

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

Forty-seventh meeting of the Standing Committee
Santiago (Chile), 1-2 November 2002

Strategic and administrative matters

Financial and administrative matters

PAYMENTS OF CONTRIBUTIONS BY PARTIES

1. This report has been prepared by the Secretariat and includes the following Annexes:
 - Annex 1: Status of the contributions to the Trust Fund as of 30 September 2002;
 - Annex 2: Contributions received in 2002 for each month (cumulative); and
 - Annex 3: Annual distribution of the unpaid contributions as of 30 September 2002.
2. Annex 1 shows the status of contributions to the Trust Fund as of 30 September 2002. Paid contributions totalled CHF 6,236,126.57 out of which CHF 307,128.03 were due for 2001 and prior years.
3. Annex 2 shows the cumulative payments to the CITES Trust Fund by month in 2002. The funds received to cover the current years' contributions are indicated separately from those of prior years and future years.. As of 30 September 2002, total payment received for 2002 amounted to 84 per cent of the contributions due for this year.
4. Annex 3 provides the information on the outstanding contributions to the CITES Trust Fund for 2001 and prior years. The total unpaid contributions as of 30 September 2002 stood at CHF 663,414.16, out of which CHF 173,620.92 was due for 2001, CHF 148,904.16 for 2000 and CHF 340,889.08 for 1999 and prior years.
5. Following the recommendation of the Standing Committee at its 46th meeting, the Secretariat communicated with the Parties that were in arrears with their contributions over the years 1992-2001 and asked them to settle the contributions that remain unpaid. The Secretariat urged the Parties concerned to commit to a compliance plan and transmit it to the Secretariat by 30 April 2002. The Secretariat requested the affected Parties to commit themselves to having settled their arrears by 31 August 2002 or, alternatively, to provide the Secretariat with a satisfactory justification as to why they were unable to meet the deadline. The Secretariat informed the Parties that the Standing Committee expected them to meet the deadline and that the Standing Committee would consider further appropriate action in the event that an affected Party did not show good cause for failing to make adequate progress. This correspondence was copied to the relevant permanent missions. In addition the Secretary-General met with the representatives of Iran and Brazil, whose arrears are

particularly high and requested them to do their utmost to have their unpaid contributions settled.

6. In response the following Parties paid their arrears in full: Azerbaijan, Benin, Eritrea, Ghana, Italy, Jamaica, Mexico, Myanmar, Pakistan, the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation, Tunisia, Vanuatu and Zimbabwe. Six Parties, i.e. Belarus, Brazil, Iran, Liberia, Nicaragua, and Uruguay made partial payments. Fifty-eight Parties i.e. 37 per cent of the CITES Parties still remain in arrears with their contributions over the years 1992-2001. Seychelles and Burundi informed the Secretariat that they were unable to settle their arrears owing to foreign exchange restrictions and to a political and financial crisis respectively. The United Republic of Tanzania sent a cheque for its contributions to the Chase Manhattan Bank in New York. The Secretariat requested UNON to check on the status of this payment as these contributions did not appear in UNON reports of contributions received. The remaining Parties did not provide the Secretariat with any explanation as to why they were unable to meet the deadlines.
7. The Standing Committee requested the Secretariat to assess the resources needed to follow up and administer individual contributions from the Parties. These costs are quantified as follows:

	Staff time per annum	Annual Cost
Finance Assistant	52 days	CHF 15,600
Administrative Officer	26 days	CHF 15,000
Deputy Secretary-General	12 days	CHF10,500
Postage, fax, telephone		CHF 7,500
Total costs		CHF 48,600
Annual average cost per Party		CHF 315

8. Furthermore the Standing Committee requested the Secretariat to assess the cost of the distribution of documents to a Party. This information is presented in the table below:

	COP year	Non-COP year
Shipment of notifications	CHF 375	CHF 375
Shipment of CoP proposals and documents	CHF 250	0
Shipment of CoP proceedings	0	CHF 60
Shipment of other documents	CHF 125	CHF 125
Annual average cost per Party	CHF 750	CHF 560

9. In addition to the above expenses the Secretariat incurs the cost related to the shipment of the documents to the members of the Standing Committee and of the technical committees. The cost of the shipment of one set of documents is approximately CHF 65.