

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



Seventieth meeting of the Standing Committee
Rosa Khutor, Sochi (Russian Federation), 1-5 October 2018

Administrative and financial matters

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*.

17.10 *Parties are encouraged to:*

- a) *continue their efforts to include their CITES priorities in their National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans (NBSAPs) to enhance access to Global Environment Facility (GEF) funding;*
- 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) *closely monitor the progress of the GEF Global Wildlife Program and its projects to enhance Parties' ability to meet their obligations under CITES.*

17.11 *The Secretariat shall:*

- a) *convey CITES priorities to the GEF for it to take them into account when developing the biodiversity strategy in GEF-7, consistent with the mandate of the GEF;*
- b) *provide inputs to the GEF Global Wildlife Program to ensure that GEF projects under the programme are, as far as possible, consistent with CITES Decisions and Resolutions and contribute to the enhanced implementation of the Convention;*
- c) *continue, in collaboration with the CBD Secretariat as well as with the GEF Secretariat, to enhance the biodiversity strategy in GEF-7 by strengthening the species-based component; and*
- d) *report on progress to the Standing Committee and Conference of the Parties as appropriate.*

- 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.*
- 17.15 *The Secretariat shall report the progress made with regard to the implementation of Decision 17.14, and its findings and recommendations, to the Standing Committee, as necessary, and at the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.*
- 17.16 *The Standing Committee shall review the progress of implementation of Decisions 17.12 through 17.15 and make recommendations as necessary at the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.*

Report on the progress of implementation of Decision 17.11

3. The Secretariat continues to participate in the GEF Global Wildlife Programme (GWP) Steering Committee as a non-implementing member in order to promote linkages between CITES the GWP projects. It has attended the virtual meetings of the Programme Steering Committee as well as the GWP Knowledge Management sessions held at regular intervals.
4. During the 2014-2018 investment cycle (GEF-6), the GEF committed a total of USD 131 million in grants to the GWP, including twenty national projects in Africa and Asia. Many of the projects contribute directly or indirectly to CITES implementation through some of the program components. Notably, the Secretariat worked with the Department of Environmental Affairs of South Africa and contributed to the development of the GEF project *strengthening institutions, information management and monitoring to reduce the rate of illegal wildlife trade in South Africa* [USD 4.9 million, implemented by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)]. The Secretariat also expressed its commitment to provide co-financing to the project in the form of in-kind support. The GWP Program coordination office has provided the Secretariat with a status report of GWP, which can be found as an information document.
5. The indicative amount set aside for GWP in the new four-year investment cycle (GEF-7, 2018-2022) is USD 168 million. During this cycle, countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and other regions can assign all or part of their national allocations¹ to the GWP. The GEF continues to see combating illegal wildlife trade as a programming priority for biodiversity under GEF-7, making it the third largest subject matter for the System for Transparent Allocation of Resources (STAR) country allocation in the biodiversity focal area.²
6. Countries, with support of GEF implementing agencies, are currently determining their national priorities to pre-assign their national allocations and developing their GEF-7 proposals. This is an opportune moment for Parties to engage in the national GEF processes and explore opportunities for projects to be developed under GWP. It is strongly encouraged that CITES Management Authorities contact their GEF Focal Points³ so that they may take part in the national portfolio planning discussions. It may be useful to highlight relevant areas where GEF funding could both enhance CITES implementation and achieve the GWP objectives at

¹ Each country has an allocated amount that they can access the GEF, according to the System for Transparent Allocation of Resources (STAR). To find out the STAR country allocations under GEF-7, see: <https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/publications/GEF-C.55-Inf.03-GEF-7-STAR.pdf>

² See page 161 of the document: Summary of the negotiations of the seventh replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund (http://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/EN_GEF.C.54.19.Rev_.03_Replenishment.pdf).

³ For the list of national focal points, see: https://www.thegef.org/focal_points_list

the same time, and encourage the focal points to develop project concepts in cooperation with the CITES Management Authorities.

Report on the progress of implementation of Decision 17.12

7. Since SC69, the Secretariat has received additional confirmation for extrabudgetary contributions from a number of countries, resulting in the cumulative total amount of extrabudgetary contribution since CoP17 of over USD 13 million. The contributions that have been confirmed since SC69 are summarized in Table 1 below:

Table 1. Breakdown of extrabudgetary funds confirmed/deposited since SC69 (as at 2 August 2018)

Donor	Pledged amount	Deposited amount (USD)⁴	Main areas of work
Australia	USD 15,000		Co-funding for the CMS-IUCN-CITES joint work on the Hawksbill turtle (funds managed by CMS)
Belgium	USD 60,000		Co-funding for the CMS-CITES African Carnivore Initiative meeting
China (2018)	RMB 700,000	100,000	Selected CoP17 Decisions
China (Hong Kong, SAR)	HKD 400,000	51,024	Enforcement activities
China (Hong Kong, SAR)	HKD 400,000	50,988	Demand reduction workshop
France	EUR 50,000	57,665	ICCWC Strategic Programme
Germany	EUR 400,000		Funds managed by UNODC on behalf of ICCWC for the implementation of activities under the ICCWC Strategic Programme 2016-2020 (ICCWC Toolkit) (funds managed by UNODC)
Germany	EUR 50,000		Co-funding for the CMS-CITES African Carnivore Initiative meeting (funds managed by CMS)
Monaco	EUR 50,000	56,283	Funding for ICCWC Strategic Programme 2016-2020 (EUR 200,000 over 4 years)
Japan	USD 55,000	55,000	Selected activities of the Monitoring the Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE) programme
Sweden	EUR 50,000	58,467	Capacity building on enforcement requested by Yemen
Switzerland	CHF 4,900	4,920	Work on disposal of confiscated illegal trade specimens
Switzerland: confederation & MA	CHF 600,000	612,842	Convention support for programme of work sub-items B to E
UK DEFRA (2017)	USD 25,000	24,643	Study on Asian big cats
UK		17,440	Contribution towards the Lion listing proposal - CMS
UK		2,227,102	Funding for ICCWC Strategic Programme 2016-2020. Includes coverage for ICCWC staff and a number of Decisions (some will be channelled to other ICCWC members)
United States of America: Department of State exceeded annual assessed contribution (2017)	USD 139,315	139,315	Selected CoP17 Decisions and ICCWC Support Officer

