

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

REPORT OF THE FINANCE AND BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE (FBSC)

The Finance and Budget Subcommittee (FBSC) of the Standing Committee met four times during the period 27 - 29 November 2017. The present report contains the recommendations of the Subcommittee for consideration of the Standing Committee.

Mr. Oystein Storkersen (Norway), representing the Europe region, chaired the FBSC during SC69.

The Secretary-General and the Administrative and Fund Management Officer were assisting the meetings of FBSC.

Representatives of all regions were present.

The FBSC has taken note of the Terms of Reference which remains as decided by the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (presented in document SC69 Inf. 23) and propose that a intersessional review of the ToR will be undertaken and presented at the 70th meeting of the Standing Committee.

The FBSC propose and ask the Standing Committee to endorse the membership for the present inter-sessional period as follows:

- Africa: South Africa and Kenya
- Asia: Japan
- Central and South America and the Caribbean: Argentina
- Europe: Norway with alternates from Germany and Israel
- North America: United States of America
- Oceania: New Zealand
- Depositary Government: Switzerland

Agenda item 7 (Financial matters)

The FBSC recommends that the Standing Committee:

- Approve the reports on the costed programme of work for the full year of 2016 and for 2017 for the period up to 31 July 2017;
- Take note of the projected overspending in 2017 related to security costs at governing and scientific body meetings organized in Geneva; and

- Whilst noting the Decision 17.13 of Parties on secondments, approve the use of USD 70,000, on a one time exceptional basis, from expected 2017 savings under the personnel component and to carry-over this amount into 2018 for a 50 per cent co-funding of the 4th year extension of the Junior Professional Officer (JPO) Marine Species Officer.

Agenda item 9.1 (Administrative matters)

The FBSC takes note of document SC69 Doc. 9.1 and recommends that the Standing Committee:

- Welcome the proposal from the Government of Switzerland (document SC69 Inf. 42) and on the basis of this proposal, recommends that further review of the host country arrangements in accordance with Resolution Conf. 17.2 paragraph 4 is not needed;
- Request the Secretariat to continue its consultation with the Government of Switzerland on the enhanced support by Switzerland to the CITES Secretariat and the implementation of the Convention;
- Request the Secretariat to ensure that additional funds are available to be used at the discretion of the Secretariat and to report on the establishment and implementation of the donor agreement with the Government of Switzerland at the 70th meeting of the Standing Committee;
- Request the Secretariat to work with UNEP to get further clarity on the programme support cost allocations and that the Secretariat ensure that the services provided by UNEP are fully consistent with the existing Memorandum of Understanding between CITES Standing Committee and the Executive Director of UNEP and further report back to the 70th meeting of the Standing Committee.

Agenda item 9.2 (Administrative hosting models for the Secretariat)

The FBSC takes note of the oral reporting in plenary by the Chair of the Standing Committee and recommends that Standing Committee:

- Request the FBSC to continue the work on exploring the potential cost and benefits of alternative administrative hosting arrangements for the CITES Secretariat, on inter-sessional basis, with the following terms of reference:

Taking into consideration UNEA Resolution 2/18, the Report of the UNEP Task Team on the Effectiveness of Administrative Arrangements and Programmatic Cooperation between UNEP and UNEP-administered Convention Secretariats, the related report of the UNEP Executive Director and further information from the CITES Secretariat and UNEP respectively, consider the implications of UNEA Resolution 2/18, including the information to be provided on administrative and financial challenges to be brought to the attention of the Executive Director of UNEP under operative paragraph 3 of that Resolution, and consider the advantages and disadvantages of different administrative hosting models for the CITES Secretariat, including retaining the status quo; and present its finding to the Standing Committee at its 70th meeting.

- Request the Secretariat to continue its efforts to get costing details from UNEP for indirect and direct services to review and compare costs for services between different service providers which will form the basis for the costing analysis to be presented at the 70th meeting of the Standing Committee.