



Convention on Biological Diversity

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Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity Sixteenth meeting

Cali, Colombia, 21 October–1 November 2024

Agenda item 7

Administration of the Convention and budget for the trust funds

Administration of the Convention and budget for the trust funds*

The Conference of the Parties,

Recognizing the cumulative increase in the magnitude of the work programme of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity¹ over many bienniums, and noting that the budget of the Convention has not kept pace with the increase,

Recognizing also, in particular, the recent increase in the number, frequency and size of intersessional meetings and the increased pressure placed on secretariat services, including the provision of conference facilities, registration, travel and other administrative work, editorial work and translation, as well as oversight and management functions,

Recognizing the changed scope of work represented by the adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework which has led to increased demands from Parties on the work of the Secretariat

Having considered the information contained in the documents prepared by the secretariat related to the agenda item on Administration of the Convention and budget for the trust fund,

Noting with concern that the external in-depth functional review of the structure of the Secretariat, as requested in CBD COP decision 15/34, planned and budgeted to be conducted in 2023, has not been undertaken.

Recalling decision 15/34 of 19 December 2022,

Welcoming with appreciation the financial contributions from developed country Parties to the voluntary trust funds of the Convention on Biological Diversity^[1] and its Protocols to facilitate the participation of developing country Parties and indigenous peoples and local communities in the processes of the Convention and its Protocols,

Recognizing further the fiscal constraints on Parties

Notes with concern that the participation of developing countries especially least developed countries and small island developing states as well as parties with economies in transition in

* The present document is being issued without formal editing.

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

meetings of the Convention and its Protocols have been adversely affected by the lack of predictable and sustainable funding

1. *Decides* to adopt an integrated programme of work and budget for the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety² and the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization;³

2. *Also decides* to share all costs for secretariat services among the Convention, the Cartagena Protocol and the Nagoya Protocol on a ratio of 72 to 15 to 13 for the biennium 2025–2026;

3. *Approves* a core (General Trust Fund for the Convention) programme budget for the Convention of 15,611,078 United States dollars for 2025 and 16,382,433 dollars for 2026, representing 72 per cent of the integrated budget of 21,682,052 dollars for the year 2025 and 22,753,379 dollars for the year 2026 for the Convention and its Protocols, for the purposes listed in tables 1a and 1b below;

4. In the circumstance that no availability at the International Civil Aviation can be identified to convene the meetings of the subsidiary bodies during the biennium 2025–2026, further approves an additional programme budget not exceeding US\$ 139,081 for 2025 and 139,081 dollars for 2026, representing 72 per cent of the additional integrated budget of 193,168 dollars for the year 2025 and 193,160 dollars for the year 2026 for the Convention and its Protocols. The additional programme budget will be drawn from the unspent balances of the General Trust Fund for the Convention, the General Trust Fund for the Core Programme Budget for the Cartagena Protocol and the General Trust Fund for the Core Programme Budget for the Nagoya Protocol.

5. *Also approves* the use of unspent balance of the General Trust Fund for the Convention, the General Trust Fund for the Core Programme Budget for the Cartagena Protocol and the General Trust Fund for the Core Programme Budget for the Nagoya Protocol for the biennium 2023–2024 of 6,681,836 dollars to offset contributions from the Parties to the Convention, the Cartagena Protocol and the Nagoya Protocol for the biennium 2025–2026;

6. *Expresses its appreciation* to Canada as the host country of the Secretariat of the Convention for its renewed support for the Secretariat, and welcomes the contribution of 2,234,451 Canadian dollars for 2025 and 2,255,959 Canadian dollars for 2026 from the host country and the Province of Quebec to the rental and associated costs of the Secretariat, which will be allocated on a ratio of 72 to 15 to 13 to offset contributions from the Parties to the Convention, the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol and the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol, respectively, for the biennium 2025–2026;

7. Requests the Executive Secretary to minimize conference expenses by reserving conference facilities for all meetings of the subsidiary bodies held in Montreal during the biennium 2025–2026 and going forward, through the preferential arrangement for the use of space with the International Civil Aviation Organization, or in Nairobi, or any other available UN facility available based on their capacity to support, and also taking into consideration the budgetary implications and savings on travelling and subsistence allowance for Party participation, and any other services at any available date that is suitable to the Parties, and, in the exceptional circumstance that no availability can be identified, authorizes the use of unspent balances for the additional conference rental and associated expenses of the most economical alternative conference space option not exceeding USD 386,336; in the exceptional circumstance that no availability at the aforementioned venues can be identified.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2226, No. 30619.

³ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 3008, No. 30619.

8. *Adopts* the scale of assessments for the apportionment of expenses for 2025 and 2026, in accordance with the scale of assessments of the United Nations,⁴ as contained in annex II to the present decision;

9. *Also adopts* the staffing table of the Secretariat for the biennium 2025–2026, as contained in table 2 below, used for costing purposes to set the overall budget;

10. *Recalls* that the staffing arrangement of the Secretariat should ensure that the legal obligations under the Convention and its Protocols are met;

11.. *Urges* the Executive Secretary to complete the functional review requested in decision 15/34 of 19 December 2022, taking into consideration the scoping report contained in document CBD/COP/16/4/Add.2-CBD/CP/MOP/11/5/Add.2-CBD/NP/MOP/5/5/Add.2 and present the results to the Parties at the sixth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation for review and decision of COP-17, MoP-12 and MoP-6. The functional review should focus on assessing if the Secretariat is properly structured and well resourced to effectively undertake its functions⁵ in particular servicing formal meetings of the Convention and its Protocols and supporting the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, and, if not, what changes are needed to do so.

12. Authorizes the Executive Secretary, on an exceptional basis, to draw upon available unspent balances of the general trust funds from prior financial periods to complete the functional review requested in decision 15/34 of 19 December 2022 not exceeding the amount of USD 250,000;

13. Requests the Executive Secretary to expeditiously finalize the outstanding audit recommendations and submit a report to Parties at SBI-6 and COP-17.

14. *Reiterates its request* to the Executive Secretary, as a means to further enhance transparency and accountability, to maintain the section on the website of the Convention that provides links to up-to-date information relevant to the governance of the Convention, including completed and accepted audit reports, audit recommendations and audit responses applicable financial regulations and rules and any other relevant budgetary and financial information to facilitate due diligence and financing decisions by Parties and other potential donors;

15. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Bureau and provide it with all necessary information, including with regard to the application of the administrative arrangements between the United Nations Environment Programme and the Secretariat, in order to ensure that the Bureau may play a guiding role with regard to preparations for and the conduct of meetings of the Conference of the Parties and of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meetings of the Parties to the Protocols;

16. *Authorizes* the Executive Secretary to enter into commitments up to the level of the approved budget, drawing on available cash resources, including reserves within authorized or permissible thresholds being, contributions from previous financial periods and miscellaneous income, in accordance with the decisions of the Conference of the Parties and with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, and requests the Executive Secretary to disclose those commitments in a timely manner;

17. *Also authorizes* the Executive Secretary to transfer resources among the programmes between each of the main appropriation lines set out in table 1b below up to an aggregate of 15 per cent of the total programme budget, provided that a further limitation of up to a maximum of 25 per cent of each such appropriation line be applied;

⁴ As contained in General Assembly resolution 76/238. Once adopted by the General Assembly, the revised scale of assessments for the triennium 2025–2027 will be applied to calculate assessed contributions for the biennium 2025–2026.

⁵ Article 24 of the Convention

18. *Urges* the Executive Secretary to further reduce the environmental impact of the operations of the Secretariat and to report on the actions taken in that regard to the Conference of the Parties;

19. Reminds all Parties to the Convention that contributions to the core programme budgets (General Trust Fund for the Convention, General Trust Fund for the Core Programme Budget for the Cartagena Protocol and General Trust Fund for the Core Programme Budget for the Nagoya Protocol) are due on 1 January of the year for which those contributions have been budgeted, and *urges* all Parties to pay them promptly, and requests that Parties be notified of the amount of their contributions as early as possible in the year preceding the year in which the contributions are due;

