

Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar, Iran, 1971)
3rd Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties
Regina, Canada
27 May - 5 June 1987

Resolution 3.2: Financial and budgetary matters

RECALLING the amendments to Article 6 of the Convention which provide that:

“5. The Conference of the Contracting Parties shall establish and keep under review the financial regulations of this Convention. At each of its ordinary meetings, it shall adopt the budget for the next financial period by a two-thirds majority of the Contracting Parties present and voting.

“6. Each Contracting Party shall contribute to the budget according to a scale of contributions adopted by unanimity of the Contracting Parties present and voting at an ordinary Conference of Contracting Parties.”

ACKNOWLEDGING with appreciation the financial support provided under the Convention by voluntary contributions from several of the Contracting Parties;

FURTHER NOTING with gratitude the considerable financial support for the work of the Bureau provided by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources and the International Waterfowl and Wetlands Research Bureau since the inception of the Convention;

RECOGNIZING the urgency there is to provide financial support to the Convention Bureau with minimum delay.

THE CONFERENCE OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES

- 1) APPROVES the budget for 1988-90 annexed as Attachment 1;
- 2) AGREES to the scale of contributions of the Contracting Parties to the Convention as listed in Attachment 2;
- 3) REQUESTS that the Director General of IUCN administer the Convention funds in accordance with the approved terms of reference in Attachment 3 to this resolution;
- 4) EMPHASIZES to the Contracting Parties the importance of making their contributions to the Bureau's separate account promptly by the beginning of the respective calendar year or financial period to which the contributions apply or, if this is not possible, as soon thereafter as possible;
- 5) PARTICULARLY URGES all Contracting Parties to make their first contribution to the Convention budget as early as possible;
- 6) URGES all Contracting Parties to make voluntary payments to cover deficiencies in the budget caused by changes in the value of the United States dollar;

- 7) URGES all Contracting Parties to deposit as soon as possible an instrument of acceptance of the amendment of 28 May 1987;
- 8) INVITES states not Party to the Convention, other governmental, inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations, and other sources to consider contributing to the Bureau's separate account.

Attachment 1: Budget 1988-1990 [Historians, please contact the Bureau for a hardcopy version]

Attachment 2: Scale of Contributions [Historians, contact the Bureau for a hardcopy version]

[Attachment 3: Terms of Reference](#) for the financial administration of the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat

Terms of Reference for the Financial Administration of the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat

1. A separate account shall be established by the Director General of IUCN on behalf of the Bureau of the Convention to administer the finances of the Convention.
2. The financial period shall be for three calendar years beginning 1 January 1988, and ending 31 December 1990. The appropriations of the account for the financial period shall be financed from:
 - a) the contributions made by the Contracting Parties by reference to the table in Attachment 2, including contributions from any new Contracting Parties which are to be added to this table;
 - b) subject to the approval of the Standing Committee, contributions from States not Party to the Convention, other governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other sources; and
 - c) any uncommitted and unexpended appropriations from the voluntary contributions up to 1987.
3. The budget estimates, prepared in currency of the country in which the seat of the Bureau is located, covering the income and expenditure for each of the three calendar years constituting the financial period to which they relate, shall be submitted to each ordinary Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Convention.
4. The estimates of each of the calendar years covered by the financial period shall be divided into sections; shall be specified according to budget lines; shall include references to the programmes of work to which they relate; and shall be accompanied by such information as may be required by, or on behalf of, the contributors, and such further information as the Director General of IUCN may deem useful and advisable.
5. The proposed budget shall be dispatched by the Bureau to all Contracting Parties at least ninety days before the date fixed for the opening of the ordinary Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties.

6. The budget shall be adopted by a 2/3 majority of the Contracting Parties present and voting at the ordinary Meeting, pursuant to the terms of Article 6, paragraph 5 of the Convention, as amended by the Extraordinary Conference of the Contracting Parties held at Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada from 28 May to 3 June 1987.
7. In the event that the Director General of IUCN anticipates that there might be a shortfall in resources, over any calendar year as a whole, he shall consult with the Head of the Bureau, who shall seek the approval of the Standing Committee as to its priorities for expenditure.
8. Upon the request of the Head of the Bureau, after seeking the approval of the Standing Committee, the Director General of IUCN shall be empowered to make transfers from one budget line to another. At the end of the first and the second calendar years of a financial period, the Director General of IUCN may proceed to transfer any uncommitted/unexpended balance of appropriations to the next calendar year, provided that the total budget approved by the Conference of the Contracting Parties shall not be exceeded unless this is specifically sanctioned in writing by the Standing Committee.
9. All contributions shall be paid in convertible currencies. Contributions from States which become Contracting Parties after the beginning of the financial period should be made on a pro-rata basis for the balance of the financial period.
10. As soon as practicable at the end of each calendar year of a financial period, the Director General of IUCN shall submit to the Contracting Parties the audited accounts for the year. He shall also submit, as soon as practicable, the audited accounts for the financial period.
11. These Terms of Reference shall be effective for the financial period of 1 January 1988 to 31 December 1990.