CONVENTION ON WETLANDS

60th Meeting of the Standing Committee

Geneva, Switzerland, 5 November 2022

**SC60 Doc.8.1**

**Financial and budgetary matters
2022 core budget update**

**Actions requested:**

The Standing Committee is invited to review and approve the proposed reallocation of 2022 core budget.

1. At the resumed session of it 59th meeting (SC59/2022), through Decision SC59/2022-36, the Standing Committee approved the report of the Subgroup on Finance including the revised 2022 core budgetary allocation (see Annex 1 of the report of the Subgroup on Finance, document SC59/2022 Com.2 Rev.1[[1]](#footnote-2)).

2. The Secretariat proposes a further budgetary reallocation as per Table 1 below, specifically for staff benefits between “salaries, social costs and other benefits” budget lines, and for Standing Committee services and Secretariat travel in response to developments since SC59/2022.

3. The reallocations in benefits between “salaries, social costs and other benefits” budget lines relate to adjustments in staff benefits between the budget sections to reflect the estimated expenditures for staff employment benefits including education grants and relocation grants for 2022.

4. The reallocations between Standing Committee meetings budget lines are proposed, as costs incurred in organizing and supporting Standing Committee meetings exceeded the approved 2022 core budget in the budget lines “Standing Committee meetings” and “Simultaneous interpretation at SC meetings”. The higher costs were associated with organizing intersessional meetings of the Standing Committee, purchasing virtual meeting platform licences and the cost of interpretation during the extended hours of SC59/2022 and the intersessional Standing Committee meetings. The Secretariat proposes that these increased costs be covered by savings in the budget lines on “Standing Committee delegates’ support” and Secretariat “Travel”.

5. The proposed budgetary reallocations are between approved budget lines, with the overall approved 2022 core budget remaining unchanged.

6. With the above information, the Standing Committee at SC60 is invited to consider and approve the proposed budgetary reallocation as per Table 1 below.

*Table 1: Core Budget 2022 with proposed adjustments*

(‘000 CHF, includes possible rounding differences)