⁴ The amounts are based on the UN exchange rate at the time of funds received.

United States of America: Department of State	USD700,000		Support to global WEN meeting in 2019
Animal Welfare Institute		1,600	Contribution to fund the implementation of Decisions 17.171-172 regarding ivory stockpiles management and disposal, in response to SC69 doc. 51.3
The Born Free Foundation		3,200	Contribution to fund the implementation of Decisions 17.171-172 regarding ivory stockpiles management and disposal, in response to SC69 doc. 51.3
David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation		1,600	Contribution to fund the implementation of Decisions 17.171-172 regarding ivory stockpiles management and disposal, in response to SC69 doc. 51.3
Fondation Franz Weber		2,384	Contribution to fund the implementation of Decisions 17.171-172 regarding ivory stockpiles management and disposal, in response to SC69 doc. 51.3
International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW)		1,600	Contribution to fund the implementation of Decisions 17.171-172 regarding ivory stockpiles management and disposal, in response to SC69 doc. 51.3
Natural Resources Defense Council		2,400	Contribution to fund the implementation of Decisions 17.171-172 regarding ivory stockpiles management and disposal, in response to SC69 doc. 51.3
Species Survival Network		1,600	Contribution to fund the implementation of Decisions 17.171-172 regarding ivory stockpiles management and disposal, in response to SC69 doc. 51.3
Stop Ivory		4,000	Contribution to fund the implementation of Decisions 17.171-172 regarding ivory stockpiles management and disposal, in response to SC69 doc. 51.3

Report on the progress of implementation of Decision 17.13

8. The Secretariat has benefited from seconded staff and other personnel support since SC69 (see Table 2 below):

Table 2. Personnel support received since SC69 (confirmed as at 2 August 2018)

Personnel support (duration)	Indicative USD (per annum, except interns)⁵
Germany: Junior Professional Officer - flora (P-2, since May 2018)	82,200
Self-funded interns (4 interns during 2017-2018 , 3-6 months each)	81,200
Total:	163,400

9. The Secretariat expresses its sincere thanks to the relevant Parties for their generous financial and in-kind support. Other Parties, governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other entities are respectfully encouraged to do the same.
10. As seen in Table 1 above, the Secretariat has benefited from the continued generosity of donor Parties, which allows the Convention to secure over 60% of the indicative budget in the programme work. The large number of activities supported by a diverse range of donors may at times incur the need for dedicated

⁵ The figures for interns were calculated on the basis of estimates using a monthly rate of a consultancy of an equivalent level.

personnel, both in terms of professional level staff acting as project managers, as well as administrative level staff acting as project assistants.

11. Successfully utilizing external funds in a responsible and efficient way itself requires effort and resources. The importance of the dedicated administrative staff to act as project assistants, particularly those trained for UMOJA-related tasks, is vital for ensuring that the contributions are managed and used in a timely, efficient and impactful manner. For example, the budgets for the EU CoP17 Decisions project and the US Compliance and law enforcement project provided for a part-time project assistant, while the EU-funded project on CITES-listed tree species allowed for a single full-time project assistant.

Report on the progress of implementation of Decision 17.14

12. No funding has been made 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. The Decision has therefore not been implemented.
13. Considering that the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) is starting its latest study *Thematic assessment on sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity*, there may be renewed interest by Parties to reconsider the organization of the roundtable. The Standing Committee may therefore wish to renew this mandate in the new set of Decisions.

Recommendation

14. The Secretariat invites the Standing Committee to:
 - a) take note of the present document and the progress made in implementing Decisions 17.12 to 17.15;
 - b) welcome the generous support of donors for the implementation of the Convention;
 - c) welcome the successful outcome of the GEF-7 replenishment and the work of the Global Wildlife Program to date; and
 - d) review the draft decisions on external funding contained in the Annex to the present document and recommend them for adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its 18th meeting (CoP18).

DRAFT DECISIONS OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

External Funding

Directed to Parties

- 18.AA Parties are invited to second staff to the CITES Secretariat noting that the salary of seconded personnel shall be covered by the Party, with such personnel remaining under the administrative authority of the sending Party. Seconded personnel shall carry out their duties and act in the interest of the mandate of the CITES Secretariat.
- 18.BB 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 enhance access to GEF funding through the Global Wildlife Programme (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 Programme 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

- 18.CC 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.DD 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 manner.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 18.EE The Secretariat shall:
- a) continue to participate in the Programme Steering Committee of the GEF Global Wildlife Programme to ensure that GEF projects under the program 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.FF 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.GG The Secretariat shall report on the progress on the implementation of Decisions 18. AA and 18.BB 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.HH The Standing Committee shall review the progress of implementation of Decisions 18.AA through 18.GG and make recommendations as necessary to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.