

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

Fifth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties

Buenos Aires (Argentina), 22 April to 3 May 1985

Financing and Budgeting of the Secretariat and of Meetings
of the Conference of the Parties

HEADQUARTERS MATTERS

Note from the Secretariat

1. At the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Gaborone, 1983) the Secretariat reported in document Doc. 4.12, on the status of headquarters matters mainly with respect to negotiations with the Government of Switzerland.
2. At the eleventh meeting of the Standing Committee held in Gland, Switzerland (2-5 July, 1984) the representative of Switzerland made an official statement indicating that his Government had agreed to provide tax exemption for the organization and for its staff other than Swiss citizens.
3. However, in the light of the decision of the Standing Committee to request the Executive Director of UNEP to absorb the CITES Secretariat as a unit of UNEP, and the acceptance by the Executive Director of the recommendation, it has not been necessary to enter into negotiations for the implementation of the decision of the Government of Switzerland.
4. The Secretariat wishes to express its most sincere gratitude to the Government of Switzerland for its constant co-operation on this issue and notes with appreciation the favourable decision rendered.

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As this document constitutes the final one to be discussed in relation to the financing and budgeting of the Secretariat and of meetings of the Conference of the Parties, the Secretariat submits to the attention of the Parties, as Annex 1 to this document, a draft resolution on the financing and budgeting of the Secretariat and of meetings of the Conference of the Parties.

DRAFT RESOLUTION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

Financing and Budgeting of the Secretariat and of Meetings
of the Conference of the Parties

RECALLING Resolutions Conf. 4.2 and Conf. 4.3 adopted at the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Gaborone, 1983);

HAVING REVIEWED the 1983 and 1984 accounts and the 1986-87 budget estimates submitted by the Secretariat;

HAVING REVIEWED the 1986-1989 medium term budget estimates;

NOTING with appreciation Decision 7/14 E adopted by the Governing Council of UNEP in 1979;

RECOGNIZING that in line with the above mentioned decision, regular funding by UNEP has ceased after 1983 and that the funding of the Secretariat and of meetings of the Conference of the Parties is now the sole responsibility of the Parties;

ACKNOWLEDGING with appreciation the support provided by UNEP, with the assistance of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN), to the Secretariat;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the procedure for amendment of the Convention has been initiated with a view to adoption of financial provisions, but that the number of acceptances necessary to bring the amendment into force has not yet been obtained;

RECOGNIZING that the Parties meanwhile shall formulate interim procedures regarding their financial participation, until the adoption and entry into force of such an amendment;

RECOGNIZING the continuing need for an arrangement between the Parties and the Executive Director of UNEP;

NOTING the considerable increase in numbers of organizations attending the meetings of the Conference of the Parties as observers, and the resulting additional expenditure;

THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION

APPROVES the 1983 and 1984 accounts;

APPROVES the 1986-87 budget;

TAKES NOTE of the 1986-89 medium term budget estimates;

REQUESTS that the Executive Director of UNEP continue, with the approval of the Governing Council of UNEP, a Trust Fund to provide financial support for the aims of the Convention in accordance with the Terms of Reference for the Administration of the Trust Fund for the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, attached in the Annex;

RECOMMENDS that the Terms of Reference attached in the Annex serve as a basis for contributions during the financial period beginning 1 January 1986 and ending 31 December 1987;

EMPHASIZES to the Parties the importance of making their contributions to the Trust Fund promptly by the beginning of the respective calendar year or financial period to which the contributions apply or, if this is not possible, as soon thereafter as possible;

URGES all Parties which have not yet done so to deposit as soon as possible an instrument of acceptance of the amendment of 22 June 1979;

INVITES states not Party to the Convention, other governmental, inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations, and other sources to consider contributing to the Trust Fund;

DECIDES that the standard participation charge of US\$ 50, from all observer organizations other than the United Nations and its specialized agencies (except as otherwise reduced by the Standing Committee as required), as decided at the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties (New Delhi, 1981) be maintained;

RECOMMENDS that the present financial structure, which includes the budget, the medium term plan, the scale of contributions and the Terms of Reference for the Administration of the Trust Fund be maintained after the coming into force of the financial amendment; and

APPROVES the Secretariat report.

