

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



Sixty-ninth meeting of the Standing Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 27 November - 1 December 2017

Administrative and financial matters

Access to funding

EXTERNAL FUNDING:
REPORT OF THE SECRETARIAT

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.

Background

2. At its 17th meeting (CoP17, Johannesburg, 2016), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decision 17.10 to 17.16 on *Access to funding*. This document covers Decisions 17.12 to 17.15 which deals with access to external funding other than the Global Environment Facility (GEF), while another document covers implementation of Decisions 17.10 to 17.11 on access to GEF.

17.12 All Parties, governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other entities are invited to provide financial or technical assistance to ensure the effective implementation of the Decisions and Resolutions adopted by the Conference of the Parties.

17.13 Parties are invited to second staff to the CITES Secretariat and to note that the salary of seconded personnel shall be covered by the Party. Seconded personnel shall carry out their duties and act in the interest of the mandate of the CITES Secretariat.

17.14 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 particular focus on the sustainable use of wild fauna and flora, to:

- a) share information on their existing funding programmes for the conservation of 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.*

Report on the progress of implementation of Decision 17.12

3. Since CoP17, the Secretariat has received confirmation for extrabudgetary contributions from China (including Hong Kong SAR), the European Union, Japan, Switzerland, and the United States of America, amounting to over USD 9.6 million. Discussions are also currently underway with these and a number of other donors. The contributions that have been confirmed at the time of writing are summarized in Table 1 below.

Table 1. Breakdown of extrabudgetary funds confirmed/deposited since CoP17
(confirmed as at 25 August 2017)

Donor	Total amount (local currency)	Confirmed/deposited amount for 2017 (USD) ¹	Main areas of work
China	RMB 700,000	100,000	Selected CoP17 Decisions
China (Hong Kong, SAR)	HKD 400,000	51,497	Enforcement activities
European Union: DG-Devco	(1st instalment of EUR 7,000,000)	3,346,228	CITES-listed tree species
European Union: DG-Devco ²	(1st instalment of EUR 1,961,000)	686,456	Selected activities of the Monitoring the Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE) programme
European Union: DG-Devco	EUR 3,000,000	3,337,317	Minimising the Illegal Killing of Elephants and other Endangered Species (MIKES) project, 3rd instalment
European Union: DG-Environment	(1st instalment of EUR 2,250,000)	673,059	Marine species, Sponsored Delegates Project, and selected CoP17 Decisions
Japan	USD 60,000	60,000	Selected activities of the Monitoring the Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE) programme
Switzerland: confederation	CHF 150,000	146,341	Strengthening enforcement capacity at CITES Secretariat
Switzerland: Management Authority	CHF 59,900	59,975	Selected CoP17 Decisions
United States of America: National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)	USD 165,000	165,000	CITES-listed marine species
United States of America: U.S Fish and Wildlife Service	USD 989,438	989,438	Compliance and law enforcement in selected Southeast Asian Parties
TOTAL		9,615,311	

4. The European Union remains the single largest contributor of extrabudgetary funds. The notable addition is the project funded by the European Union (EU) entitled: *Supporting sustainable management of endangered tree species and conservation of the African Elephant*. The contribution includes EUR 7 million earmarked to support the CITES tree species project to be implemented by the CITES Secretariat, and EUR 1 million for the African Elephant Fund to be implemented by the United Nations Environment Programme.³
5. The tree species component of this project aims to support the main exporting range States of CITES-listed tree species in Africa, Asia and Latin America. It will allow them to take conservation and management

¹ The amounts are based on the UN exchange rate at the time of funds received.

² Funds were provided via the United Nations Office on Drug and Crime (UNODC).

³ See press release at:
https://cites.org/eng/news/pr/EU_contributes_8_million_Euro_support_CITES_tree_species_programme_protection_African_elephants_14072017

measures to ensure practical and technological capacity for the development of non-detriment findings, to enhance silvicultural and ecological knowledge for the management of CITES-listed tree species, to increase their capacity in the identification of timber and non-timber forest products and effective information and tracking systems. Further details of this project can be found on the dedicated page of the CITES website⁴. The Secretariat hopes that the CITES tree species project will continue to support the effective implementation of the Convention for listed tree species in the longer term.

6. The EU also provided USD 1.9 million towards supporting the activities of the MIKE Programme in Asian range States, through an agreement made with the United Nations Office on Drug and Crime. The activities are implemented in collaboration with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and TRAFFIC, with a focus on reinvigorating the collection and analysis of elephant mortality data, and improving measures related to international ivory trafficking. Discussions are ongoing with the EU regarding various options for potential support for future MIKE activities.
7. The Secretariat has also made significant efforts to raise resources to support the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC) and the implementation of its Strategic Programme 2016-2020. Financial support has been confirmed by France, Germany, Monaco as per Table 2 below. At the time of writing, deliberations are at an advanced stage on further significant funding pledged by the European Union and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland towards the implementation of the ICWC Strategic Programme.

