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CIRCULAR COMMUNICATION TO COMMISSIONERS AND CONTRACTING GOVERNMENTS IWC.CCG.1059

<u>Unpaid Financial Contributions 2013: Suspension of the Right to Vote</u>

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 Biennial or Special Meeting of the Commission or Meeting of the Bureau 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 contributions for 2012/13 financial year was **28 February 2013**. The following Contracting Governments have not paid their contributions and/or the interest due within three months of that date, and their voting rights were therefore suspended with effect from 29 May 2013:

Benin, Dominican Republic, Eritrea, Ghana, Greece, Kiribati, Luxembourg, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Nauru, Solomon Islands, St Lucia, St Vincent & the Grenadines, Tanzania, Togo and Uruguay

In addition, the voting rights of the following countries were suspended on an earlier occasion and the suspension remains in force because financial contributions have not been received:

Belize, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Dominica, Gambia, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Mali, Nicaragua, Romania, Senegal, and Suriname.

I am pleased to report that the Government of Hungary has cleared its arrears of financial contributions and its voting rights have therefore been restored.

Simon Brockington Executive Secretary

c.c. Intergovernmental Organisation observers to the IWC