

# RATIFICATION OF HNS CONVENTION



Martin Kelly, General Counsel



**The Oil Companies International Marine Forum (OCIMF) represents all the world's major oil companies on marine safety and technical matters. The OCIMF mission is to be the foremost authority on the safe and environmentally responsible operation of oil tankers and terminals, promoting continuous improvement in standards of design and operation.**



## OCIMF position



- Support proper ratification and correct consistent implementation of HNS Convention
- Urgent need for international system of compensation for HNS incidents at sea



## HNS Fund



- More complicated than IOPC Fund
- Obligations of States extremely important
- Duty of all States to report quantities of contributing cargo on ratification and annually thereafter!
- States are liable for the financial losses incurred as a result of non-submission of a report
- Concerns about those States that have ratified
- States working towards ratification appear to be having difficulties



## Why is it so difficult?



- Identification of receivers appears to be issue causing States most difficulty
- Important that all States identify all receivers and potential receivers
- Important to achieve rigorous and consistent application by all States to avoid unfair disadvantages to contributors



## Implementing regulations



- National regulations with lower thresholds necessary to implement States' reporting obligations
- Important that States have rigorous compliance and verification procedures in place
- See Correspondence Group's conclusions and IOPC Fund "Guide to Implementation of the HNS Convention"
- Contributions for LNG is a problem and should be rectified at earliest opportunity



## Conclusions



- Important that all States fulfill their reporting, compliance and verification obligations when implementing and ratifying the Convention
- Support Correspondence Group's conclusions and use of IOPC Guide to ensure consistent application
- OCIMF ready to assist States where it can