

17 December 1997

**Press Release for the Closing of the
26th session of the Governing Council**

The Governing Council of the United Nations Compensation Commission concluded its twenty-sixth session today under the Presidency of Ambassador Gonçalo de Santa Clara Gomes of Portugal. The delegations of Kuwait and Iraq addressed the 15-member Governing Council at its opening plenary meeting.

The Council approved the report and recommendations of the Panel of Commissioners concerning part one of the first instalment of category "F" claims (Government claims) covering eleven claims filed by nine Governments. The panel recommended the award of US\$2,220,043 in compensation in respect of nine claims included in the report. The Panel deferred consideration of two claims to a future instalment.

The Governing Council discussed the activities of the Commission from September to November 1997 on the basis of a report presented by the Executive Secretary. The Council also considered the reports provided by Governments on the distribution of funds received from the Commission and a number of other issues relating to the processing and payment of claims.

The Governing Council's Committee on Administrative Matters (CAM) met on the afternoon of 15 December 1997 and approved the biennial budget of the Commission for 1998/1999. The Governing Council, at its twenty-fifth session, had approved the adoption of a biennial budget for the Commission, thereby bringing the Commission in line with the UN budget cycle.

The next session of the Council will be held on 9 to 11 March 1998.
