

RESOLUTION CONF. 11.1 (REV. COP15)

ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMITTEES

Status of the Finance and Budget Subcommittee of the Standing Committee

1. In paragraph d) under the first 'RESOLVES', this Resolution provides that:

the Conference of the Parties or the Standing Committee may appoint working groups with specific terms of reference as required to address specific problems. These working groups shall have a defined life span which shall not exceed the period until the next meeting of the Conference of the Parties, at which time it may be renewed if necessary. They shall report to the Conference of the Parties and, if so requested, to the Standing Committee.

2. Also in this Resolution, the Conference of the Parties establishes the Standing, Animals and Plants Committees as permanent committees.

3. In Resolution Conf. 15.1, the Conference of the Parties:

INSTRUCTS the Finance and Budget Subcommittee of the Standing Committee to report at meetings of the Standing Committee and of the Conference of the Parties on recommendations on all financial and budgetary documents and proposals developed by its members.

4. The implication of this is either that the Finance and Budget Subcommittee (FBSC) of the Standing Committee should be a permanent body or that it should be re-established by the Standing Committee at its first regular meeting after each meeting of the Conference of the Parties. In order to simplify matters and to provide for continuity, the Standing Committee agreed at its 62nd meeting (Geneva, July 2012) that the Secretariat should propose an amendment to Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP15) to provide for the FBSC to be a permanent subcommittee.

Establishment of working groups of permanent committees

5. Although the Resolution provides the possibility for the Conference of the Parties and the Standing Committee to establish working groups, it does not provide for the establishment of subcommittees, nor does it provide for the Animals and Plants Committees to establish working groups. Considering that the Standing Committee has established subcommittees (at the behest of the Conference of the Parties) and that the Animals and Plants Committees have established working groups, the Secretariat recommends that the Resolution be amended to reflect the reality.

Financial support for committee members

6. Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP15), contains the following decisions of the Conference of the Parties:

- a) paragraph h) under the first 'RESOLVES', provides that:

to the extent possible, the Secretariat shall make provision for the payment, if requested, of reasonable and justifiable travel expenses of members, including attendance at the relevant committee meetings, and other expenses of the Chairs of the Standing Committee, the Animals Committee and the Plants Committee, for representatives from developing countries, countries with economies in transition and small island developing States;

- b) Annex 1, regarding *Establishment of the Standing Committee of the Conference of the Parties*, under 'DETERMINES', paragraph c) i), provides that;

the Secretariat shall make provisions in its budget for the payment, if requested, of reasonable and justifiable travel expenses of one person representing each regional member, to attend each regular

meeting of the Standing Committee (excluding those associated with a meeting of the Conference of the Parties) other than for representatives of developed countries; and

- c) Annex 2, regarding *Establishment of the Animals and Plants Committees of the Conference of the Parties*, under 'DETERMINES further', paragraph a), provides that:

the Secretariat shall make provisions in its budget for the payment, if requested, of reasonable and justifiable travel expenses of members, to attend no more than two meetings of the Committee concerned between meetings of the Conference of the Parties, other than for representatives of developed countries.

7. In Resolution Conf. 15.1, under the third 'DECIDES', the Conference of the Parties provides that:

the CITES Trust Fund should not be used to cover travel costs and per diem of committee members and other representatives of developed countries.

8. Thus, there is an inconsistency in the approach that is taken to the provision of financial support for committee members (or, in the case of the Standing Committee, representatives of committee members), both within Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP15) and between paragraph h) under 'RESOLVES' of that Resolution and Resolution Conf. 15.1. The latter Resolution represents the most recent decision of the Conference of the Parties on this issue. The Secretariat proposes amendments to the earlier Resolution to make it consistent with Resolution Conf. 15.1, but also to take into account that members of the Animals and Plants Committees are not representing any country.