20. Recognizes with concern that some Parties are unable to easily pay their contributions to the Convention and its Protocols due to technical challenges including Information Technology issues related to submission of invoices, despite their intention to do so and requests the Executive Secretary in consultation with UNEP, to work with those Parties who have expressed such technical challenges to explore other options to pay their contributions;

21. *Notes with concern* that a number of Parties to the Convention and its Protocols had not paid their 2023 and prior years' contributions to the core trust funds (General Trust Fund for the Convention, General Trust Fund for the Core Programme Budget for the Cartagena Protocol and General Trust Fund for the Core Programme Budget for the Nagoya Protocol), that some Parties had never paid their contributions and that, in accordance with the International Public Sector Accounting Standards adopted by the United Nations,⁶ credit loss allowances of US\$ 2,741,256 for the Convention, US\$ 583,172 for the Cartagena Protocol and US\$ 337,966 for the Nagoya Protocol were estimated at the end of 2023 and deducted from the fund balance, and can therefore not be used for the benefit of all the respective Parties, and requests the United Nations Environment Programme to accept contributions from all Parties to the Convention in a timely manner;

22. *Urges* Parties that have still not paid their contributions to the core trust funds (General Trust Fund for the Convention, General Trust Fund for the Core Programme Budget for the Cartagena Protocol and General Trust Fund for the Core Programme Budget for the Nagoya Protocol) for 2023 and previous years to do so without delay or conditionalities, and requests the Executive Secretary to publish and keep up to date the information on the status of contributions to the trust funds of the Convention (General Trust Fund for the Convention, General Trust Fund for the Core Programme Budget for the Cartagena Protocol, General Trust Fund for the Core Programme Budget for the Nagoya Protocol, Special Voluntary Trust Fund for Additional Voluntary Contributions in Support of Approved Activities under the Convention, Special Voluntary Trust Fund for Facilitating the Participation of Parties and Special Voluntary Trust Fund for Facilitating the Participation of Indigenous and Local Communities) and to keep the members of the Bureaux of the Convention and its Protocols regularly apprised of the situation so that they may provide information on unpaid contributions and their consequences to the respective regions, as indicated in paragraph 24;

23. *Requests* the United Nations Environment Programme, in its capacity as trustee, to use all available diplomatic channels to communicate to the relevant Parties the arrears in their contributions to the trust funds of the Convention (General Trust Fund for the Convention, General Trust Fund for the Core Programme Budget for the Cartagena Protocol and General Trust Fund for the Core Programme Budget for the Nagoya Protocol) from 2024 and previous years, with a view to the payment of such arrears in full for the benefit of all Parties to the Convention and its Protocols, and requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Bureau and the Conference of the Parties at its seventeenth meeting on the status of those arrears;

24. *Confirms* that, with regard to contributions due from 1 January 2005 onward, Parties that have been in arrears with their contributions for two or more years are not eligible to become a member of the Bureaux of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, the Conference of the

⁶ See General Assembly resolution 60/283, sect. IV.

Parties serving as the meetings of the Parties to its Protocols or the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice or to nominate a member of a compliance committee, and decides that this limitation only applies in the case of Parties that are not least developed countries or small island developing States;

25. *Authorizes* the Executive Secretary to enter into arrangements with any Party that has been in arrears with its contributions for two or more years whereby the Party agrees to a schedule of payments to clear all outstanding arrears within six years, depending on its financial circumstances, and pay future contributions by the due date, and to report on the implementation of any such arrangement to the Bureau concerned at its following meeting and to the Conference of the Parties at its seventeenth meeting;

26. *Decides* that a Party that has entered into an agreed arrangement in accordance with paragraph 25 above and that is fully respecting the provisions thereof will not be subject to the provisions of paragraph 24 above;

27. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, and invites the President of the Conference of the Parties, through a jointly signed letter, to notify Parties with outstanding contributions that they are in arrears and invite them to take timely action to remedy the situation, and to thank those Parties that have responded in a positive manner in paying their outstanding contributions;

28. *Notes* that, as of the seventh session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, the extension of trust funds is an administrative matter under the delegation of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and will no longer require a decision by Member States. To facilitate the transition between the sixth and seventh sessions of the Environment Assembly, all existing UNEP trust funds, including those managed by the CBD Secretariat for the Convention and its Protocols, have been extended to 31 December 2030, unless otherwise requested by the Conference of the Parties.

