

COUNCIL
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Agenda item 17(b)

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EXTERNAL RELATIONS

(b) Relations with intergovernmental organizations

Relocation of the International Mobile Satellite Organization (IMSO) to the IMO Headquarters building

Note by the Secretary-General

SUMMARY

Executive summary: This document provides an update on the International Mobile Satellite Organization's relocation to IMO Headquarters

Strategic direction, if applicable: Not applicable

Output: Not applicable

Action to be taken: Paragraph 7

Related documents: None

1 The Council will recall that, in mid-2015, the Organization received a request from the International Mobile Satellite Organization (IMSO) to accommodate the IMSO Secretariat in the IMO Headquarters building. At that time, the International Oil Pollution Funds (IOPC Funds) was about to move into the building, and a response was deferred until the impact of that move could be assessed.

2 In early 2018, following further discussions with IMSO, it became possible to positively reply to their open request for accommodation at the IMO Headquarters building.

3 As required by IMO's own lease, the consent of the Host Government (in its capacity as IMO's Landlord) was sought, and given, and an agreement between IMO and IMSO was signed on 4 April 2018.

4 Under the terms of the agreement between the two organizations, IMO will underlet to IMSO a suite of offices on the first floor, front wing, of the IMO building. The rent will remain fixed until a break point in October 2024. The lease will expire shortly before IMO's own lease, in October 2032.

5 In addition to rent, IMSO will pay service charges, in proportion to the area occupied and the number of staff accommodated, to cover the cost of common services (utilities, security, cleaning, etc.), ICT services and medical services provided by IMO. The service charges may be increased in line with the United Kingdom Consumer Prices Index, United Nations staff cost increases or other standard rates.

6 The space to be occupied by IMSO previously comprised two lounges, the building-maintenance control room and the Staff Association office, all of which have been (or will soon be) relocated to other parts of the building, with some consequential moves elsewhere. Details of the required relocations and modifications were agreed in mid-May 2018, with a relocation date of 1 July 2018. Work on configuring the offices has started, and is due to be completed by 22 June 2018. All costs associated with accommodating IMSO in the IMO building will be borne by IMSO.

Action requested of the Council

7 The Council is invited to take note of the information provided in this document and to comment as it may deem appropriate.
