CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA

._____

Forty-sixth meeting of the Standing Committee Geneva (Switzerland), 12-15 March 2002

Strategic and administrative matters

Financial and administrative matters

Budget for the triennium 2003-2005

CLARIFICATIONS TO DOCUMENT SC46 DOC. 9.1.4

- 1. The Secretariat provides the following clarifications with regard to the increase in the Parties' contributions which will be required to finance the 'no-growth option' budget presented in document SC46 Doc.9.1.4.
- 2. In paragraph 5 of the above document the Secretariat noted that the financing of the 'non-growth option' budget would require an increase in Parties' contributions of 25 per cent a year for the triennium 2003-2005 over those for the biennium 2001-2002, which were assessed in Swiss Francs.
- 3. The Conference of the Parties approved annual contributions for the biennium 2001-2002 of CHF 6,691,400 with the equivalent amount of USD 4,461,000.
- 4. The total budget for the triennium 2003-2005 amounts to USD 14,709,000 giving an annual average figure of USD 4,903,000. The financing of the budget for the triennium 2003-2005 will require an increase in Parties' contributions from USD 4,461,000 to USD 4,903,000 a year i.e. a 10 per cent increase in annual contributions.
- 5. For the budget 2001-2002 the Secretariat applied the indicative exchange rate of USD 1.00 to CHF 1.50, which was the average of the UN operational rates for 1999. For the presentation of the budget estimates for 2003-2005 the Secretariat has used the indicative exchange rate of USD 1.00 to CHF 1.70. The higher exchange rate of the US dollar against the Swiss franc accounts for the lower percentage increase.
- 6. The Secretariat trusts that this explanation clarifies why the 'no-growth option' proposal that the Standing Committee requested it to prepare requires a 10 per cent increase in annual contributions from the CITES Parties, when assessed in US dollars.