| **2022 Ramsar BudgetExCOP3-approved** | **Approved budget (ExCOP3-approved)** | **SC59-authorized use of 2020 budget savings (ExCOP3 approved)** | **Pre-committed 2021 to be spent in 2022** | **Adjustments to 2022 ExCOP3-approved budget** | **Total 2022 Budget SC59/2022-approved** | **Adjustments to SC59/2022-approved budget** | **Total 2022 Budget** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **CHF ‘000s**  | **(A)** | **(B)** | **(C)** | **(D)** | **(E)=(A)+(B)+(C)+(D)** | **(F)** | **(G)=(E)+(F)** |
| **INCOME** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Parties’ Contributions | 3,779 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3,779 | 0 | 0 |
| Voluntary contributions | 1,065 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,065 | 0 | 0 |
| Income Tax | 225 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 225 | 0 | 0 |
| Other Income (including Interest Income) | 12 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 0 | 0 |
| **TOTAL INCOME** | **5,081** | **0** | **0** | **0** | **5,081** | **0** | **0** |
| **EXPENDITURES** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| A. Secretariat Senior Management | **1,030** | **5** | **0** | **0** | **1,035** | **6** | **1,041** |
| Salaries, social costs and other benefits | 990 | 0 | 0 |   | 990 | 10 | 1,000 |
| Travel | 40 | 5 | 0 |   | 45 | (4) | 41 |
| B. Resource Mobilization and Outreach | **594** | **45** | **211** | **0** | **850** | **(90)** | **760** |
| Salaries, social costs and other benefits | 438 | 0 | 0 |   | 438 | (80) | 358 |
| CEPA Program | 30 | 0 | 56 |   | 86 |   | 86 |
| Comms, Translations, Publications and Reporting Implementation | 60 | 40 | 57 |   | 157 |   | 157 |
| WWD | 0 | 0 | 12 |   | 12 |   | 12 |
| Web/IT support and Development | 56 | 0 | 0 |   | 56 |   | 56 |
| Web re-development | 0 | 0 | 86 |   | 86 |   | 86 |
| Travel | 10 | 5 | 0 |   | 15 | (10) | 5 |
| C. Regional Advice and Support | **1,237** | **10** | **96** | **0** | **1,343** | **50** | **1,393** |
| Salaries, social costs and other benefits | 1,170 | 0 | 0 |   | 1,170 | 60 | 1,230 |
| Travel | 67 | 10 | 0 |   | 77 | (10) | 67 |
| Ramsar Advisory Missions | 0 | 0 | 96 |   | 96 |   | 96 |
| D. Support to Regional Initiatives | **100** | **0** | **76** | **0** | **176** | **0** | **176** |
| Regional networks and centres\* | 100 | 0 | 0 |   | 100 |   | 100 |
| Amazon Basin 2021 carry over | 0 | 0 | 76 |   | 76 |   | 76 |
| E. Scientific and Technical Services | **839** | **5** | **224** | **0** | **1,068** | **0** | **1,068** |
| Salaries, social costs and other benefits | 651 | 0 | 0 |   | 651 |   | 651 |
| Travel | 18 | 0 | 10 |   | 28 |   | 28 |
| Travel STRP Chair | 5 | 0 | 12 |   | 17 |   | 17 |
| STRP implementation | 35 | 5 | 40 |   | 80 |   | 80 |
| STRP meetings | 50 | 0 | 0 |   | 50 |   | 50 |
| Strategic Plan SP5 (2022 - 2024) | 0 | 0 | 90 |  | 90 |  | 90 |
| SDG 6.61 (Inventories) | 0 | 0 | 72 |   | 72 |   | 72 |
| Ramsar Sites Information Service (maintenance and develop) | 80 | 0 | 0 |   | 80 |   | 80 |
| G. Administration/Web | **481** | **11** | **73** | **90** | **655** | **10** | **665** |
| Salaries, social costs and other benefits | 337 | 0 | 0 |   | 337 | 10 | 347 |
| Staff hiring and departure costs | 49 | 0 | 0 | 90 | 139 |   | 139 |
| Travel | 0 | 0 | 0 |   | 0 |   | 0 |
| Equipment/Office Supplies | 95 | 0 | 0 |   | 95 |   | 95 |
| Planning and Capacity building | 0 | 11 | 73 |   | 84 |   | 84 |
| H. Standing Committee Services | **150** | **0** | **23** | **0** | **173** | **24** | **197** |
| Standing Committee delegates’ support | 45 | 0 | 0 |   | 45 | (18) | 27 |
| Standing Committee meetings | 10 | 0 | 9 |   | 19 | 7 | 26 |
| SC translation | 60 | 0 | 0 |   | 60 |   | 60 |
| Simultaneous interpretation at SC meetings | 35 | 0 | 0 |   | 35 | 35 | 70 |
| Effectiveness Working Group | 0 | 0 | 14 |   | 14 |   | 14 |
| Resolutions review (Res. XIII.4) | 0 | 0 | 0 |   | 0 |   | 0 |
| J. IUCN Administrative Service Charges (max.) | **541** | **0** | **0** | **0** | **541** | **0** | **541** |
| Administration, Human Resources, Finance & IT services | 541 | 0 | 0 |   | 541 |   | 541 |
| K. Miscellaneous - Reserve Fund | **109** | **120** | **62** | **0** | **291** | **0** | **291** |
| Staff Provisions | 20 | 0 | 0 |   | 20 |   | 20 |
| Provision for outstanding contributions\*\* | 30 | 120 | 0 |   | 150 |   | 150 |
| Exchange rate gains / losses | 0 | 0 | 0 |   | 0 |   | 0 |
| Legal Services | 59 | 0 | 62 |   | 121 |   | 121 |
| **TOTAL EXPENDITURES** | **5,081** | **196** | **765** | **90** | **6,132** | **0** | **6,132** |

**Notes:**

\* For consideration by SC62 for new Regional Initiatives approved by COP14.

\*\* Any unused portion to be returned to savings.

1. See <https://www.ramsar.org/document/sc592022-com2-rev1-report-of-the-subgroup-on-finance-23-may-2022>. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)