



23rd MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE
26-27 June 2023, Virtual meeting format

**REPORT OF THE SECRETARIAT ON FINANCE AND
ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES**

Prepared by the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat

Introduction

At the 8th Session of the Meeting of the Parties (MOP8) in September 2022, the core budget for 2023-2025 was adopted through Resolution 8.12.

The Secretariat reported on financial and administrative matters at the 16th Standing Committee Meeting (4-6 May 2021) for the period 1 January 2019 – 24 March 2021 and presented the final expenditure situation for 2021 and the expenditures for the period 1 January 2022 – 19 May 2022 at the 21st Standing Committee Meeting on 1 June 2022.

The present document focuses on the income and expenditures for the period 1 January 2023 – 12 June 2023. To complement the report delivered at MOP8 it also contains the final expenditure situation for 2022 after closure of 2022 accounts and reports on all voluntary contributions received in 2022.

Action Requested from the Standing Committee:

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

1. Staffing (January – June 2023)

For details on the staffing situation and organisation of the Secretariat please see the Report of the Secretariat (UNEP/AEWA/StC/23.5).

2. Core Budget (AWL) - Overview of income and expenditure

Income

The assessed contributions 2023-2025 approved by MOP8 amount to 3,523,917 EUR. Since the adoption of the budget the Governments of Cameroon, Greece and Saudi Arabia joined the Agreement, which adds to the assessed contributions approved by MOP8. In accordance with Resolution 8.12 the contributions of the new Contracting Parties will be directed to the AEWA trust fund reserve. The Secretariat will submit to the Standing Committee proposals of activities to be financed through the new Parties' contributions in due course.

Annex 1 summarizes the status of collection of annual assessed contributions from Parties as at 12 June 2023. The overview shows a fairly healthy income situation. Still, unpaid pledges amount to a total of 894,214 EUR, split up as follows: 503,909 EUR for 2022 and previous years, and 390,305 EUR for 2023. Advanced payments for future years amount to 4,035 EUR. The Secretariat regularly reminds Parties with arrears to pay their dues and has been successful in individual cases; actually only eight¹ countries from the currently 84 Parties have not yet made any payment since their accession.

For more details please see the Concept note for assessing why Parties have arrears and possible solutions (UNEP/AEWA/StC/23.11).

Expenditures (year 2022)

Annex 2 shows the final expenditure situation for 2022 after closure of 2022 accounts. The available budget for 2022 reflects the budget adopted by the Contracting Parties through Resolution Ex.3 on financial and administrative matters including two MOP-related budget lines that were redeployed from the 2021 budget due to the postponement of MOP8. The average exchange rate used from January to December 2022 was 0.951. However, the total expenditures exceeded the approved and redeployed budget by EUR 54,865 before Programme Support costs, because of actual salaries and entitlements incurred under Professional staff in 2022. Furthermore, the General Service staff category also experienced over-expenditures due to retroactive salary payments for the years 2016-2022 following the completion of a comprehensive salary survey undertaken in 2016 for the General Service Staff. The negative balance of 2022 has been compensated through the trust fund reserve.

Expenditures (year 2023)

Annex 3 provides an interim report of 2023 budget implementation as at 12 June 2023. Like in the previous years the increase in working hours for some staff members will cause over expenditures at the end of the year, should no additional voluntary contributions be provided to close these gaps. It should be noted that an amount of USD 10,706.88 is pending for reversal from the travel budget line (Official travel AEWA staff); expenses for the organisation of the 18th Meeting of the Technical Committee, which took place on 14 – 16 March 2023, were advanced from that budget line as the pledged voluntary contributions did not arrive in time. The expenditures have meanwhile partly been reversed, but the above-mentioned amount of US 10,706.88 is still to be deducted and charged to the other trust fund (AVL).

¹ Including two relatively recent accessions: Turkmenistan and Cameroon. The Government of Greece (1 June 2023) has not received any invoice yet.

