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

Fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
Doha (Qatar), 13-25 March 2010

Administrative matters

Financing and budgeting of the Secretariat and of meetings of the Conference of the Parties

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COSTED PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2009

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.

2. Annex 1 to this report shows the costed programme of work (CPW) of the Secretariat for 2009. It identifies its core and its non-core activities, ranked by the Finance and Budget Subcommittee and adopted by the Standing Committee as high, medium or low priority, as well as the method of implementation for the activities with the corresponding funding from the Trust Fund or external sources.

3. A total amount of USD 320,000 from the Trust Fund which was originally budgeted for 2010 for the logistical arrangements of the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP15) was transferred to 2009. These funds are reflected in Activity 40 of the CPW and were committed for the contractual arrangements with interpreters, rapporteurs, translators and secretarial assistance during the meeting and for the translation costs of CoP15 documents.

4. Trust Fund expenditure for 2009, including the programme support costs, amounted to USD 5.22 million, which is 99.13% of the budget of USD 5.27 million. As in the previous year, staff costs were higher than projected owing to the devaluation of the US dollar against the Swiss franc. This was offset by savings from the technical meetings and operating costs such as travel, office supplies and equipment, communications and hospitality. Furthermore, implementation of activities funded by both the Trust Fund and external funds resulted in the Trust Fund savings. The external funds received from various donors facilitated the implementation of various activities identified in the CPW without the use of the Trust Fund resources.

5. The sources of external funds are identified in Annex 1 as well along with the funds secured for each activity. The European Commission provided funding for an important number of activities, which include the implementation of selected CoP14 Decisions for a total amount of EUR 500,000 (equivalent to USD 684,500) and strengthening the CITES implementation capacity of developing countries for an amount of EUR 1 million with follow-up funding of EUR 1.5 million (equivalent to a total of USD 3.58 million). Other major donors are Denmark, France, Hong Kong SAR (China), Japan, Norway, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America, which continue to provide funding for overall capacity building, science-related activities, national legislation, enforcement, the sponsored delegates project and the MIKE programme.

6. Expenditure for each activity funded by external sources is also shown in Annex 1, amounting to a total of USD 3.09 million. Any unspent balance for each activity will be carried over to the same or a similar activity of the CPW for 2010. The donors will be consulted about the use of the funds in these cases.

7. Annexes 2 and 3 show the paid contributions for 2009. They amount to USD 5,113,430 and represent payments of USD 4,704,262 for the current year, USD 208,637 for prior years and USD 200,530 for future years. The Secretariat continues to send out reminders twice a year to Parties in arrears, with copies to
their permanent missions in Geneva. A report on the non-payment of contributions is provided in document CoP15 Doc. 6.6.

8. Annex 4 presents the provisional *Statement of income and expenditure and changes in reserve and fund balances* of the CITES Trust Fund for 2009. The balance of the Trust Fund reserve as of 31 December 2009 was USD 2,008,428, of which USD 700,000 represents the minimum operating cash reserve.