

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



Nineteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
Panama City (Panama), 14 – 25 November 2022

Administrative and financial matters

Administration, finance and budget of the Secretariat
and of meetings of the Conference of the Parties

ACCESS TO FUNDING

1. This document has been submitted by the Standing Committee*.

Background

2. At its 18th meeting (CoP18, Geneva, 2019), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decisions 18.4 to 18.11 on *Access to funding*:

Directed to the Parties

18.4 *Parties are invited to provide non-reimbursable loan of personnel services to the CITES Secretariat noting that the salary and administrative fee of non-reimbursable loan personnel shall be covered by the Party, with such personnel remaining under the administrative authority of the sending Party. Non-reimbursable loan personnel shall carry out their duties and act in the interest of the mandate of the CITES Secretariat.*

18.5 *Parties are encouraged to:*

- a) *engage with their Global Environment Facility (GEF) national focal points in order to take part in the national GEF processes and facilitate use of allocated GEF funding through the Global Wildlife Program (GWP);*
- b) *contribute to the development and implementation of GEF projects that may have components related to the implementation of CITES, by communicating with their national GEF counterparts and informing them of relevant CITES requirements and processes; and*
- c) *monitor the progress of the GEF Global Wildlife Program and the national projects, where applicable, to enhance Parties' ability to meet their obligations under CITES.*

Directed to Parties, governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other entities

* *The geographical designations employed in this document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the CITES Secretariat (or the United Nations Environment Programme) concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The responsibility for the contents of the document rests exclusively with its author.*

- 18.6** *All Parties, governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other entities are invited to provide financial or technical assistance for ensuring the effective implementation of the Decisions and Resolutions adopted by the Conference of the Parties.*
- 18.7** *In providing financial assistance, Parties, governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other entities are encouraged to take into consideration the administrative and financial management support needed to ensure that the funded activities are managed in an efficient, effective and accountable manner, and that they do not affect the Secretariat's core administrative tasks.*

Directed to the Secretariat

- 18.8** *The Secretariat shall:*
- a) *continue to participate in the Program Steering Committee of the GEF Global Wildlife Program to ensure that GEF projects under the programme are, as far as possible, aligned with CITES Decisions and Resolutions and contribute to the enhanced implementation of the Convention; and*
 - b) *provide technical advice and in-kind support to Parties in the development and implementation of their GEF projects under the Global Wildlife Program.*
- 18.9** *Subject to the availability of external funding, the Secretariat, in collaboration with the World Bank and other relevant financial institutions, cooperation agencies and potential donors, shall organize a wildlife donor roundtable with a particular focus on sustainable use, to:*
- a) *share information on existing funding programmes on wildlife;*
 - b) *understand the long-term financial needs of developing countries to implement the Convention; and*
 - c) *explore the potential for scaled-up financial resources to ensure the conservation and sustainable use of wildlife.*
- 18.10** *The Secretariat shall report on the progress on the implementation of Decisions 18.4 and 18.5 and any recommendations, as necessary, to the Standing Committee and at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.*

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 18.11** *The Standing Committee shall review the progress of implementation of Decisions 18.4 through 18.10 and make recommendations as necessary to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.*

3. At its 74th meeting (SC74, Lyon, March 2022), the Standing Committee considered and noted the document prepared by the Secretariat on the implementation of these Decisions (see document [SC74 Doc. 9](#)) a summary of which is provided in paragraphs 4 to 10. The Standing Committee agreed to propose the renewal of Decision 18.4 and the submission of draft decisions on *Access to funding* (Annex 1) to the 19th meeting of the Conference of Parties.

Decisions directed to the Parties

4. Since CoP18 (Geneva, August 2019), there has been no loan of personnel services ("secondments") supported by Parties. The Secretariat has benefited from the continued support of Germany for one Junior Professional Officer who started in May 2018 for a total of four years: Germany has provided financial support for three years, with the future commitment of co-financing from the CITES Secretariat for one year. The Secretariat has also welcomed a number of interns in accordance with UN rules and practice during this period. Despite the fact that most of them had to work remotely because of the COVID-19 pandemic, they have been extremely helpful to the Secretariat.
5. The Global Environment Facility's (GEF) Global Wildlife Program Phase I and II have supported [projects across 32 countries](#) to date. Many of them have components that are related to the implementation of the

Convention, and benefit from the direct involvement of CITES authorities in their activities. The Global Wildlife Program also works closely with the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC) in promoting an integrated approach for combating wildlife trafficking.