Trust Fund operating reserve

In accordance with Resolution 8.12 the operating reserve is the working capital that must be maintained at a level of at least 15 per cent of the estimated annual expenditure or 150,000 Euros, whichever is higher. The Trust Fund operating reserve as at 12 June 2023 amounts to USD 206,327. The Secretariat wishes to point out that the figure regularly undergoes corrective actions for which reason it can only represent a snapshot of the reporting date.

3. Voluntary Contributions (AVL) - Overview of collections 1 January 2022 – 12 June 2023

In addition to the annual contributions paid by Parties towards the AEWA core budget (AWL), the Secretariat also received voluntary contributions from different Governments and organisations that were earmarked for certain activities. These voluntary contributions are managed in the separate Trust Fund (AVL). Annexes 4 and 5 summarize the voluntary contributions to the AVL Trust fund in 2022 and 2023 respectively. The pledged voluntary contributions amounted to **EUR 210,476** in 2022 (Annex 4) and **EUR 116,936** in 2023 (Annex 5). Those voluntary contribution have made possible the virtual pre-MOP8, the in-person MOP8, the in-person TC18 and have contributed to the implementation of the Plan of Action for Africa. In addition, some contributions received in 2023 will be added to the core budget allocation for increasing the position of the Species Officer from 50% to full time. The Secretariat would like to sincerely thank all Governments and organisations that have provided contributions to AEWA.

**ANNEX 1: GENERAL TRUST FUND OF THE AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF
AFRICAN - EURASIAN MIGRATORY WATERBIRDS (AWL)**

Status of Contributions from Contracting Parties as at 12 June 2023 (Euros)

COUNTRIES	Collections in 2021 for 2023	Collections in 2022 for 2023	Collections in 2023 for 2023 and prior	Unpaid pledges for 2022 and prior	Unpaid pledges for 2023	Collections in 2023 for 2024	Collections in 2023 for 2025
	EUR	EUR	EUR	EUR	EUR	EUR	EUR
Albania				0	2.000		
Algeria				15	3.466		
Armenia				0	2.000		
Belarus				2.000	2.000		
Belgium			26.327	0	0		
Benin				6.977	2.000		
Botswana			2.000	0	0		
Bulgaria				2.000	2.000		
Burkina Faso				13.469	2.000		
Burundi				16.500	2.000		
Cameroon*				500	2.000		
Central African Republic				6.002	2.000		
Chad *				22.333	2.000		
Congo				28.362	2.000		
Cote d'Ivoire				4.606	2.000		
Croatia			2.893	0	0		
Cyprus				6.000	2.000		
Czech Republic		10.811		0	0		
Denmark				0	22.932		
Djibouti *				28.470	2.000		
Egypt				0	4.420		
Equatorial Guinea				14.000	2.000		
Estonia			2.000	0	0		
Eswatini			4.000	0			
Ethiopia				0	2.000		
Finland			15.476	0	0		
France		134.009		0	0		
Gabon *				20.167	2.000		
Gambia				14.000	2.000		
Georgia				2.000	2.000		
Germany			186.000	0	0		
Ghana				8.000	2.000		
Guinea				14.000	2.000		
Guinea - Bissau				15.800	2.000		
Hungary				0	7.250		
Iceland				0	2.000		
Ireland			13.959	0	0		
Israel				0	17.838		
Italy				0	102.353		
Jordan				10.000	2.000		
Kenya			2.000	0	0	2.000	2.000
Latvia			2.000	0	0		
Lebanon				7.052	2.000		
Libya *				57.361	3.391		
Lithuania			2.448	0	0		
Luxembourg				2.088	2.162		
Madagascar				3.967	2.000		
Malawi				2.000	2.000		
Mali				20.000	2.000		
Mauritania *				15.333	2.000		
Mauritius			2.000	0	0		
Monaco				0	2.000		
Montenegro				2.000	2.000		
Morocco				2.000	2.000		
Netherlands			53.977	0	53.977		
Niger *				28.704	2.000		
Nigeria				18.330	5.787		