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE TRUST FUND
FOR THE CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED
SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA

1. The Trust Fund for the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (hereinafter referred to as the Trust Fund) shall be continued for a period of two years to provide financial support for the aims of the Convention.
2. Pursuant to the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), with the approval of the Governing Council, shall continue the Trust Fund for the administration of the Convention.
3. The financial period shall be for two calendar years beginning 1 January 1986, and ending 31 December 1987. The appropriations of the Trust Fund for the financial period shall be financed from:
 - a) the contributions made by the Parties by reference to Table 1*, including contributions from any new Parties which are to be added to Table 1*;
 - b) contributions from states not Party to the Convention, other governmental, inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations and other sources; and
 - c) any uncommitted appropriations from the 1984-1985 financial period.
4. The budget estimates covering the income and expenditure for each of the two calendar years constituting the financial period to which they relate, prepared in US dollars, shall be submitted to the regular meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention.
5. The estimates of each of the calendar years covered by the financial period shall be divided into sections and chapters; shall be specified according to budget lines; shall include references to the programmes of work to which they relate; and shall be accompanied by such information as may be required by, or on behalf of, the contributors, and such further information as the Executive Director of UNEP may deem useful and advisable. In particular, estimates shall also be prepared for each programme of work for each of the calendar years, with expenditure itemized for each programme so as to correspond to the sections, chapters, and budget lines described in the first sentence of this paragraph. The sum of the programme estimates shall equal the sum of the estimates described in the first sentence of this paragraph.
6. In addition to the budget estimates for the financial period described in the preceding paragraphs, the Secretary General of the Convention, in consultation with the Standing Committee and the Executive Director of UNEP, shall prepare a medium term plan as envisaged in Chapter III of

* Table 1 will be the Scale of Contributions for the Biennium 1986-1987 adopted by the Conference of the Parties. (Note from the Secretariat).

Legislative and Financial Texts Regarding The United Nations Environment Programme and the Environment Fund. The medium term plan will cover the years 1986-1989, inclusive, and will incorporate the budget for the 1986-1987 financial period.

7. The proposed budget and medium term plan shall be dispatched by the Secretariat to all Parties at least ninety days before the date fixed for the opening of the regular meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
8. The budget and medium term plan shall be adopted by a 3/4 majority of the Parties present and voting at the regular meeting.
9. In the event that the Executive Director of UNEP anticipates that there might be a shortfall in resources, over the year as a whole, he shall consult with the Secretary General, who shall seek the advice of the Standing Committee as to its priorities for expenditure.
10. Upon the request of the Secretary General, after seeking the advice of the Standing Committee, the Executive Director of UNEP should, to the extent consistent with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, make transfers from one budget line to another. At the end of the first calendar year of a financial period, the Executive Director of UNEP may proceed to transfer any uncommitted balance of appropriations to the second calendar year, provided that the total budget approved by the Parties shall not be exceeded unless this is specifically sanctioned in writing by the Standing Committee.
11. All contributions shall be paid in convertible currencies. Contributions from states that become Parties after the beginning of the financial period should be made on a pro-rata basis for the balance of the financial period.
12. At the end of each calendar year of a financial period, the Executive Director of UNEP shall submit to the Parties the accounts for the year. He shall also submit, as soon as practicable, the audited accounts for the financial period.
13. Those financial reports now required to be submitted to the Executive Director of UNEP shall be transmitted simultaneously by the Secretary General of the Convention to members of the Standing Committee.
14. The Secretary General of the Convention shall provide the Standing Committee with an estimate of proposed expenditure over the coming quarter simultaneously with, or as soon as possible after, distribution of the accounts and reports referred to in the preceding paragraphs.
15. The general procedures governing the operations of the Fund of UNEP and the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations shall govern the financial operations of the Trust Fund for the Convention.
16. These Terms of Reference shall be effective for the financial period of 1 January 1986 to 31 December 1987.