting Government shall not exercise the right to vote....unless the Commission has received the Government's financial contribution....'.