COUNTRIES	Collections in 2021 for 2023	Collections in 2022 for 2023	Collections in 2023 for 2023 and prior	Unpaid pledges for 2022 and prior	Unpaid pledges for 2023	Collections in 2023 for 2024	Collections in 2023 for 2025
North Macedonia				16.000	2.000		
Norway				0	27.592		
Portugal				0	11.224		
Republic of Moldova				2.000	2.000		
Romania			5.000	0	5.920		
Rwanda				0	2.000		
Senegal				24.000	2.000		
Serbia			2.000	0	0		
Slovakia			4.928	0	0		
Slovenia				3.068	2.512		
South Africa			9.875	0	0		
Spain			74.961	0	0		
Sudan				0	2.000		
Sweden				0	28.687		
Switzerland			36.057	0	0		
Syrian Arab Republic				23.885	2.000		
Togo				6.000	2.000		
Tunisia				25.694	2.000		
Turkmenistan*				4.000	2.000		
Uganda			3.606	0	0	35	
Ukraine				3.226	2.794		
UK			159.629	0	0		
United Rep. of Tanzania				2.000	2.000		
Uzbekistan				0	2.000		
Zimbabwe	2.000			0	0		
European Union			26.429	0	0		
Total	2.000	144.820	637.565	503.909	390.305	2.035	2.000

* No payment since the accession to the Agreement

ANNEX 2

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE APPROVED AEWA BUDGET 2022

Report as at 12 June 2023

AEWA CORE BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION REPORT IN EUR for 2022

BL	Budget Item	Approved Budget	Approved and Redeployed Budget	Expenses	Balances
	GENERAL MANAGEMENT				
1107	Professional Staff	623.482	623.482	668.195	(44.713)
1305	General Service Staff	217.417	217.417	286.109	(68.692)
1201	Translators	8.000	8.000	5.521	2.479
1601	Official Travel AEWA Staff	24.500	24.500	8.400	16.100
3201	Training of Staff*	2.040	1.344	-	1.344
4101	Miscellaneous office supplies	4.080	4.080	4.621	(541)
4201	Office equipment	6.120	6.120	6.270	(150)
4301	Rent and maintenance costs	-	-	-	-
4302	IT service provider	39.000	39.000	30.373	8.627
4303	Umoja costs*	7.000	4.500	-	4.500
5101	Operation/maintenance of computers, photocopiers & others	5.100	5.100	2.502	2.598
5201	Document production (external)	-	-	-	-
5203	Reference material	-	-	-	-
5301	Telephone, Fax	5.200	5.200	3.135	2.065
5302	Postage and miscellaneous*	2.550	5.746	5.452	294
5303	Bank charges	102	103	-	103
	IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AFRICAN INITIATIVE				
2203	Small Grant Fund Projects in African Countries	-	-	-	-
2204	Implementation of the African action plan	-	-	-	-
	SERVICING THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES				
1204	Report Writers	20.000	20.000	13.101	6.899
1205	Interpreters	-	35.000	37.823	(2.823)
1220	Consultancies for MOP (1 review)	-	-	-	-
1602	Travel of Staff to the MOP	-	-	-	-
2201	Organization of MOP	-	79.962	62.917	17.045
5201	Document production (external)	-	-	-	-
	SERVICING THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE				
1204	Report Writers	-	-	-	-
1205	Interpreters	-	-	-	-
3302	Meetings of the TC (travel/dsa/ organisational costs)	-	-	-	-
	SERVICING THE STANDING COMMITTEE				
1204	Report Writers	-	-	-	-
1205	Interpreters	-	-	-	-
3303	Meeting of the StC (travel/dsa/ organisational costs)	-	-	-	-
	TOTAL	964.591	1.079.554	1.134.419	(54.865)
	13 % PSC	125.397	140.342	147.474	(7.132)
	GRAND TOTAL	1.089.988	1.219.896	1.281.894	(61.997)

* EUR 696 from the Training of staff budget line (3201) and EUR 2,500 from the Umoja costs budget line (4303) were redeployed to the Postage and Miscellaneous budget line (5302) to compensate over-expenditures.

