RESOLUTION 5.17

**INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS: STANDING COMMITTEE**

 *Recalling* Resolution 2.6 regarding the establishment of the Standing Committee and, in particular, the composition of its membership,

 *Further recalling* the tasks given to the Standing Committee as laid down in Resolution 2.6 paragraph 1, Resolution 4.6 paragraph 3 and Resolution 4.17 paragraph 4,

 *Acknowledging* the active role the Standing Committee has played in overseeing, as representatives of the Meeting of the Parties, the implementation of the Agreement and functioning of the Secretariat,

 *Further acknowledging* that the Standing Committee has provided guidance and advice to the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat on the implementation of the Agreement, on the preparation of meetings and any other matters,

*Recognising* CMS Resolution 10.9 *Future structure and strategies of the CMS Family* and *wishing* to continue the cooperation with CMS and the CMS Family to increase efficiency and enhance synergies.

*The Meeting of the Parties:*

1. *Approves* the list of elected or reconfirmed regional representatives for the Standing Committee, as follows:

Region Representative Alternate

Europe and Central Asia (1) Norway Ukraine

Europe and Central Asia (2) France Croatia

Middle East and Northern Africa Algeria Libya

Western and Central Africa Ghana Chad

Eastern and Southern Africa Uganda South Africa

2. *Re-confirms* that the Standing Committee should also include a representative of the host country for the next Session of the Meeting of Parties as well as a representative of the Depositary;

3. *Agrees* that the Standing Committee will meet at least twice between the 5th and the 6th Sessions of the Meeting of the Parties;

4. *Re-confirms* the tasks given to the Standing Committee as laid down in Resolution 2.6 paragraph 1, Resolution 4.6 paragraph 3 and Resolution 4.17 paragraph 4;

5. *Decides* to make a provision in the Budget 2013-2015 for payment, upon request, of reasonable and justifiable travel expenses of appointed Standing Committee members from developing countries and countries with economies in transition, within the policy agreed by the Meeting of Parties;

6. *Requests* Contracting Parties to provide financial assistance to developing countries and countries with economies in transition that are Parties to the Agreement, to be represented at meetings of the Standing Committee by an observer;

7. *Decides* that, in the framework of the Implementation Review Process established by AEWA MOP4, the Standing Committee will be responsible, in addition to the task defined by Resolution 4.6, for identifying funds for the implementation of new reviews, to be withdrawn from the Trust Fund balance;

8. *Requests* the Standing Committee

* 1. to contribute, where appropriate, to activities identified in Annex 1 of CMS Resolution 10.9;
	2. in particular to contribute to the development of coordinated strategic plans 2012-2014 for the CMS family;
	3. to express views of AEWA, through the Secretariat, to the CMS strategic plan working group (2015-2023).

.