Reports

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2002

1. This document was prepared by the Secretariat and is submitted for information.

2. This report has been prepared by the Secretariat pending the closure of the official UNEP accounts for 2002. The report provides information on the provisional expenditures in 2002 (Annex 1), paid and unpaid contributions (Annexes 2, 3 and 4) and the income and expenditures for 2000-2002 (Annex 5).

Provisional expenditures in 2002

3. Annex 1 to this report reflects the provisional expenditures in 2002. All figures are shown in Swiss francs. The conversion rate used to calculate the expenditures in Swiss francs from the CITES accounts maintained in US dollars is USD 1.00 = CHF 1.58. This is the average of the UN operational rates for the year 2002. The total expenditures in 2002 amounted to CHF 8.66 million, which is 97 per cent of the budget of CHF 8.92 million approved by the Conference of the Parties. The unspent balance for 2002 will contribute to reducing the risk of a shortage of funds in the current triennium. The overview of flow and use of the resources is presented in Annex 5.

4. Most of the savings were made under the Personnel Component as a result of vacancies. The expenditures exceeded the approved 2002 budget under some budget lines: Salary/travel of Conference staff (line 1321), Travel of staff – general (line 1601), Identification Manual – animals (line 2106), Identification Manual – plants (line 2107), Trade monitoring and technical support, UNEP-WCMC (line 2109), Standing Committee (line 3301), Animals Committee (line 3303), African Elephant Panel of Experts (line 3305), Office supplies (line 4101), Non-expendable equipment (line 4201), Maintenance of computers (line 5101), Maintenance of photocopiers (line 5102), COP-related documents (line 5201), Documents not related to CoP (line 5202), Logistics for CoP (line 5302) and Hospitality (line 5401). In all cases the increased cost was accommodated through the adjustment of the budget lines.

Paid and unpaid contributions to the CITES Trust Fund

5. The status of contributions to the CITES Trust Fund is reported in Annex 2. By 31 December 2002 only 81 Parties had paid their contributions for 2002 and all previous years. The remaining 77 Parties, i.e. 48.7 per cent of the CITES Parties, had fallen into arrears with their contributions over the years 1992-2002.

6. The actual contributions received in 2002 are shown in Annex 3. The figures reflect the cumulative total received by the end of each month. The money received to cover the
current and future years’ contributions as opposed to those of prior years has been indicated separately.

7. Annex 4 provides the information on the outstanding contributions to the CITES Trust Fund. The total unpaid contributions for 2002 and prior years as of 31 December 2002 stood at CHF 1,048,899. These unpaid contributions have been converted into US dollars using the UN exchange rate for December 2002 of USD 1.00 = CHF 1.49.

Income and expenditures for 2000-2002

8. Annex 5 provides an overview of the income to and expenditures from the Trust in the years 2000-2002 in US dollars. It is projected that the Trust Fund balance will be reduced from USD 3.22 million at the beginning of 2000 to USD 1.24 million at the end of 2002 of which USD 0.7 million represents the Trust Fund operational reserve.