29. *Acknowledges* the funding estimates for:

(a) The Special Voluntary Trust Fund for Additional Voluntary Contributions in Support of Approved Activities under the Convention and its Protocols for the period 2025–2026 (see table x);

(b) The Special Voluntary Trust Fund for Facilitating the Participation of Parties in the Convention Process) for the period 2025–2026 (see table 4);

(c) The Voluntary Trust Fund for Facilitating the Participation of Indigenous and Local Communities for the period 2025–2026 (see table 5);

30. *Recalls* rule 30 of the rules of procedure for meetings of the Conference of the Parties,⁷ and stresses the need for a wide range of Parties to attend meetings of the Parties to the Convention and its Protocols, in particular to reach the level of two thirds of Parties present needed to provide a quorum for the meeting that allows decisions to be taken;

31. *Reaffirms* the importance of the full and effective participation of developing country Parties, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as Parties with economies in transition, in the meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and Conference of the Parties serving as the meetings of the Parties to the Protocols, and in this regard requests the Executive Secretary to take into consideration the relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meetings of the Parties to its Protocols on holding meetings concurrently and on improving the efficiencies of the structures and processes of the Convention and its Protocols;

⁷ Decision I/1, annex, as amended in decision V/20.

32. *Authorizes* the Executive Secretary, in consultation with UNEP and in accordance with the UN financial regulations and rules, to utilize accrued interests in the Trust Fund for Additional Voluntary Contributions to Facilitate the Participation of Parties in the Process of the Convention on Biological Diversity (BZ Trust Fund) and the Special Voluntary Trust Fund for Contributions to Facilitate the Participation of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (VB Trust Fund) in the event of funding shortfalls and delays in receiving contributions from donors.

33 Reaffirms the importance of the full and effective participation of at least two eligible delegates from developing country parties, particularly least developed countries and small island developing states, as well as countries with economies in transition in the meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the convention and its protocols as well as its subsidiary bodies to be funded from the BZ Trust Fund and invites developed country Parties and other Parties in a position to do so, including in the context of South-South cooperation, to make contributions to the BZ trust fund in a timely manner and at a level that will allow for that full and effective participation, and in exceptional circumstances and in accordance with the financial rules and regulations of the United Nations Environment Programme authorize the Executive Secretary, to draw, in consultation with the Bureau up to USD 500,000 total across the biennium from the available reserves, from BY, BG, BB to be used in respect of temporary shortfalls in the BZ trust fund for which written pledges have been made but for which resources have not yet been received, to support the participation costs of eligible delegates from developing party countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing states as well as parties with economies in transition in the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of Parties. providing that reimbursements are made to the BY Trust fund as soon as pledges materialize.

34. *Recalls* paragraph 31 of decision IX/34 of 23 May 2008, and requests the Executive Secretary, when allocating the funding from the Special Voluntary Trust Fund for Facilitating the Participation of Parties, to continue to accord first priority to funding for least developed countries and small island developing States;

35. *Encourages* developed country Parties and other Parties in a position to do so to facilitate engagement by the Secretariat with potential alternative donors to the Special Voluntary Trust Fund for Facilitating the Participation of Parties, including private and philanthropic bodies, to assist in funding the participation of eligible developing countries in meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meetings of the Parties to the Protocols and the subsidiary bodies;

36. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to remind Parties in January of each year of the need to contribute to the Special Voluntary Trust Fund for Facilitating the Participation of Parties at least six months before the ordinary meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meetings of the Parties to the Protocols, to issue requests in December of each year for covering the needs of all relevant meetings in the subsequent year and to issue early invitations to other donors to make contributions;

37. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the Bureaux, to continue to monitor the availability of voluntary contributions to the Special Voluntary Trust Fund for Facilitating the Participation of Parties, with a view to allowing members of those Bureaux to bring any shortfalls in contributions to the attention of Parties and as appropriate, potential donors in their regions;

38. Further requests the Executive Secretary, in preparation for the meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meetings of the Parties to the Protocols, to compile and distribute to the Parties a list of the work requested of the Executive Secretary, including the administrative and financial implications of each draft decision, as applicable, requiring funding from the core or voluntary budgets as outlined in draft recommendations and decisions, in order to inform Parties, without prejudice to decisions of the Conference of the Parties and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meetings of the Parties to

the Protocols; as well as provide information on the administrative and financial implications for each draft decision with administrative and financial implications under the respective agenda items.

39. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to prepare and submit an updated, detailed and integrated programme of work for the period 2027–2028 that sets out objectives, tasks to be completed by the Secretariat and results expected with regard to each budget item, for the Convention and its Protocols, for the consideration of the SBI[-6] ahead of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meetings of the Parties to the Protocols at their seventeenth, twelfth and sixth meetings, respectively, and a corresponding programme budget following the format of the proposed programme budget for the United Nations Environment Programme, including the supplementary information statement, for the biennium with the three following scenarios, taking the list in paragraph 36 into account:

(a) The programme budget (General Trust Fund for the Convention, General Trust Fund for the Core Programme Budget for the Cartagena Protocol and General Trust Fund for the Core Programme Budget for the Nagoya Protocol required to deliver the programme of work of the Convention and its Protocols, in the light of the functional review, minus the amount of the unspent balances used for the biennium 2025–2026;

(b) The programme budget (General Trust Fund for the Convention, General Trust Fund for the Core Programme Budget for the Cartagena Protocol and General Trust Fund for the Core Programme Budget for the Nagoya Protocol set at the total 2025–2026 level in real terms minus the amount of the unspent balances used for the biennium 2025–2026;

(c) The programme budget (General Trust Fund for the Convention, General Trust Fund for the Core Programme Budget for the Cartagena Protocol and General Trust Fund for the Core Programme Budget for the Nagoya Protocol set at the total 2025–2026 level in nominal terms minus the amount of the unspent balances used for the biennium 2025–2026;

40. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to introduce all possible measures to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the Secretariat, [taking into account Decision 16/-- of “Effectiveness of Processes” and its ensuing intersessional work ahead of COP-17,] and to reflect those measures in the three scenarios above;

41. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the SBI[-6] ahead of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meetings of the Parties to the Cartagena and Nagoya Protocols at their seventeenth, twelfth and sixth meetings, respectively, on income and budget performance, unspent balances and the status of surplus and carry-overs, as well as any adjustments made to the budget for the biennium 2025–2026.

42. *Notes* with concern the late delivery of budget documents in advance of the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, and urges the Executive Secretary to take the measures necessary to ensure that budget documents for the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties are circulated in full respect of the ninety day rule in paragraph 7a Annex 1 to Decision I/6 and to keep the Bureau informed on the progress of budget preparation.

43. *Notes* the information provided by the Executive Secretary on the Administration of the Convention and its Protocols for the biennium 2023-2024 (COP/16/3), in particular the 2023-2024 integrated budget performance, and requests the Executive Secretary to present to all future COPs information on both core and voluntary trust fund budget performance so that Parties can have a complete report on expenditures made by the CBD.

Table 1a. Biennial budget for the trust fund of the Convention on Biological Diversity for the period 2025-2026 (by object of expenditure)

Object of expenditure (Thousands of United States dollars)	2025	2026	Total 2025-2026
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Staff costs	13 301.0	13 862.7	27 163.7
General temporary assistance	100.0	100.0	200.0
Bureau meetings	161.5	176.8	338.3
Expert meetings	175.0	205.0	380.0
Meetings of intergovernmental bodies	2 274.6	2 700.9	4 975.5
Consultants	75.0	75.0	150.0
Structural review	250.0	-	250.0
Official travel	400.0	450.0	850.0
Rent and associated costs	1 462.6	1 476.6	2 939.2
Training	5.0	5.0	10.0
Information technology	65.0	65.0	130.0
General operating expenses	726.6	726.6	1 453.2
Public awareness material	100.0	100.0	200.0
Translation of CHM websites	65.0	65.0	130.0
I. Sub-total	19 161.3	20 008.6	39 170.0
II. Programme Support (13 per cent)	2 491.0	2 601.1	5 092.1
Sub-total (I+II)	21 652.3	22 609.8	44 262.0
III. Working capital reserve	29 763	143 620	173 384
Grand Total (I+II+III)	21 682.0	22 753.4	44,435.4
Convention share of the integrated budget (72%)	15 611.1	16 382.4	31 993.5
Less contributions from host country	(1 189.9)	(1 201.4)	(2 391.3)
Less use of reserves	(342.5)	(139.1)	(481.6)
Net total to be shared by Parties	14 078.7	15 042.0	29 120.6

