



13th MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE
03 - 05 July 2018, The Hague, the Netherlands

DRAFT RESOLUTION 7.XX (StC/DR12)¹

FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Recalling the provisions of Article V, Paragraph 2 (a) and (b), of the Agreement, relating to budgetary matters,

Acknowledging with appreciation the financial and other support provided by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany for hosting the Agreement Secretariat, which is co-located with the Secretariat of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals in Bonn,

Recognising the importance of all Parties being able to participate in the implementation of the Agreement and related activities,

Appreciating the additional support given by various Parties and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations on a voluntary basis to implement the Agreement,

Taking note with appreciation of the generous pledge from the Government of Norway to cover the costs of the Associate Programme Officer for Single Species Action Plan Support for 2019,

Recognizing that the AEWA budget has been maintained as zero nominal growth budget for the duration of three budgetary periods, amounting to 10 years (MOP4 (2009-2012); MOP5 (2013-2015) and MOP6 (2016-2018)), leading to the progressive cancellation of some operational budget lines such as the Small Grants Fund,

Further recognizing that accordingly the annual contributions of Contracting Parties have not increased since 2009,

Noting that the current level of the Trust Fund balance makes it difficult to withdraw a contribution as high as was possible at the last three sessions of the MOP,

Taking note of the method applied to develop the scale of contributions which returns to the UN scale of assessments with a gradual transitional period of six years ([Doc.AEWA/MOP7.XX](#)),

Recognising the need for resources to enable the Secretariat to play its facilitating role in implementing the AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027 and the AEWA Plan of Action for Africa 2019-2027,

Taking note of the reclassification assessment undertaken in 2016 and recommending the upgrade of five P-staff positions within the Secretariat ([Doc AEWA/MOP7 Inf.XX](#)),

Recognizing that an upgrade of all P-staff is required under the UN staff rules and regulations.

¹ The numbering of draft resolutions presented to MOP7 may change.

The Meeting of the Parties:

1. *Confirms* that Parties shall contribute to the budget adopted at the scale agreed upon by the Meeting of the Parties in accordance with Article V, Paragraph 2 (a) and (b), of the Agreement;
2. *Adopts* the budget for 2019-2021 to the amount of EUR **XX** for the year 2019, EUR **XX** for the year 2020 and EUR **XX** for the year 2021, attached as Appendix I to the present Resolution which includes a withdrawal from the Trust Fund Reserves for an amount of € **XX**;
3. *Adopts* the staffing table as per Appendix II to the present resolution;
4. *Adopts* the scale of contributions for Parties to the Agreement as listed in Appendix III to the present Resolution, and to the application of that scale *pro rata* to new Parties;
5. *Decides* that the contributions of new Parties shall be directed to the AEWA Trust Fund reserve and that the Executive Secretary, subject to approval of the Standing Committee and in urgent cases with the approval of the Chair, shall have the authority to spend funds from new Parties on activities not covered by the core budget;
6. *Decides* that the minimum contribution shall not be less than EUR 2,000 per annum and that for the period 2019-2021, the maximum contribution shall be restricted to 20 per cent of the total budget;
7. *Recognizes* that the adopted scale of contributions implies a move towards the UN scale of assessments over a period of six years and will therefore need to be continued at MOP8;
8. *Requests* the Secretariat, using the financial and staff rules and regulations of the United Nations including UNEP financial rules, and other administrative issuances promulgated by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, to develop a series of budget scenarios for further consideration by Parties at the 8th Session of the Meeting of Parties;
9. *Requests* Parties to pay their annual contributions promptly as far as possible, but in any case, not later than the end of June of the year in which they relate;
10. *Further requests* Parties, in particular those that are required to pay the minimum contribution, to consider paying for the whole triennium in one instalment;
11. *Decides* that a working capital be maintained at a level of at least 15 per cent of the estimated annual expenditure or 150,000 Euros, whichever is higher;
12. *Decides* to set the threshold of eligibility for funding of delegates to attend AEWA meetings at 0.200 on the UN Scale of Assessment and, as a general rule, to exclude countries from the European Union, European countries with strong economies and OECD countries, as listed in Appendix V attached hereto and/ or countries that have payments in arrears of more than three years;
13. *Takes note* of Resolution **7.XX** on the Adoption and Implementation of the AEWA Strategic Plan and the Plan of Action for Africa for the period 2019-2027;
14. *Urges* all Parties to make voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund to support requests from least developed countries, developing countries, countries with economies in transition and small island developing states to participate in and implement the Agreement throughout the triennium;

15. *Further urges* Contracting Parties and other partners to make an increased effort in providing additional contributions to secure urgent implementation of the Agreement, in particular implementation of the AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027 and implementation of the AEWA Plan of Action for Africa 2019-2027;
16. *Recognizes* the need to provide adequate resources to support the implementation of the AEWA Communication Strategy;
17. *Invites* States not Party to the Agreement, governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations and other sources to consider contributing to the implementation of the Agreement on a voluntary basis;
18. *Approves* as of 1 January 2019, and taking into account the UN Rules and Regulations, to:
- extend the post of the Information Assistant to 80%;
 - extend the post of the Programme Management Assistant for the African Initiative to 80%;
 - extend the post of the Coordinator of the African Initiative to 100%,
 - upgrade the post of the Associate Information Officer from P-2 to P-3, provided the costs of the upgrade will be covered by the UNEP/CMS Secretariat in the framework of the Joint CMS/AEWA Information Management, Communication and Awareness-raising Unit;
 - upgrade the post of the Executive Management Support Officer from P-2 to P-3;
 - upgrade the post of the Head of the Science, Implementation and Compliance Unit from P-3 to P-4;
 - upgrade the post of the Executive Secretary from P-4 to P-5;
19. *Decides* that the Executive Secretary shall have the authority to make staffing decisions, as necessary, to implement the priorities of the Parties in accordance with the MOP7 mandates, provided that the implications of the decisions can be met from the existing budget;
20. *Invites* Contracting Parties to consider the feasibility of providing gratis personnel and/or junior professional officers, in accordance with the United Nations rules and regulations, to strengthen the capacity of the Agreement Secretariat;
21. *Invites* the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to extend the duration of the Trust Fund to 31 December 2021;
20. *Approves* the terms of reference for the administration of the Agreement budget as set out in Appendix IV to the present Resolution for the period 2019-2021.

[Appendix I – Core Budget for the Triennium 2016-2018]

TO BE ADDED

[Appendix II – Scale of Contributions by Parties to the UNEP/AEWA Trust Fund for 2016-2018]

TO BE ADDED

[Appendix III – Terms of Reference for the Administration of the Trust Fund...]

TO BE ADDED

[Appendix IV – Eligibility for Sponsorship for AEWA Meetings]

TO BE ADDED