Decisions directed to Parties, governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other entities

6. In support of Decision 18.6, the Secretariat has regularly published Notifications to Parties¹ entitled *Status of funding for the implementation of valid Decisions after CoP18* so that interested Parties, governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other entities are better informed of the existing funding gaps and to encourage them to focus their planning efforts on the implementation of the Convention. The status of extrabudgetary funding provided in response is presented in Annex 2 to the present document.
7. Pursuant to Decision 18.7, in its discussions with donors of possible extrabudgetary contributions, the Secretariat has always included the administrative and financial management support to implement the funded activities and encouraged donors to consider allocating part of the budget for this purpose.

Decisions directed to the Secretariat

8. The Secretariat has continued to participate in the Program Steering Committee of the GEF Global Wildlife Program with the aim to align GEF-funded projects with CITES objectives and has made itself available for consultations with interested Parties. The annual meeting of the Global Wildlife Program Steering Committee took place online from 30 November to 2 December 2021.
9. In late 2020, the GEF Trustee, in cooperation with the Secretariat, started its discussions on the eighth replenishment of resources for the GEF Trust Fund (GEF-8). One of the strategic and programming directions under consideration is to evolve the Global Wildlife Program into the “Wildlife Conservation for Development Integrated Program”, which is one of the 11 integrated programmes that will frame the future GEF investment planning process for the countries. The GEF has held two meetings to date (in April and September 2021). Two more rounds of meetings are planned before the GEF Council meeting and the GEF Assembly in May 2022, when the eighth replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund are expected to be agreed and endorsed.
10. With regard to Decision 18.9, the Secretariat has received funds from the European Union for the convening of a wildlife roundtable with a particular focus on sustainable use. The meeting has unfortunately not been convened due to global sanitary measures in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Secretariat however plans to convene some form of a dialogue meeting in due course.

Recommendations

11. The Conference of the Parties is invited to adopt the draft decisions contained in Annex 1 to the present document.

COMMENTS OF THE SECRETARIAT

- A. The Secretariat recommends that the Conference of the Parties adopt the draft decisions 18.4 and 19.AA in Annex 1 to the present document, with an amendment to decision 19.EE as mentioned in paragraph D below in order to take into account the progress made in the implementation of Decision 18.9. The Secretariat further recommends the deletion of Decisions 18.5 to 18.11 as they have been replaced by the new draft decisions.
- B. With regard to Decision 19.AA, paragraph c), the Secretariat would like to note that donors have recently pledged a total of USD 5,33 billion under the eighth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Trust Fund covering the next four years. The GEF 8 includes a new wildlife programme among the eleven integrated programmes as a so-called STAR programme with additional economic incentives for countries. This new *Wildlife Conservation for Development Integrated Programme* contains three technical pillars: human-wildlife co-existence, illegal and high-risk wildlife trade and wildlife for prosperity. Seven selection criteria for financing have been identified and are contained in the [GEF-8 Programming Directions](#). The

¹ See *Notifications to Parties No.2021/049, 2020/072, and 2020/032*.

process to apply for funding is expected to be initiated towards the end of 2022 – early 2023 once the lead agency has been selected. Eligible countries will be invited to submit an “expression of interest” for funding in December 2022-January 2023 and project concept notes shortly thereafter. The Secretariat would like to encourage eligible Parties to consider this opportunity to access GEF funding and stands ready to assist Parties interested in seizing this new opportunity.

- C. With respect to draft decisions 19.BB and 19.CC, the Secretariat recommends that they not be adopted since the Secretariat proposes to have them incorporated in the draft resolution on *Financing and the costed programme of work for the Secretariat for the triennium 2023-2025*, contained in Annex 1 to document CoP19 Doc. 7.4 on the *Budget and work programme for 2023 to 2025*.
- D. With respect to draft decision 19.EE, the Secretariat notes that this is a renewal of Decision 18.9 with an identical mandate to the Secretariat. Under this Decision, the Secretariat has recently initiated an analysis of existing instruments of sustainable financing for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use (e.g., green bonds); climate change mitigation (i.e. green climate fund); and forest ecosystem conservation (e.g. UN-REDD) with the aim to explore how elements of these mechanisms could be applied or adapted for financing wildlife conservation. The work is expected to be finalized prior to the present meeting and is envisaged to be presented at a roundtable to be organized in collaboration with the World Bank and other partners in October 2022.
- E. The Secretariat will report on this work at the present meeting and propose a new draft decision to replace draft decision 19.EE taking into account the progress made in the implementation of Decision 18.9. The study *Mobilizing sustainable financing for African elephant conservation* is available as CoP19 Inf. 14 in English and French. As Decision 19.EE has effectively already been implemented, the Secretariat proposes the deletion of that decision. The Secretariat notes that another document submitted to the present meeting concerns financing of elephant conservation (Doc. 66.2.2.); taking into consideration this document and its proposed draft decisions, the Secretariat proposes a new set of draft decisions on sustainable financing for wildlife conservation as follows:

Sustainable financing for wildlife conservation

Directed to Parties

- 19.AA Parties are urged to submit ideas to the Secretariat for alternative financing solutions and mechanisms for wildlife conservation, including for elephants.

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 19.BB With the support of the Secretariat, the Standing Committee shall
- a) consider options for sustainable financing for the conservation of wildlife, including elephants, taking into consideration document CoP19 Doc. 66.2.2, ideas provided by Parties in response to Decision 19.AA and any other studies and information available to the Standing Committee;
 - b) prepare a report regarding the options considered under paragraph a) and the advantages, disadvantages, risks, feasibility, enabling conditions, and where relevant, results of any pilot, associated with each option; and
 - c) prepare and submit to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP20) for its consideration recommendations on sustainable financing for the conservation of wildlife, including elephants.
- F. The tentative budget in Annex 3 has also been updated, taking into account the work that have been implemented under Decision 18.9 by the time of the present meeting.

DRAFT DECISIONS ON ACCESS TO FUNDING

Directed to Parties

- 18.4 Parties are invited to provide non-reimbursable loan of personnel services to the CITES Secretariat noting that the salary and administrative fee of non-reimbursable loan personnel shall be covered by the Party, with such personnel remaining under the administrative authority of the sending Party. Non-reimbursable loan personnel shall carry out their duties and act in the interest of the mandate of the CITES Secretariat.
- 19.AA Parties are encouraged to:
- a) engage with their Global Environment Facility (GEF) national focal points in order to take part in the national GEF processes and facilitate use of allocated GEF funding through the Wildlife Conservation for Development Integrated Programme;
 - b) contribute to the development and implementation of GEF projects that may have components related to the implementation of CITES, by communicating with their national GEF counterparts and informing them of relevant CITES requirements and processes; and
 - c) monitor the progress of the GEF Global Wildlife Program and the discussion on the establishment of the Wildlife Conservation for Development Integrated Program under the eighth replenishment of resources for the GEF Trust Fund (GEF-8) and ensure that national projects, where applicable, can enhance the beneficiary Parties' ability to meet their obligations under CITES.

Directed to Parties, governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other entities

- 19.BB All Parties, governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other entities are invited to provide financial or technical assistance for ensuring the effective implementation of the Decisions and Resolutions adopted by the Conference of the Parties.
- 19.CC In providing financial assistance, Parties, governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other entities are encouraged to take into consideration the administrative and financial management support needed to ensure that the funded activities are managed in an efficient, effective and accountable manner, and that they do not affect the Secretariat's core administrative tasks.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 19.DD The Secretariat shall:
- a) continue to participate in the Program Steering Committee of the GEF Global Wildlife Program, Wildlife Conservation for Development Integrated Program, or other GEF mechanisms as appropriate, to ensure that GEF projects under the programme are, as far as possible, aligned with CITES Decisions and Resolutions and contribute to the enhanced implementation of the Convention; and
 - b) provide technical advice and in-kind support to Parties in the development and implementation of their GEF projects under the Global Wildlife Program, Wildlife Conservation for Development Integrated Program, or other GEF mechanisms as appropriate.
- 19.EE Subject to the availability of external funding and in collaboration with the World Bank and other relevant financial institutions, cooperation agencies and potential donors, the Secretariat shall organize a wildlife donor roundtable with a particular focus on sustainable use, to:

- a) share information on existing funding programmes on wildlife;
- b) understand the long-term financial needs of developing countries to implement the Convention; and
- c) explore the potential for scaled-up financial resources to ensure the conservation and sustainable use of wildlife.

19.FF The Secretariat shall report on the progress on the implementation of Decisions 19.BB, 19.DD and 19.EE and make any recommendations, as necessary, to the Standing Committee.

