



# Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals



## RESOLUTION 6.6\*

### INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS: STANDING COMMITTEE

Adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its Sixth Meeting (Cape Town, 10-16 November 1999)

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*Recalling* Resolutions 1.1, 2.5 and 3.7 establishing and governing the Standing Committee and, in particular, the composition of its membership;

*Desiring* to ensure that the membership reflects the numbers and conservation interests of Parties in each main geographic region and, as far as possible, a fair balance with the extent of the geographical coverage and with the richness and diversity of migratory species within each region;

*Also desiring* to ensure as far as possible both continuity and efficient rotation in the membership of the Committee;

*Wishing* to encourage the participation of new Parties of the Convention as soon as possible after their accession; and

*Acknowledging* the desirability of having clear, concise and consolidated Rules of Procedure governing the Standing Committee;

*The Conference of the Parties to the  
Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals*

1. *Resolves* to re-establish the Standing Committee of the Conference of the Parties and establish terms of reference as follows:

Within the policy agreed to by the Conference of the Parties (COP), the Standing Committee shall:

(a) Provide general policy, operational and financial direction to the Secretariat concerning the implementation and the expansion of the Convention;

(b) Carry out, between one meeting of the Conference of the Parties and the next, such interim activities on behalf of the Conference as may be necessary or explicitly assigned to it;

(c) Provide guidance and advice to the Secretariat on the preparation of agendas and other requirements of meetings and on any other matters brought to it by the Secretariat in the exercise of its function;

(d) Oversee, on behalf of the Parties, the development and execution of the budget of the Secretariat as derived from the Trust Fund and other sources and also all aspects of fund-raising undertaken by the Secretariat in order to carry out specific functions authorized by the Conference of the Parties, and oversee expenditures of such fund-raising activities;

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\* The original draft of this resolution, considered by the Conference of the Parties, was numbered 6.5.

(e) Represent the Conference of the Parties, vis-à-vis the Government of the host country of the Secretariat's headquarters, the United Nations Environment Programme and other international organizations for consideration of matters relating to the Convention and its Secretariat;

(f) Submit at each ordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties a written report on its work since the previous ordinary meeting;

(g) Make recommendations or draft resolutions, as appropriate, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties;

2. *Determines* the following principles for the composition of and voting procedures to be followed by the Standing Committee:

(a) The Membership of the Standing Committee shall be agreed at each meeting of the Conference of the Parties in accordance with the Rules of Procedure and shall comprise:

- (i) two Parties elected from each of the geographic regions of Africa and Europe;
- (ii) one Party elected from each of the geographic regions of Asia, Central and South America, North America and the Caribbean, and Oceania;
- (iii) the Depositary Government; and
- (iv) where appropriate, the Host Government of the next meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

(b) Each meeting of the Conference of the Parties shall elect eight regional representatives to serve as alternate members and, in particular, to attend the meetings of the Standing Committee in the absence of the member of the region for which they are the alternate member;

(c) The term of office of regional members and alternates shall expire at the close of the next ordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties following the meeting at which they were originally elected. Regional members may not serve more than two consecutive terms of office;

(d) This procedure will be initiated with terms commencing at the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. Subject to the stated intentions of the regions, existing regional members elected at the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to serve until the end of the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties can continue to serve for the whole of their original terms of office;

(e) If an extraordinary meeting or a special meeting of the Conference of the Parties is held between two regular meetings, the host Party of that meeting shall participate in the work of the Committee on matters related to the organization of the meeting;

(f) Parties not members of the Committee shall be entitled to be represented at meetings of the Committee by an observer who shall have the right to participate but not to vote;

(g) The Chairman may invite any person or representative of any other country or organization to participate in meetings of the Committee as an observer without the right to vote;

(h) The Secretariat shall inform all Parties of the date and venue of Standing Committee meetings;

- (i) The Committee shall, by consensus, establish its own rules of procedure; and
- (j) The Secretary for the Committee shall be provided by the Secretariat of the Convention.

3. *Requests* the Secretariat to make provision in budgets for the payment, upon request, of reasonable and justifiable travel expenses of nominated representatives from the group of countries which have been identified by the responsible organs of the Convention as being eligible for travel assistance and from the next host Party (should that also qualify for funding). Within the policy agreed by the Conference of the Parties, the Secretariat:

(a) Shall make provisions for payment of travel costs for regional members from the group of eligible developing countries and countries with economies in transition (or alternate members deputising for them) to attend a maximum of one Standing Committee per calendar year;

(b) Shall refund travel expenses, upon request, to no more than one representative of a Party at any one meeting of the Standing Committee;

(c) May refund to the Chairman of the Standing Committee all reasonable and justifiable travel expenses for travel undertaken on behalf of the Conference of the Parties or on behalf of the Secretariat;

(d) May pay refunds in United States dollars;

(e) Shall receive claims for refunds, supported by receipts, which must be submitted to the Secretariat within thirty calendar days of the completion of the travel; and

(f) Shall endeavour, to the extent possible, to obtain external funding for travel expenses.

4. *Decides* that Resolutions 2.5 and 3.7 are hereby repealed.