

## 《首个欠债不还的发达国家——希腊（双语）》

Greece has missed the deadline for a € 1.6bn ( £ 1.1bn) payment to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), hours after eurozone ministers refused to extend its bailout.

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But the ministers said they would discuss a last-minute suggestion from Greece for a new bailout programme.

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Greece is the first advanced country to fail to repay a loan to the IMF and is now formally in arrears.

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There are fears that this could put Greece at risk of leaving the euro.

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The IMF confirmed that Greece had failed to make the payment, shortly after 22:00 GMT on Tuesday.

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"We have informed our Executive Board that Greece is now in arrears and can only receive IMF financing once the arrears are cleared," said IMF spokesman Gerry Rice.

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Mr Rice confirmed the IMF had received a request from Greece to extend the payment deadline, which he said would go to the board "in due course".

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With the eurozone bailout expired, Greece no longer has access to billions of euros in funds and could not meet its IMF repayment.

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The European Central Bank (ECB) has also frozen its liquidity lifeline to Greek banks. Meanwhile, ratings agencies have further downgraded the country's debt.

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