

Gorilla Agreement

Third Meeting of the Parties

18-20 June 2019, Entebbe, Uganda



Agenda Item 17: Institutional Arrangements for the Gorilla Agreement

Background

- **2007**
 - The Meeting to Negotiate an Agreement on the Conservation of Gorillas and Their Habitats under CMS requested the CMS Standing Committee to mandate the CMS Secretariat to provide interim secretariat services
- **2008**
 - Standing Committee at its 32nd Meeting instructed the CMS Secretariat to serve as interim secretariat
 - MOP1 agreed “to recommend to the Conference of the Parties (COP) that the CMS Secretariat should continue to act as secretariat for the Agreement, and that the role of GRASP in providing secretariat services should be explicitly mentioned in the recommendation”
- **2011**
 - MOP2 requested the CMS Secretariat to continue acting as the Interim Secretariat for the next triennium (Resolution 2.3)
- **2017**
 - CMS COP12 confirmed that the CMS Secretariat would continue to provide secretariat services to the Gorilla Agreement in the next triennium (Resolution 12.02)

Resolution 2.3

2. Instructs the Interim Secretariat to investigate future options for the administrative arrangements for the Gorilla Agreement Secretariat, including, but not limited to the following:
- A Party hosting the permanent Secretariat.
 - Another institution or organization, such as UNEP or GRASP taking on the role of permanent Secretariat.
 - The CMS Secretariat remaining as the Interim Secretariat, while seeking formal or informal arrangements with other institutions to provide support and secretariat services to the Agreement.
 - The CMS Secretariat acting as the permanent Secretariat, while looking for synergies with other institutions in the implementation of the Agreement's activities, for example, in holding joint meetings, or undertaking joint activities.
3. Instructs the Interim Secretariat to prepare a formal proposal for consideration and possible adoption at MOP3.

a) A Party to host

b) Another institution to host

c) CMS remains as the Interim Secretariat

d) CMS as the permanent secretariat

Funding Requirements

a) A Party hosting the Permanent Secretariat

Funding requirements depend on the salary, space, availability of office facilities, the level of in-kind contribution for the running costs of the Secretariat.

b) Another institution or organization, such as UNEP or GRASP taking on the role of permanent Secretariat

In case of UNEP or GRASP hosting the secretariat, the funding requirements would be similar to the CMS Secretariat

c) The CMS Secretariat remaining as the Interim Secretariat, while seeking formal or informal arrangements with other institutions to provide support and secretariat services to the Agreement

For detailed costs see UNEP/GA/MOP.3/Doc.18

d) The CMS Secretariat acting as the permanent Secretariat, while looking for synergies with other institutions in the implementation of the Agreement's activities, for example, in holding joint meetings, or undertaking joint activities

For detailed costs see UNEP/GA/MOP.3/Doc.18

Basic Costs for Options c) and d)

- **Total:** Approximately €65,000 per year (exclusive of PSC)
 - **Core staff time:** €42,000 per year (exclusive of PSC)
 - 10 % of the Programme Officer's time at P4-level
 - 20 % of Programme Officer's time at P2-level; and
 - 5 % of the Administrative Assistant's time at G4-level.
 - **Supporting staff time:** € 20,000 per year (exclusive of PSC)
 - 4 % of the Executive Secretary's time at D1-level;
 - 3 % of the Administrative and Funds Management Officer's time at P4-level;
 - 3 % of the Finance Assistant's time at G6-level;
 - 2 % of the Information Management Officer's time at P2-level; and
 - 2 % of the Conference Service Officer's time at G5-level.
 - **Operational cost:** €2,900 per year (exclusive of PSC)

a. A Party hosting the Permanent Secretariat

- What it means?

- The Party to provide: Office facilities, equipment, staff, and potentially running costs of the Secretariat

- Existing Cases

- Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans in the Black Sea Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area (ACCOBAMS)
- Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP)

- Impacts

- The party to prepare an offer to host the Agreement
- The party to cover personnel costs, office space and running expenses as agreed by MOP
- The Gorilla Agreement Parties to provide annual contributions for MOP and activities
- The Secretariat to raise voluntary funds

**a) A Party
to host**

b. Another institution or organization, such as UNEP or GRASP taking on the role of permanent Secretariat