Table 2. Breakdown of confirmed financial support to ICWC since CoP17 (as of 25 August 2017)

Donor	Total amount (local currency)	Confirmed/ deposited amount for 2017 (USD) ⁵	ICWC partner responsible for managing the funds
France	EUR 85,000	90,167	CITES Secretariat
Germany	EUR 400,000	0	UNODC
Monaco	(1st instalment of EUR 200,000)	56,283	CITES Secretariat
TOTAL		146,450	

8. By prior agreement with the donor(s), some of the extrabudgetary contributions is used for providing personnel support to the Secretariat for undertaking specific activities. They include the staff listed below:
 - a) National Ivory Action Plan (NIAP) Support Officer (funded by Switzerland);
 - b) ICWC Support Officer (co-funded by Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America);
 - c) Project assistant (co-funded by the European Union and the United States of America);
 - d) Tree species and elephants project team: coordinator and assistant (funded by the European Union);
 - e) MIKES project team: programme management officer and data scientist (funded by the European Union).

Report on the progress of implementation of Decision 17.13

9. The Secretariat has benefited from seconded staff and other personnel support since CoP17 (see Table 3 below). The Government of Turkey seconded a Fisheries Officer from the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock for twelve months since December 2016 to provide support in implementing Decisions related to aquatic species. He is the first Turkish secondee to the Secretariat. Germany continues to provide a Marine Support Officer (Junior Professional Officer) and a Joint CMS/CITES Officer, who have both been on board since 2015. Furthermore, Germany has confirmed funding for a second Junior Professional Officer to the

⁴ https://cites.org/eng/prog/flora/trees/trees_project

⁵ The amounts are based on the UN exchange rate at the time of funds received.

Secretariat specializing in medicinal plants, with the selection process underway at the time of writing (September 2017).

10. Highly qualified interns have also contributed to the work of the Secretariat. The Korean Environment Corporation (KECO) has provided one intern from March – August 2017 through its International Environment Expert Training Program (IEETP). The Secretariat also hosted three self-supported interns from Australia, France and Portugal since CoP17. The Secretariat expresses its gratitude to these interns, who are unpaid, but contributed significantly to the daily work of the Secretariat.

Table 3. Personnel support received since CoP17

Personnel support 2013-2017	USD (per annum, except for interns)⁶
Turkey: Aquatic Species Support Officer (secondment) (12 months)	140,862
Germany: Junior Professional Officer (P-2, since January 2015)	140,862
Germany: Joint CMS/CITES Officer (P-3, since July 2015)	172,074
Korea: KECO-IEETP intern (1 intern, 6 months)	23,200
Australia, France, Portugal: self-funded interns (3 interns, 6 months each)	69,600
Total:	546,598

11. The Secretariat expresses its sincere thanks to Germany, the Republic of Korea and Turkey for their generous financial and in-kind support. Other Parties are respectfully encouraged to consider making contributions to support the implementation of the Convention and in particular CoP17 Resolution and Decisions.

Report on the progress of implementation of Decision 17.14

12. There is currently no funding available for the implementation of Decision 17.14 regarding the organization of a Wildlife Donor Roundtable that focuses on the sustainable use of wild fauna and flora.
13. In November 2016, the Global Wildlife Program, an initiative of the GEF whose coordination office is administered by the World Bank, published *Analysis of International Funding to Tackle Illegal Wildlife Trade*. This publication, which the Secretariat contributed towards and includes a foreword by the Secretary-General, is a follow-up to the work of the Donor Advisory Group of the previous Donor Roundtable, which focused on Wildlife and Forest Crime. It is a review of international donor funding for combatting illegal wildlife trade in Africa and Asia, which serves as a baseline the donor community can build upon to establish the future state vision for financing to combat illegal wildlife trade, in consultation with recipient countries. In addition to the PDF publication⁷, an interactive e-book version⁸ of the report allowing dynamic data visualizations is also available.

Recommendation

14. The Secretariat invites the Standing Committee to:
 - a) take note of the present document;
 - b) welcome the generous support of donors for the implementation of the Convention; and

⁶ The figures for interns were calculated on the basis of estimates using a monthly rate of a consultancy of an equivalent level.

⁷ <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/25340>

⁸ <http://www.appsolutelydigital.com/WildLife/cover.html>

- c) encourage Parties to:
 - i) continue providing financial and in-kind support to ensure the effective implementation of the Decisions and Resolutions adopted by the Conference of the Parties; and
 - ii) provide financial support for organizing a Wildlife Donor Roundtable with particular focus on the sustainable use of wild fauna and flora, in implementing Decision 17.14.