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DESIGNATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS FOR THE PURPOSES OF RULE 77 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE BOARD

Application by the International Group of Protection and Indemnity Associations

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

1. The UNCTAD secretariat has received an application from the Secretary and Executive Officer of the International Group of Protection and Indemnity Associations requesting the inclusion of that organization by the Trade and Development Board in the list provided for in rule 77 of the Board's rules of procedure.

2. Having reviewed the information provided, the secretariat is of the opinion that, subject to the concurrence of the Bureau of the Trade and Development Board, the International Group of P&I Associations may be classified in the special category under the provision of paragraph 12 (b) of Board decision 43 (VII).

3. The Board may wish to take action on the above-mentioned application at its current session in the light of the recommendation of the Bureau.

4. Some information regarding the International Group of P&I Associations is annexed.

This document is at this stage intended for the information of States members of UNCTAD and its distribution is, therefore, restricted for their exclusive use. It is proposed to de-restrict the document in due course.

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<u>Annex</u>

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE INTERNATIONAL GROUP OF PROTECTION AND INDEMNITY ASSOCIATIONS

<u>History</u>

1. A Protection & Indemnity Association (P&I Club) is a non-profit-making mutual insurance organization which covers the third party liaibilities of shipowners. P&I Clubs originated in the United Kingdom in the last century but now exist in Scandinavia, Japan and the United States of America. The risks covered include shipowners' liabilities in respect of pollution, personal injury and cargo. In 1979, arrangements were formalized when a constitution was drawn up and a successful application made by the International Group of P&I Associations for consultative status with the International Maritime Organization.

Aims and objectives

2. According to its constitution, the objectives of the Group are, inter alia, to: (a) afford opportunities for the discussion and consideration of matters of interest to members of the Group in respect of their activities as protection and indemnity insurers, and to shipowners and others insured by members of the Group, and to undertake or to assist in the preparation and promotion of agreements and arrangements in respect of such matters; (b) monitor and review the scope and operation of the International Group Agreement and other agreements relating to areas of mutual interest to the Group, and to propose and consider amendments to any such agreements; (c) promote the interests of the Group and of shipowners and others insured by members of the Group by representation to other

organizations, governments or intergovernmental organizations; (d) maintain consultative status with the International Maritime Organization, and to exercise the privileges conferred thereby.

<u>Membership</u>

3. Membership is open to mutual insurance associations which insure the liabilities of shipowners and other related risks. There are currently 15 members in the following countries: Japan, Norway, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

<u>Structure</u>

4. The governing body of the Group is constituted by the members in general meeting, which meets whenever requested to do so by the Group Chairman or by any three members. An Annual General Meeting is normally held each November. The Group may appoint committees with such powers as deemed necessary to

accomplish the objects of the Group. The committees report to the Group at general meetings. The Panel comprises five members who are elected at each Annual General Meeting to hold office until the end of the next Annual General Meeting. The Panel elects a Chairman. The functions of the Panel are to oversee the activities of the Secretary, perform all treasury functions on behalf of the Group and carry out activities delegated to it. In addition to the members of the Panel, the officers of the Group are the Group Chairman, a Secretary and an Executive Officer. The offices of the Secretary and Executive Officer may be held

simultaneously by the same person. Each P&I Club is an independent, non-profitmaking mutual insurance association which is controlled by its members through a Board of Directors elected from among the membership; the Board retains responsibility for strategic and policy issues but delegates to full-time managers the day-to-day running of the club.

Financial resources

5. The resources of the Group are derived from the contributions from the Clubs in proportion to the tonnage entered in each of them.

Relations with other organizations

6. The Group has observer status with the International Chamber of Shipping, International Maritime Committee, International Maritime Organization, and International Union of Marine Insurance.

Publications

7. The Group does not issue any publications.

<u>Liaison</u>

8. Liaison with UNCTAD will be maintained by the Secretary and Executive Officer, Mr. D.J.L. Watkins.

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10. The working language of the International Group is English.