

**CONVENTION ON
MIGRATORY
SPECIES**

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UNEP/CMS/Resolution 8.3*

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

**FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS AND TERMS OF REFERENCE
FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE TRUST FUND FOR THE CONVENTION
ON THE CONSERVATION OF MIGRATORY SPECIES OF WILD ANIMALS**

Adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its Eighth Meeting (Nairobi, 20-25 November 2005)

Recalling Article VII, paragraph 4, of the Convention, which reads as follows:

“The Conference of the Parties shall establish and keep under review the financial regulations of this Convention. The Conference of the Parties shall, at each of its ordinary meetings, adopt the budget for the next financial period. Each Party shall contribute to this budget according to a scale to be agreed upon by the Conference”;

Acknowledging with appreciation the financial and other support provided in the previous triennium by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Parties to the Convention, and giving special thanks to the Host Government (Germany) and the Governments of France, Italy, Monaco and the United Kingdom for their substantial additional voluntary contributions in support of special measures and projects aimed at improving implementation of the Convention, and other support offered to the organs of the Convention;

Following the recommendations of the Standing Committee;

Recognizing the need to provide sufficient resources to enable the Secretariat of the Convention to enable it to carry out the Convention’s work programme set out in the Strategic Plan and to serve its Parties in all regions;

Recognizing also that the working capital reserve has been almost exhausted in order to carry out the programme agreed at the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties in 2002;

Noting the adverse effects of exchange rate fluctuations and the need to protect the funds of the Convention from the reduced value of income as a result of the considerable existing and predicted further decline in the value of the United States dollar against the euro;

Aware of the particular situation and the difficult conditions under which the Secretariat will have to work through the coming triennium;

Expressing thanks to the Standing Committee and its Budget Working group for producing several budget scenarios for adoption by the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, Nairobi, 2005;

* Revised version March 2006.

Appreciating the importance of all Parties being able to participate in the implementation of the Convention and related activities; and

Noting the considerable number of Parties and also organizations attending the meeting of the Conference of the Parties as observers and the resulting additional expenditure to Parties so incurred;

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

1. *Confirms* that all Parties shall contribute to the budget adopted at the scale agreed upon by the Conference of the Parties in accordance with Article VII, paragraph 4, of the Convention;
2. *Adopts* the budget for 2006 to 2008 attached as annex I to the present resolution;
3. *Agrees* to the scale of contributions of Parties to the Convention as listed in annex II to the present resolution and to the application of that scale pro rata to new Parties;
4. *Agrees* that all contributions to the Trust Fund shall be paid in euros;
5. *Agrees* that there shall be maintained a working capital at a constant level of at least 15 per cent of estimated annual expenditure or \$500,000, whichever is higher;
6. *Requests* all Parties to pay their contributions as promptly as possible preferably not later than the end of March in the year to which they relate and, if they so wish, to inform the Secretariat whether they would prefer to receive a single invoice covering the whole triennium;
7. *Agrees* that those Parties wishing to do so, may pay their contributions in three equal instalments;
8. *Agrees* to set the threshold of eligibility for funding delegates to attend the Convention's meetings at 0.200 per cent on the United Nations scale of assessment in the following order of priority for the allocation of funding:
 - (a) Countries lowest on the scale, and others with no unpaid pledges to the Convention, in ascending order up to the 0.200 per cent threshold;
 - (b) Countries with unpaid pledges to the Convention in ascending order on the scale, up to the 0.200 per cent threshold; and
 - (c) Non-Party developing countries, Range States and countries actively preparing accession that had not previously received a subsidy to attend a meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;
9. *Approves* the medium-term plan for 2006 to 2011 attached as annex III to the present resolution and the programme outlined in the Strategic Plan (Resolution 8.2, Nairobi, 2005);
10. *Instructs* the Executive Secretary to service the implementation of the 2006-2011 Strategic Plan (as adopted in resolution 8.2) as an entity within available resources;
11. *Instructs* the Standing Committee to keep the status of the Trust Fund under regular review;

12. *Instructs* the Executive Secretary to use all opportunities to improve the flow of income (including for conservation and implementation projects) and the savings throughout the period 2006–2008, in order, *inter alia*, to present a balanced budget for the next triennium 2009–2011;
13. *Invites* Parties to consider the feasibility of financing Junior Professional Officers or providing interns, volunteers and technical experts to the Secretariat to increase its technical capacity in accordance with the United Nations rules and regulations and to agree on providing modest funding within the approved budget of the Convention to cover the difference in cost and applicable UNEP overhead charges for such staff;
14. *Encourages* all Parties to make voluntary contributions to the Trust Funds to support requests from developing countries to participate in and implement the Convention throughout the triennium;
15. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to provide Parties with a detailed list of core ongoing and future activities and projects not covered by the core budget, to assist Parties to identify those they intend to fund;
16. *Requests* the Secretariat to allocate the contributions of Parties that accede to the Convention after 1 January 2006 towards the funding of projects not covered by the core budget;
17. *Encourages* States not Parties to the Convention, governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other sources to consider contributing to the Trust Fund referred to below or to special activities;
18. *Takes note* of document UNEP/CMS/Conf.8.18 on the execution of the budget of the Convention in the triennium 2003–2005 and expresses its concern over the increase in outstanding unpaid pledges to the Trust Fund and urges the Governments concerned to pay their contributions in a timely manner;
19. *Decides* that representatives from countries with contributions in arrears three years or more should be excluded from holding office in Convention bodies and denied the right to vote; and *requests* the Executive Secretary to explore with these Parties innovative approaches for the identification of possible funding to resolve their arrears prior to the next meeting;
20. *Approves* the upgrading of the Information clerk post to Senior Information/Media Assistant, subject to the classification of the post by the United Nations;
21. *Requests* the Executive Director of UNEP to extend the duration of the Trust Fund to 31 December 2008 and to establish a new CMS Trust Fund for Voluntary Contributions;
22. *Invites* the Executive Director of UNEP to consider, on a case-by-case basis, to reduce the Programme Support Costs on voluntary contributions paid to the new CMS Trust Fund Voluntary Contributions for the implementation of activities;
23. *Encourages* the CMS Secretariat to submit a list of project proposals to the Executive Director of UNEP for consideration and possible financial support; and
24. *Approves* the terms of reference for the administration of the Trust Fund, as set forth in annex IV to the present resolution, for the period 2006 to 2008.