Directed to the Standing Committee

19.GG The Standing Committee shall review the Secretariat's report and make recommendations, as necessary, to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

STATUS OF EXTRABUDGETARY FUNDS 2020-2022²
(AS OF 30 APRIL 2022)

Donor	Pledged or received amount	Main areas of work
Austria	EUR 5,555	CoP19 Sponsored Delegates Project
Belgium	EUR 15,000	CoP19 Sponsored Delegates Project
Canada	CAD 16,134	Implementation of Decisions 18.39-18.46
China	USD 180,000	Capacity-building, CoP19 Sponsored Delegates Project (2020-2021)
European Union	USD 2,784,176	Cross-regional Wildlife Conservation in Eastern and Southern Africa (through UNODC)
European Union	USD 3,290,424	Intra-ACP Wildlife Trafficking MIKES+
European Union	USD 1,707,774	CTSP
European Union	USD 582,182	Implementation of CoP18 Decisions
European Union	USD 1,720,833	MIKE Programme
European Union	454,288	ICCWC (through UNODC)
France	EUR 30,000	ICCWC
France	USD 84,197	Hosting of SC74
France	USD 82,799	ICCWC
Germany	EUR 130,656	GIZ-MIKE project against poaching and illegal wildlife trade (ivory and rhino horn) in Africa and Asia
Hong Kong SAR (China)	USD 257,014	Enforcement-related work in Asia and work related to sustainable use and livelihoods (2020-2021)
Japan	USD 187,544	Specific projects under MIKE (2020, 2021 and 2022)
Monaco	USD 178,957	ICCWC (2020, 2021), Seahorses (2020, 2021)
Netherlands	USD 375,857	Dec. 18.321 on Dalbergia trade study, Dec. 18.159.164 on Disposal of confiscated live specimens, Dec. 18.246 African lions and other big cats, Dec. 18.244-250 on illegal trade in queen conch
Norway	NOK 500,000	CoP19 Sponsored Delegates Project
Panama	USD 727,719	Hosting of CoP19
Slovakia	EUR 10,000	CoP19 Sponsored Delegates Project
Sweden	SEK 500,000	Sponsored Delegates to SC meetings
Switzerland	USD 2,186,192	CoP19 Sponsored Delegates Project, Support to the implementation of the PoW (B, C, D, E) (2020 and 2021)
United Kingdom	USD 2,239,512	ICCWC, Programme of Work (A, B, C, D, E)
US FWS	USD 550,000	Implementation of CoP17-CoP18 Decisions
USFWS	USD 494,719	Strengthening CITES compliance and Law enforcement in South-East Asia
US Department of State	USD 1,919,286	Global Network of WEN, MIKE in South Asia, various CITES projects (2020, 2021, 2022)
USA	USD 74,726	CITES projects 2021
FAO	USD 332,279	Sustainable Forest Trade in the Lower Mekong Region
US National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (USNOAA)	USD 193,103	Strengthening CITES implementation in relation to marine species

² Based on information available to the CITES Secretariat

**TENTATIVE BUDGET AND SOURCE OF FUNDING
FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS OR DECISIONS**

According to Resolution Conf. 4.6 (Rev. CoP18) on *Submission of draft resolutions, draft decisions and other documents for meetings of the Conference of the Parties*, the Conference of the Parties decided that any draft resolutions or decisions submitted for consideration at a meeting of the Conference of the Parties that have budgetary and workload implications for the Secretariat or permanent committees must contain or be accompanied by a budget for the work involved and an indication of the source of funding. The Secretariat proposes the following tentative budget and source of funding.

Decision	Activity	Estimated budget (2023-2025) USD	Indicative budget source
19.DD, paragraph a)	Cooperation with financial institutions and donors to secure funding support to CITES (including participation in the Programme Steering Committee of the GEF Global Wildlife Program, Wildlife Conservation for Development Integrated Program, or other GEF mechanisms)	30,000 (10,000/year)	core
19.DD, paragraph b)	Technical advice and support to Parties in the development and implementation of their GEF projects under the Global Wildlife Program, Wildlife Conservation for Development Integrated Program, or other GEF mechanisms as appropriate	30,000 (10,000/year)	External
19.BB	Preparation of a report regarding the options for sustainable financing for the conservation of wildlife, including elephants	40,000	Extrabudgetary
19.BB	Organization of a roundtable on sustainable financing for wildlife conservation	100,000	Extrabudgetary