

PRESS RELEASE

UNITED NATIONS COMPENSATION COMMISSION PAYS OUT US\$597,835,993.69

The United Nations Compensation Commission has made available today a total of US\$597,835,993.69 to 17 Governments and one international organization for distribution to 327 successful claimants. This payment is made under the third phase of the payment mechanism established by the Governing Council. Payment of the full amount of the awards is being made in respect of claims in category "D" (claims of individuals for damages above US\$100,000), category "E" (claims of corporations, other private legal entities and public sector enterprises), and category "F" (claims of Governments and international organizations) that were approved at the forty-sixth session of the Governing Council, held from 10 to 12 December 2002.

Based on the level of funds currently available, further rounds of payments of US\$10 million are also being made to a number of claimants in categories "E" and "F" whose claims were approved in prior Governing Council sessions, thereby bringing payment to each of them to date to US\$35 million, and, in some cases, to US\$45 million depending on the order in which the claims were approved.

The attached table lists the Governments receiving funds, and the amounts of money to be made available to each of them.

The present payment brings the overall amount of compensation made available to date by the United Nations Compensation Commission to US\$16,680,964,976.12.

Background

The first phase of payments involved an initial payment of US\$2,500 to each successful individual claimant in categories "A" (claims of individuals for departures from Kuwait or Iraq) and "C" (claims of individuals for damages up to US\$100,000), as well as payment of the full amount to all successful individual claimants in category "B" (claims for death or serious personal injury). In the second phase, payments of up to US\$100,000 were subsequently made available to approved claims in categories "A", "C", "D" (claims of individuals for damages above US\$100,000), "E" (claims of corporations, other private legal entities and public sector enterprises), and "F" (claims of Governments and international organizations) in two rounds comprising payment amounts of up to US\$25,000 and US\$75,000 respectively. The second phase concludes payment of the full amount to all successful claimants in categories "A" and "C". A total of US\$8,386,938,205.63 has been made available to 1,503,190 claimants in all categories under the first and second phases of payments.

In the third phase of the payments mechanism, which commenced in October 2000, each successful claimant in categories “D”, “E” and “F” shall receive an initial amount of up to US\$5 million in accordance with decision 100 of the Governing Council of the UNCC. Subsequent rounds of payments of up to US\$10 million are to be made to successful claimants in these categories of claims in the order in which they have been approved. Including today’s payment, a total of US\$8,294,026,770.49 has been made available to 7,318 claimants in categories “D”, “E” and “F” under the third phase.

To ensure that payments to claimants are made as soon as practicable after the session at which their claims are approved, the Governing Council decided at its forty-third session (March 2002) that payments to successful claimants will be made every three months instead of every four months.

Funds to pay the awards of compensation are drawn from the United Nations Compensation Fund, which receives up to 30 per cent of the revenue generated by the export of Iraqi petroleum and petroleum products. At present, the Compensation Fund receives 25 per cent of the proceeds under the “oil-for-food” mechanism in accordance with the relevant Security Council resolutions.

The Governing Council monitors the distribution of payments to claimants by the relevant Governments and international organizations. Governments and international organizations are obligated to distribute funds to successful claimants expeditiously and to report to the Commission on payments made to claimants. Any funds undistributed to claimants by Governments and international organizations within twelve months of receiving payment shall be returned to the Commission. Further payments to Governments and international organizations shall be suspended where they fail to report on the distribution of funds to successful claimants or fail to return undistributed funds on time.

Further information about the Commission can be found on its website located at www.uncc.ch.

UNITED NATIONS COMPENSATION COMMISSION

Consolidated report of payments of categories “D”, “E” and “F” claims

Third phase of payments –16 January 2003

Country		Category “D” (US\$)		Category “E” (US\$)		Category “F” (US\$)		Totals	
		Amount (US\$)	Number of claims	Amount (US\$)	Number of claims	Amount (US\$)	Number of claims	Amount (US\$)	Number of claims
1	Bosnia and Herzegovina			49,684.00	1			49,684.01	1
2	China			5,785,130.00	1			5,785,130.00	1
3	France			744,158.00	2	1,350,013.00	1	2,094,171.00	3
4	Germany			2,409,378.00	1			2,409,378.00	1
5	Italy	83,063.32	1	8,378,802.00	3			8,461,865.32	4
6	Kuwait	99,970,162.15	243	114,059,824.00	10	252,390,574.00	13	466,420,560.15	266
7	Lebanon	476,474.94	3					476,474.94	3
8	Netherlands			484,640.00	2			484,640.00	2
9	Poland			4,083,095.00	1			4,083,095.00	1
10	Saudi Arabia			4,486,605.00	5	31,642,257.00	2	36,128,862.00	7
11	Slovenia			760,378.00	1			760,378.00	1
12	Sudan	198,617.96	6					198,617.96	6
13	Switzerland			398,262.66	1			398,262.66	1
14	Turkey	46,027.26	1					46,027.26	1
15	United Kingdom	1,074,533.88	12	43,259,266.00	4			44,333,799.88	16
16	United States	127,635.40	3	7,038,732.00	2			7,166,367.40	5
17	Yugoslavia			8,373,922.00	1			8,373,922.00	1
18	UNRWA Gaza ^{of}	891,048.12	6					891,048.12	6

<i>Country</i>		<i>Category "D" (US\$)</i>		<i>Category "E" (US\$)</i>		<i>Category "F" (US\$)</i>		<i>Totals</i>	
		<i>Amount (US\$)</i>	<i>Number of claims</i>	<i>Amount (US\$)</i>	<i>Number of claims</i>	<i>Amount (US\$)</i>	<i>Number of claims</i>	<i>Amount (US\$)</i>	<i>Number of claims</i>
	America								
19	Gulf Investment Corporation G.S.C. (claim directly submitted to the Commission)			9,273,710.00	1			9,273,710.00	1
<i>Total</i>		102,867,563.03	275	209,585,586.66	36	285,382,844.00	16	597,835,993.69	327
