

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



Fifty-fourth meeting of the Standing Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 2-6 October 2006

Strategic and administrative matters

Financial matters

REPORT FOR 2005

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. It provides information on the actual expenditures of the Secretariat in 2005 (Annex 1), and paid and unpaid contributions (Annexes 2, 3 and 4). It also provides an overview of the availability of the CITES Trust Fund resources and their use in the triennium 2003-2005 (Annex 5).

Actual expenditures in 2005

3. Annex 1 to this document indicates the expenditures in 2005, which amounted to USD 4.69 million. This is 99.1 % of the budget of USD 4.73 million approved by the Conference of the Parties.
4. The expenditures under some budget lines exceeded the amounts approved for 2005 as detailed in Annex 1. The higher-than-projected expenditures on the staff costs in the professional and general service categories are attributable to the depreciation of the US dollar. The increased cost was offset to a certain extent by savings made under other budget lines, and by savings resulting from the cancellation of certain obligations from prior years.

Paid and unpaid contributions to the CITES Trust Fund

5. The status of contributions to the CITES Trust Fund on 31 December 2005 is reported in Annex 2. By that date, 72 Parties, i.e. 43 %, had fallen into arrears with their contributions for the years 1992-2005.
6. The actual contributions received in 2005 are shown in Annex 3. The figures show the cumulative total received by the end of each month. The contributions received for the current year and prior and future years are indicated separately.
7. Annex 4 provides information on the outstanding contributions to the CITES Trust Fund on 31 December 2005. The total unpaid contributions for 2005 and prior years stood at USD 906,908, of which USD 314,421 was due for the year 2005.

Availability and use of resources of the CITES Trust Fund

8. Annex 5 presents an overview of the flow and use of the CITES Trust Fund for the years 2003-2005. The balance of the CITES Trust Fund on 31 December 2005 stood at USD 1,275,337, of which USD 700,000 represents the operating cash reserve of the CITES Trust Fund. This balance excludes the unpaid contributions for 2005 and prior years referred to in paragraph 7 above.