**Meetings funded from the core budget*

- Thirteenth meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions
- Twenty-seventh and twenty-eight meetings of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific Technical and Technological Advice
- Sixth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation

Seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention / Twelfth meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol / Sixth meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol held concurrently

Table 1b. Integrated biennial budget for the trust funds of the Convention on Biological Diversity for the period 2025-2026

The Secretariat will prepare, at the later date, the specific requirements.

2025 2025 2025-2026

(Thousands of United States dollars)

- A. Governing and Subsidiary bodies
- B. Executive direction and management
- C. Programme of work
- D. Administrative support

Subtotal

Programme support costs

Working Capital Reserve
Total requirements
Convention share of the integrated budget (72%)
Less contributions from host country
Less reserve
Net total (to be shared by Parties)

Table 2. Secretariat staffing requirements from the core budgets of the Convention and its Protocols for 2025-2026

Category and level	Approved 2023-2024	Approved 2025-2026*
Professional and higher		
ASG	1	1
D-1	3	3
P-5	10	10
P-4	14	16
P-3	15	16
P-2/1	10	10
Subtotal	53	56
General Service	29	31
Total	82	87

* New posts approved by COP 17: Programme Management Officer – Digital Sequence Information (P-4); Programme Management Officer – Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities and Traditional Knowledge (P-4); Editor (P-3); Two Meetings Assistants (G-6)

Table 3. Resource requirements from the Special Voluntary Trust Fund (BE) for Contributions in Support of Additional Approved Activities of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Protocols for the period 2023-2024

This table contains resource requirements from the Special Voluntary Trust Fund (BE) identified for additional activities by the current meetings. The Secretariat will prepare, at the later date, the specific funding requirements.

Table 4. Resource requirements from the Special Trust Fund (BZ) for Voluntary Contributions to Facilitate the Participation of Parties in the Process of the Convention on Biological Diversity for the period 2025-2026

<i>Description of meetings</i>	<i>2025-2026 (Thousands of United States dollars)</i>
I. Meetings	
COP-17, Cartagena Protocol COP-MOP 12 and Nagoya Protocol COP-MOP 6*	2,925.9
Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions (SBSTTA 27/Art8J-13)**	1,811.1
Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBSTTA 28/SBI-6)***	2,249.1
Subtotal cost	6,986.1
II. Programme support costs	908.2
Total cost (I+II)	7,894.3

*Three delegates funded from each eligible Party.

**Two delegates funded from each eligible Party (SBSTTA 27 back-to-back with WG8J 13).

*** Two delegates funded from each eligible Party (SBSTTA 28 back-to-back with SBI-6).

Table 5. Special Voluntary Trust Fund (VB) for Contributions to Facilitate the Participation of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities for the period 2025-2026

<i>Description</i>	<i>2025-2026 (Thousands of United States dollars)</i>
I. Meetings:	
COP-17, Cartagena Protocol COP-MOP 12 and Nagoya Protocol COP-MOP 6*	91.0
Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions (SBSTTA 27/Art8J-13)*	84.5
Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBSTTA 28/SBI-6)*	105.0
Subtotal	280.5
II. Programme support costs	36.5
Total costs (I+II)	317.0

*Two participants funded from each region.

