



NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2024/055

Geneva, 22 April 2024

CONCERNING:

TWENTIETH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES (COP20)

Call for financial contributions

1. The Secretariat recalls that it has invited Parties to offer to host the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP20), noting that the CoP must take place before the end of 2025.
2. In the absence of an offer to host CoP20 so far, the Standing Committee agreed at its 77th meeting (SC77, Geneva, November 2023) that the Secretariat should take steps to organize the meeting in Geneva in accordance with paragraph 32 a) of Resolution Conf. 19.1 on *Financing and the costed programme of work for the Secretariat for the triennium 2023-2025*, to ensure that the lengthy procurement process is initiated and avoid risking that CoP20 doesn't take place on time.
3. The core budget of the Convention does not provide sufficient funds to organize a meeting of the CoP in Geneva. The operational budget for 2025 includes an amount of USD 30,000 for logistics support to CoP20. The Standing Committee has been informed that, whilst funds can be mobilized from the fund balance of the core Trust Fund in the short term to cover the basic costs for organizing the CoP in Geneva, there will be a need to raise additional funds from the Parties to the Convention to replenish the Trust Fund.
4. The following main items require supplementary funding support:
 - Conference venue and basic facilities: rental of the venue, furniture, room dividers, power connections, Wi-Fi router and access points for around 9,000 devices normally used in a CoP.
 - Security: both UN and private security personnel and equipment, including X-ray scanners for the entrance to the meeting facility.
 - Electronic voting system: Secure hardware and software including specialized microphones with voting cards for the two Committee rooms, and professional operators of the system.
 - Audio-visual equipment: screens and projectors in the two Committee rooms, cameras for big screens, information notice displays, sound systems for the two Committee and microphones and sound systems for the breakout rooms, live-streaming from the two Committee rooms.
 - Miscellaneous: Signage for directions, hospitality (e.g., water dispensers), office equipment, and a contingency reserve.

Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)

Postal address:
CITES Secretariat
Palais des Nations
Avenue de la Paix 8-14
1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland

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5. The Secretariat has estimated that USD 1,8-2,0 million will be required to cover the above. Parties and other stakeholders are kindly invited to explore the possibility of providing an extrabudgetary voluntary contribution to cover the additional costs that will be incurred due to the lack of a host for CoP20. The Secretariat thanks the Parties and other donors in advance for their support.