**AEWA SCALE OF CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2022 – 2024**

**- A first exercise -**

*prepared by the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat*

**Introduction**

At the 6th Session of the Meeting of the Parties (MOP6) in November 2015 the Parties instructed the Secretariat, through Resolution 6.18, to develop a series of budget scenarios for further consideration by Parties at the 7th Session of the Meeting of the Parties and **describe any differences between the UN Scale of Assessments and the current scale used to determine the contributions** to AEWA.

On the basis of a report prepared by the Secretariat, the Standing Committee decided at its 12th Meeting in January 2017, to recommend to the MOP, a move towards using the UN scale to determine the contributions, but to apply a number of criteria, i.e. to keep the minimum contribution of 2,000 EUR; to fix the EU contribution at 2.5 %; and to retain the maximum threshold at 20 %. At its 13th Meeting in July 2018, the Standing Committee confirmed these criteria and agreed on an approach to be recommended at MOP7 for the move towards the UN scale within a transitional period of six years in total.

At MOP7 in December 2018, the Parties adopted the Scale of contributions for 2019-2021 on the basis of the criteria and approach recommended by the Standing Committee.

At MOP8 Parties will have to decide if they wish to continue returning to the UN scale of assessments through a second (and last) transitional period in 2022-2024.

**Action Requested from the Standing Committee:**

The Standing Committee is requested to take note of the information provided in the report.

1. **General introduction**

The immediate strict application of the UN scale of assessments for the AEWA budget 2019-2021 adopted at MOP7 would have created considerable increases in the case of a number of Parties, even if the budget was maintained at a zero nominal growth level. Other countries, however, would have benefited from the application of the UN scale of assessments, although they might be willing to, at least, maintain their present level of financial commitment.

To keep the move towards the UN scale of assessments and increase of contributions in case of certain countries manageable, the Parties decided to apply following criteria and methods for the development of the scale of contributions for 2019-2021:

1. The minimum contribution was retained at 2,000 EUR;
2. The EU contribution was fixed at the original 2.5 %;
3. The maximum threshold was retained at 20 %;
4. All contributions that would decrease compared to MOP6 were frozen at their current amount. This led to a "saving".
5. The “saving” was used to decrease those Parties' contributions that would otherwise contribute more than 10 % to the total budget; contributions that fell below the amount adopted at MOP6 through this exercise were again frozen and the "saving" was used to further decrease the most affected contributions (i.e. with the highest increase);
6. The return to the UN scale of assessments was planned to be implemented through a gradual transitional period consisting of two MOP cycles (six years), through which the Parties experiencing an increase, see their contributions increase gradually year per year, respectively an increase of 30, 33 and 37 %;
7. Contributions from new Parties are directed into the AEWA Trust Fund.

Calculations were made on basis of the UN Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations for the period 2015-2018, which was the currently valid version at the time of MOP7. The question whether the UN Scale for 2015-2018 or the new (draft) Scale for 2019-2021 (which was not adopted yet at the time of MOP7) should be used as basis for the AEWA scale of contributions has been discussed controversially in the MOP7 Working Group on administrative and financial matters.

1. **Method applied to develop the scale of contributions for 2022-2024**

Annex 1 provides a table reflecting the Parties contributions for 2022-2024 (zero nominal growth) on basis of the same criteria and methods applied for 2019-2021 with following corrections, in order to fully return to the UN scale of assessments:

1. The contributions that would decrease compared to MOP7 were not frozen;
2. The contributions of Parties that contribute more than 10 % to the total budget were not decreased; however, the threshold of 20 % for the maximum contributions stays valid. Contributions were not increased gradually; the annual contributions reflect 33 %, 33 % and 34 % of the total triennial due respectively, which prevents a decrease in 2022 compared to 2021 in case of a number of Parties.

The criteria and methods described under a) – d) and g) were fully applied.

Finally, all calculations were made on basis of the UN Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations for the period 2019-2021, as adopted through Resolution 73/271 on 22 December 2018. Moreover, to facilitate a comparison with the running scale of contributions, the Secretariat worked on a zero nominal growth basis, thus using the current budget 2019-2021 as adopted by MOP7.

The Secretariat foresees a discussion at MOP8 with respect to the UN Scale of assessment to be used for calculations. As it was the case at MOP7, the scale valid at the time of discussion will be the UN Scale for 2019-2021, which will be replaced in January 2022 by the new scale for 2022-2024. However, this new scale will not be adopted yet at the time of MOP8. A solution could be to follow the decision taken by e.g. Eurobats Parties and to adopt a scale on basis of the valid UN scale (2019-2021), subject to revision by the Secretariat as soon as the UN scale for 2022-2024 will become available.

Annex 2 provides a table reflecting the same exercise as described above, but as real growth scenario (MOP7 budget + inflation).

**ANNEX 1**

**SCALE OF CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2022-2024 (zero nominal growth)[[1]](#footnote-1)**







**ANNEX 2**

**SCALE OF CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2022-2024 (real nominal growth)[[2]](#footnote-2)**





1. The calculations are based on the UN Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations for the period 2019-2021, as adopted through Resolution 73/271 on 22 December 2018. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. The calculations are based on the UN Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations for the period 2019-2021, as adopted through Resolution 73/271 on 22 December 2018. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)