- **What it means?**
 - Another institution may provide: staff, facilities, office equipment, support communication, administrative services such as human resources and procurement services
- **Existing Cases**
 - Agreement on the Conservation of Seals in the Wadden Sea
 - Agreement on the Conservation of Populations of European Bats (EUROBATS)
 - Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA)
- **Impacts**
 - The Parties to the Agreement jointly bear the costs of running the Secretariat
 - Personnel costs might be borne by the institution concerned
 - The Gorilla Agreement Parties to provide annual contributions for MOP and activities
 - The Secretariat to raise voluntary funds for activities

b) Another institution to host

c) The CMS Secretariat remaining as the Interim Secretariat, while seeking formal or informal arrangements with other institutions to provide support and secretariat services to the Agreement

- **What it means?**
 - CMS Secretariat may partially provide staff costs, office equipment, communication, web hosting
- **Existing Cases**
 - Gorilla Agreement
- **Impacts**
 - The Agreement secretariat can benefit from the office arrangements of the CMS Secretariat, including personnel
 - Secretariat arrangements can be reviewed more easily and adapted as necessary
 - The Parties should pay annual contributions to assure sustainability of the Interim Secretariat

**c) CMS remains
as the Interim
Secretariat**

d) The CMS Secretariat acting as the permanent Secretariat, while looking for synergies with other institutions in the implementation of the Agreement's activities, for example, in holding joint meetings, or undertaking joint activities

- **What it means?**
 - Parties to the Agreement are expected to provide core staff costs
 - CMS Secretariat may provide in-kind contributions to partially cover personnel and other operational costs
- **Existing Cases**
 - Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas (ASCOBANS)
- **Impacts**
 - The Agreement secretariat can benefit from the office arrangements of the CMS Secretariat, including personnel

d) CMS as the permanent secretariat

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Summary

Options	a.: A Party hosting the permanent Secretariat.	b.: Another institution or organization, such as UNEP or GRASP taking on the role of permanent Secretariat.	c.: The CMS Secretariat remaining as the Interim Secretariat, while seeking formal or informal arrangements with other institutions	d.: The CMS Secretariat acting as the permanent Secretariat, while looking for synergies with other institutions
Features	A Party will host the Agreement Secretariat.	An existing organization will host the Agreement Secretariat.	The CMS Secretariat remains as the Interim Secretariat.	The CMS Secretariat becomes the Permanent Secretariat
Financial implication	A Host Government is expected to cover personnel and operational costs. The Parties' contribution may cover remaining personnel and operational costs as well as activities.	The host organization is expected to provide at least personnel costs as well as required office space and supplies. The Parties' contributions could cover remaining personnel and operational costs as well as necessary office supplies.	In principle, Parties are expected to pay for the personnel and operational costs as well as for the activities. As the Interim Secretariat, the CMS Secretariat could continue providing staff time and existing office supplies as in-kind contribution (see Doc.18) as a temporary solution to improve the financial status of the Agreement.	In principle, Parties are expected to pay for the personnel and operational costs as well as for the activities. As the Permanent Secretariat, the CMS Secretariat could offer to provide staff time and existing office supplies as in-kind contribution (see Doc.18) as a temporary solution to improve the financial status of the Agreement.
Institutional implication	The Secretariat would be institutionally independent of the CMS Secretariat.	The Secretariat would be institutionally independent from the CMS Secretariat if it is an independent organization. If it is UNEP or GRASP, institutional linkages may remain with the CMS Secretariat.	The Agreement Secretariat would be hosted by the CMS Secretariat. It may benefit from closer linkages with the Secretariats of other CMS instruments.	The Agreement Secretariat would be hosted by the CMS Secretariat. It may benefit from closer linkages with the Secretariats of other CMS instruments.
Required process	At least one offer from a Host Government is required. Based on the offer, MOP may decide to accept it or not. Once the offer is accepted, the Host Government would need to ensure personnel and operational costs are met.	Parties would identify and request another organization to host the Secretariat through a Resolution. The organization's decision-making body would need to accept the request.	MOP would need to renew the mandate of the Interim Secretariat through a Resolution until it decides on a permanent solution.	MOP would need to renew the mandate of the Interim Secretariat through a Resolution until permission is obtained from CMS COP to establish the CMS Secretariat as the permanent Secretariat of the Gorilla Agreement.

Recommendations

- Parties are invited to:
 - Consider the options presented;
 - Decide on an institutional arrangement in the best way forward for the conservation of Gorillas;
 - Adopt the draft Resolution in Annex I of Doc.17.





| Thank you