Correction to the Spanish version only

9. This Resolution has been revised four times. During the third revision (at the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, The Hague, 2007), in Annex 2, under the second 'DETERMINES', paragraph a), the Conference of the Parties added a phrase to indicate that the payment of travel expenses of committee members did not apply to representatives of developed countries (see paragraph 6.c) above). This was omitted in the Spanish version, which therefore should be corrected.

Correction to the French version only

10. Also during the third revision of this Resolution, the Conference of the Parties removed from Annex 2 the statement that "the Animals Committee shall also deal with issues related to the transport of live animals". This was not done in the French version, which therefore should be corrected.

Recommendation

11. The Secretariat recommends that the Conference of the Parties adopt the amendments to Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP15), indicated in Annex 5.2 to the present document.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO RESOLUTION CONF. 11.1 (REV. COP15)

ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMITTEES

NB: Text proposed to be deleted is ~~crossed-out~~. Proposed new text is underlined.

1. In the operative part, under *Regarding the establishment of committees*, the paragraphs under "RESOLVES" should be amended as follows:

RESOLVES that:

- a) there shall be a permanent Standing Committee of the Conference of the Parties, which shall be the senior Committee, and shall report to the Conference of the Parties;
- b) there shall be an Animals Committee and a Plants Committee, which shall report to the Conference of the Parties at its meetings and, if so requested, to the Standing Committee between meetings of the Conference of the Parties;
- c) the Conference of the Parties may appoint additional committees as the need arises;
- d) the Conference of the Parties, ~~or the Standing Committee~~ and the Animals and Plants Committees may appoint working groups with specific terms of reference as required to address specific problems. These working groups shall have a defined life span which shall not exceed the period until the next meeting of the Conference of the Parties, at which time ~~it may be renewed~~ they may be re-established if necessary. Working groups established by the Conference of the Parties ~~They~~ shall report to the Conference of the Parties and, if so requested, to the Standing Committee;
- e) the Standing Committee shall establish a permanent Finance and Budget Subcommittee and specify its terms of reference;
- f) the Standing Committee, and the Animals and Plants Committees may appoint subcommittees with specific terms of reference to implement the tasks that are given to them. Unless otherwise agreed by through a Resolution or Decision of the Conference of the Parties, these subcommittees shall have a defined life span, which shall not exceed the period until the next meeting of the Conference of the Parties, at which time they may be re-established if necessary;
- g e) the Standing Committee shall adopt its own Rules of Procedure;
- h f) the Animals and Plants Committees shall adopt their own Rules of Procedure, which shall, however, be in accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the Standing Committee as far as is practicable;
- i g) regional representatives shall be elected by the Conference of the Parties as members of the Standing Committee;
- h) ~~to the extent possible, the Secretariat shall make provision for the payment, if requested, of reasonable and justifiable travel expenses of members, including attendance at the relevant committee meetings, and other expenses of the Chairs of the Standing Committee, the Animals Committee and the Plants Committee, for representatives from developing countries, countries with economies in transition and small island developing states;~~
- i i) all committees established by the Conference of the Parties shall be listed in annexes to this Resolution;
- k j) the Secretariat shall, upon request by a committee chair, provide secretarial services when such services can be met within the approved budget of the Secretariat;

- l) when back-to-back meetings of the Animals and Plants Committees include a joint session, the duration of the separate committee meetings should be four days, but that when not back-to-back, the length of each meeting should be five days; and
- m) the Secretariat shall ensure that any vacancies in the Animals and Plants Committees are brought immediately to the attention of the Standing Committee, in order to fill the vacancies as soon as possible;
2. In Annex 2, under "DETERMINES further the following principles for the payment of travel expenses to members of the Plants or Animals Committee", paragraph a) should be amended as follows:
- the Secretariat shall make provisions in its budget for the payment, if requested, of reasonable and justifiable travel expenses of members, to attend no more than two meetings of the Committee concerned between meetings of the Conference of the Parties, other than for members from ~~representatives of~~ developed countries.
3. In the French version of the Resolution, the following words should be deleted:
- DECIDE en outre que le Comité pour les animaux traite les questions relatives au transport des animaux vivants;*