

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

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Fiftieth meeting of the Standing Committee  
Geneva (Switzerland), 15-19 March 2004

Strategic and administrative matters

Financial and administrative matters

ITEMS INSUFFICIENTLY FUNDED OR REQUIRING EXTERNAL BUDGETARY RESOURCES

1. In Resolution Conf. 12.1 on Financing and budgeting of the Secretariat and of meetings of the Conference of the Parties, the Conference of the Parties "REQUESTS the Secretariat to identify, for review by the Standing Committee, items directed by the Conference of the Parties and the technical committees that are either insufficiently funded or will require external budgetary resources".
2. Listed hereinafter (in no specific order) are the projects based on Decisions and Resolutions adopted at the 12th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Santiago, 2002) and current projects that are contingent on the availability of funds and still need financial support from external sources.
  - a) The Secretariat is to assess "whether countries with currently active internal ivory markets (i.e. Cameroon, China, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Japan, Nigeria, Thailand, Uganda and the United States of America) have established the comprehensive internal legislative, regulatory and enforcement measures specified in Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP12) regarding compliance with control of internal trade" (Decision 12.39). This project requires external funds if any missions are to be undertaken. The amount of funding available will determine the number of missions that are possible, though for reference an estimated USD 40,000 would be required to undertake at least four missions.
  - b) A meeting of the wider Caribbean region on the hawksbill turtle is to be held "in order to facilitate regional collaboration, planning and information exchange, as well as collaboration with other bodies and multilateral agreements with a mandate concerning the conservation and management of this species in the wider Caribbean region" (Decision 12.46). This project requires a total of USD 100,000 in external funding. USD 32,000 has already been raised for this meeting.
  - c) The Standing Committee, at its 49th meeting, established an intersessional Export Quota Working Group in compliance with Decision 12.17, comprising representatives of the six CITES regions. The Secretariat is seeking external funding in the order of USD 65,000 for convening a meeting of the Export Quota Working Group (Decision 12.18) before the 15 March 2004 deadline.
  - d) A capacity-building initiative is to be developed in Fiji to improve the implementation of the Convention in Fiji and the scientific basis for non-detriment findings and, in collaboration with Parties of the Oceania region, importing Parties, and

intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, provision of direct assistance to Fiji to improve the administrative, legal and scientific basis for CITES implementation in Fiji (Decision 12.95). This project requires a total of USD 45,000 in external funding. USD 23,900 has already been raised for this project.

- e) The current European Commission (EC) funding for the MIKE project in Africa finishes at the end of April 2004. The EC has indicated its willingness to commit funds in the order of EUR 10 million under the ninth Intra Africa, Caribbean and Pacific European Development Fund (ACP EDF) budget line for a further five years of support. The MIKE Director is working with the EC to progress the project preparation and approval process required by the EC. The next step is a feasibility study, which will help in formulating the required project documents, which can then be considered by the EC. However, it is unlikely that this money will be forthcoming before early 2005.

There is therefore a need to secure bridging funds to ensure the continuity of MIKE implementation in Africa between April 2004 and early 2005. It is estimated that approximately USD 1 million will be required to cover the training, development and survey activities as well as the facilitation of such activities provided by the MIKE Secretariat. Currently, proposals have been submitted to several European Union countries to provide the required funding. However approval is not certain, and clearly there is the possibility that the MIKE project may be entering a precarious financial situation.

- f) After the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Buenos Aires, 1985), the Secretariat initiated the Sponsored Delegates Project to solicit financial assistance from various governments and organizations for a fund that would provide anonymous assistance to enable all the Parties to be represented at meetings of the Conference of the Parties, free from inappropriate influence. For supporting attendance at the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP13) the Secretariat has a target of USD 600,000 to provide the same level of support to eligible Parties as was provided in 2002, to sponsor up to two delegates from each of the least developed countries, the other developing countries and countries with economies in transition, in line with the guidance provided by the Standing Committee at its 46th meeting (Geneva, March 2002). The list of countries to be supported will be dependent upon the funds raised and the requests received from the eligible countries that wish to be sponsored. USD 124,000 has already been raised for this project.
- g) USD 10,000 is required to hire a consultant to conduct the review of existing and innovative mechanisms to finance the conservation of species of wild fauna and flora as well as capacity building for developing countries and countries with economies in transition "with a view to furthering *inter alia* the implementation of the Convention at the national level as well as sustainable international trade in species of wild fauna and flora" (Decision 12.26).
- h) A capacity-building workshop for the Oceania region will be held "to improve implementation of the Convention in the region and to encourage non-Parties to accede to the Convention" (Decision 12.94). The Secretariat is seeking USD 15,000 in external funds to supplement the basic funding for this workshop allocated from the trust fund budget (USD 40,000), to support the participation of non-party States and, as appropriate, of regional intergovernmental and non-government organizations.
- i) The organization of a regional meeting for Central and South America and the Caribbean prior to CoP13 (Decision 11.170, derived from the Quito Declaration), requires USD 100,000 in external funds.

- j) The Animals Committee is directed to “consider and recommend a practical means of distinguishing fossilized corals from non-fossilized corals in international trade, and provide a report at the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties” (Decision 12.62). This activity requires a short consultancy, and no more than USD 10,000 would be required.
  - k) A project has been initiated involving the review of significant trade in *Aquilaria malaccensis*. However, there is need for additional funding to be able to extend the scope of this work to cover further aspects of Decisions 12.66 to 12.71 concerning *Aquilaria* spp., particularly to address the assessment of trade dynamics and the development of non-detriment finding methodology for the range States. An additional USD 45,000 is required.
3. The implementation of several Resolutions from previous meetings of the Conference of the Parties that are directed to the Secretariat or the technical committees has cost implications. Since there is no requirement to report at the next meeting of the Conference of the Parties in these cases and there has not been any indication of immediate urgency for the work to be done, the extent of the work involved in each case has not been identified nor has the cost involved been determined.