

RESOLUTION 2.8

GUIDELINES FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE BUDGET OF THE AGREEMENT IN KIND IN LIEU OF CASH

Recalling the Final Act of the Negotiation Meeting on the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds held in The Hague, in June 1995 which “invited the Meeting of the Parties to consider at its first session the possibility of accepting from a given Party contributions in kind in lieu of contributions in cash to the budget of the Agreement, with the understanding that such contributions in kind from a given Party should be permitted only in exceptional circumstances and that the nature of the contribution must correspond to the needs and objectives of the Agreement”,

Further recalling Resolution 1.6 of the first session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Agreement held in Cape Town in 1999, which instructed the Secretariat of the Agreement to examine, in close cooperation with the Technical Committee, the United Nations Environment Programme and the Convention Secretariat of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, the feasibility of countries making their contributions to the Agreement in kind instead of in cash, to develop criteria to establish a preliminary list of Range States to which this decision might apply and to report to the next Meeting of the Parties,

Aware of the need to create such circumstances that all Range States can contribute to the functioning and implementation of the Agreement,

Referring to the guidelines for acceptance of contributions in kind in lieu of cash, adopted by the Technical Committee at its 3rd meeting,

Appreciating that the Technical Committee has invited the Meeting of the Parties to endorse the Committee’s recommendation,

The Meeting of the Parties:

1. *Decides* that contributions to the budget of the Agreement in accordance with article V paragraph 2 (a) may be accepted in kind in lieu of cash when the following criteria are met;
 - (a) The given Party is a country with an economy in transition or is a developing country;and
 - (b) Exceptional circumstances are demonstrated; and
 - (c) The nature of the contribution in kind is consistent with the needs and objectives of the Agreement;
2. *Determines* that Governments of Parties wishing to make contributions in kind in lieu of cash shall submit an official request to the Agreement Secretariat explaining the reason for their request and the nature of the contribution in kind;
3. *Instructs* the Secretariat to forward such requests to the Standing Committee;

4. *Authorizes* the Standing Committee to decide, in accordance with the criteria set out in paragraph 1 of the present resolution and in close cooperation with the Agreement Secretariat and with the United Nations Environment Programme, whether such a request shall be approved;
5. *Further determines* that any approval of contributions in kind instead of cash for a given Party will expire at the ordinary session of the Meeting of the Parties following the date of the approval.