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# Greenpeace wins \$12.5m recompense from France

LONDON, Oct 2. — An international tribunal has ordered France to pay Greenpeace \$US8,159,000 (\$NZ12,474,090) for sinking the protest ship Rainbow Warrior in Auckland harbour over two years ago, the environmental organisation has announced.

A three-man arbitration tribunal sitting in Geneva, including former New Zealand Court of Appeal president Sir Owen Woodhouse, made the ruling.

French secret service agents attacked the ship on July 10, 1985, as it prepared to set out for the Mururoa Atoll nuclear testing site and Greenpeace photographer Fernando Pereira died from drowning when the Rainbow Warrior went down.

The bombing has now cost France almost \$26 million.

The New Zealand Government has already been awarded compensation of \$NZ13 million in a United Nations settlement, and the French have paid \$269,000 damages to the two children of Mr Pereira.

New Zealand Greenpeace spokesman Peter Whitehouse, in Britain for the organisation's international council meeting, told NZPA: "We are just glad it's over and we can get on to working towards the future."

The award is made up of \$US5 million (\$NZ7.6 million) for the loss of the ship, \$US1.2 million (\$NZ1.8 million) for aggravated

damages and the rest is expenses, interest and legal fees.

Greenpeace chairman David McTaggart said the tribunal's decision endorsed the "moral outrage the world felt at the bombing of the Rainbow Warrior."

Lloyd Cutler, the Washington attorney who represented Greenpeace in the two-year legal argument, said it was the first-ever international tort case arbitrated between a non-governmental organisation and a sovereign state.

Sitting with Sir Owen (who was nominated by Greenpeace) in judgment was the panel chairman, University of Geneva professor of law Claude Reymond, and France's nominee, Professor Francois Terre of the University of Paris.

Projects that the award money will be used for are:

- A fund in Fernando Pereira's name for photography, film and video documenting of environmental policies
- Operating ships especially in the Pacific, including the re-

placement of the Rainbow Warrior

- A programme of ecological projects in France aimed at finding and implementing solutions to environmental problems

- A fund to ensure continuing development of the organisation and its campaigns in the Pacific region

- A fund for Greenpeace's Antarctica expedition

- A grant to Rongelap Atoll in memory of the last voyage of the Rainbow Warrior, in support of victims of nuclear testing

"The people of Rongelap were contaminated by fallout from United States atmospheric tests in the Marshall Islands in 1946-58. They were moved to Mejato Island aboard the Rainbow Warrior after the population asked Greenpeace for help," Greenpeace said.

- The establishment of a "Greenpeace fund for the future" designed to promote the activities of Greenpeace in the developing world. — NZPA

By NZPA correspondent PETER O'HARA