ANNEX 3

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE APPROVED AEWA BUDGET 2023

Interim Report as at 12 June 2023

AEWA CORE BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION REPORT IN EUR FOR 2023				
BL	Budget Item	Approved Budget	Expenses	Balances
	GENERAL MANAGEMENT			
1107	Professional Staff	610.805	285.142	325.663
1305	General Service Staff	210.546	113.596	96.950
1201	Translators	6.532	-	6.532
1601	Official Travel AEWA Staff	22.197	15.537	6.660
3201	Training of Staff	2.124	-	2.124
4101	Miscellaneous office supplies	4.248	-	4.248
4201	Office equipment	6.372	-	6.372
4301	Rent and maintenance costs	-	-	-
4302	IT service provider	31.252	405	30.848
4303	Umoja costs	17.658	-	17.658
5101	Operation/maintenance of computers, photocopiers & others	5.313	-	5.313
5201	Document production (external)	-	-	-
5203	Reference material	-	-	-
5301	Telephone, Fax	5.414	2.020	3.394
5302	Postage and miscellaneous	2.655	782	1.873
5303	Bank charges	106	-	106
	IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AFRICAN INITIATIVE			-
2203	Small Grant Fund Projects in African Countries	-	-	-
2204	Implementation of the African action plan	-	-	-
	SERVICING THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES			-
1204	Report Writers	-	-	-
1205	Interpreters	-	-	-
1220	Consultancies for MOP (1 review)	-	-	-
1602	Travel of Staff to the MOP	-	-	-
2201	Organization of MOP	-	-	-
5201	Document production (external)	-	-	-
	SERVICING THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE			-
1204	Report Writers	-	-	-
1205	Interpreters	-	-	-
3302	Meetings of the TC (travel/dsa/ organisational costs)	-	-	-
	SERVICING THE STANDING COMMITTEE			-
1204	Report Writers	-	-	-
1205	Interpreters	-	-	-
3303	Meeting of the StC (travel/dsa/ organisational costs)	-	-	-
	TOTAL	925.223	417.482	507.741
	13 % PSC	120.279	54.273	66.006
	GRAND TOTAL	1.045.502	471.754	573.748

**ANNEX 4: GENERAL TRUST FUND FOR VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS IN RESPECT OF THE AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF
AFRICAN-EURASIAN MIGRATORY WATERBIRDS (AVL) AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022**

	COUNTRIES	Pledges for 2022		Collection in 2022 for 2022		Total collections in 2022
		Other Currency	EUR	USD	EUR	EUR
1	Germany		25.600		25.600	25.600
2	Luxembourg		10.000		10.000	10.000
3	UK	102.000 GBP		131.865		124876*
4	Netherlands		10.000		10.000	10.000
5	Hungary		40.000		40.000	40.000
	Total	102.000 GBP	85.600	131.865	85.600	210.476
						* UN exchange rate: 0,947
1	African pre-MOP8 and MOP8 preparations					
2	CSR8 printing					
3	Plan of Action for Africa implementation					
4	MOP8 preparations					
5	MOP8 support from the host					

**ANNEX 5: GENERAL TRUST FUND FOR VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS IN RESPECT OF THE AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION OF AFRICAN-
EURASIAN MIGRATORY WATERBIRDS (AVL) AS AT 12 June 2023**

	COUNTRIES	Pledges for 2023		Collection in 2023 for 2023		Total collections in 2023	Unpaid pledges for 2023
		Other Currency	EUR	USD	EUR	EUR	EUR
1	Netherlands		10.000		10.000	10.000	
2	UK	9.000 GBP		10.847		9719*	
3	Germany		10.000		10.000	10.000	
4	Norway		9.027		9.027	9.027	
5	UK	25.000 GBP		31.012		28190**	
6	Netherlands		50.000				50.000
	Total	34.000 GBP	79.027	41.859	29.027	66.936	50.000
						* UN exchange rate: 0.896	
						** Un exchange rate: 0.909	
1	TC18 organisation						
2	TC18 organisation						
3	TC18 organisation						
4	AEWA participation in SPEAR project						
5	Species Officer						
6	Species Officer						