Member Country	Scale of assessment 2022-2024	Scale with 22% ceiling, no LDC paying more than 0.01 per cent	Contributions per 1 Jan 2025	Contributions per 1 Jan 2026	Total 2025-2026
Afghanistan	0.006	0.008	1,056	1,128	2,184
Albania	0.008	0.010	1,408	1,504	2,912
Algeria	0.109	0.136	19,183	20,496	39,679
Andorra	0.005	0.006	880	940	1,820
Angola	0.010	0.010	1,408	1,504	2,912
Antigua and Barbuda	0.002	0.003	352	376	728
Argentina	0.719	0.899	126,540	135,198	261,738
Armenia	0.007	0.009	1,232	1,316	2,548
Australia	2.111	2.639	371,524	396,945	768,469
Austria	0.679	0.849	119,500	127,677	247,177
Azerbaijan	0.030	0.038	5,280	5,641	10,921
Bahamas	0.019	0.024	3,344	3,573	6,917
Bahrain	0.054	0.068	9,504	10,154	19,658
Bangladesh	0.010	0.010	1,408	1,504	2,912
Barbados	0.008	0.010	1,408	1,504	2,912
Belarus	0.041	0.051	7,216	7,709	14,925
Belgium	0.828	1.035	145,723	155,694	301,418
Belize	0.001	0.001	176	188	364
Benin	0.005	0.006	880	940	1,820
Bhutan	0.001	0.001	176	188	364
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	0.019	0.024	3,344	3,573	6,917
Bosnia and Herzegovina	0.012	0.015	2,112	2,256	4,368
Botswana	0.015	0.019	2,640	2,821	5,460
Brazil	2.013	2.516	354,277	378,517	732,794
Brunei Darussalam	0.021	0.026	3,696	3,949	7,645
Bulgaria	0.056	0.070	9,856	10,530	20,386
Burkina Faso	0.004	0.005	704	752	1,456
Burundi	0.001	0.001	176	188	364
Cabo Verde	0.001	0.001	176	188	364

Cambodia	0.007	0.009	1,232	1,316	2,548
Cameroon	0.013	0.016	2,288	2,444	4,732
Canada	2.628	3.285	462,513	494,160	956,673
Central African Republic	0.001	0.001	176	188	364
Chad	0.003	0.004	528	564	1,092
Chile	0.420	0.525	73,918	78,975	152,893
China	15.254	19.069	2,684,619	2,868,309	5,552,928
Colombia	0.246	0.308	43,295	46,257	89,552
Comoros	0.001	0.001	176	188	364
Congo	0.005	0.006	880	940	1,820
Cook Islands	0.001	0.001	176	188	364
Costa Rica	0.069	0.086	12,144	12,975	25,118
Cote d'Ivoire	0.022	0.028	3,872	4,137	8,009
Croatia	0.091	0.114	16,015	17,111	33,127
Cuba	0.095	0.119	16,719	17,863	34,583
Cyprus	0.036	0.045	6,336	6,769	13,105
Czechia	0.340	0.425	59,838	63,932	123,771
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	0.005	0.006	880	940	1,820
Democratic Republic of the Congo	0.010	0.010	1,408	1,504	2,912
Denmark	0.553	0.691	97,325	103,984	201,309
Djibouti	0.001	0.001	176	188	364
Dominica	0.001	0.001	176	188	364
Dominican Republic	0.067	0.084	11,792	12,598	24,390
Ecuador	0.077	0.096	13,552	14,479	28,030
Egypt	0.139	0.174	24,463	26,137	50,600
El Salvador	0.013	0.016	2,288	2,444	4,732
Equatorial Guinea	0.012	0.015	2,112	2,256	4,368
Eritrea	0.001	0.001	176	188	364
Estonia	0.044	0.055	7,744	8,274	16,017
Eswatini	0.002	0.003	352	376	728
Ethiopia	0.010	0.010	1,408	1,504	2,912

European Union		2.500	351,966	376,049	728,015
Fiji	0.004	0.005	704	752	1,456
Finland	0.417	0.521	73,390	78,411	151,801
France	4.318	5.398	759,944	811,942	1,571,886
Gabon	0.013	0.016	2,288	2,444	4,732
Gambia	0.001	0.001	176	188	364
Georgia	0.008	0.010	1,408	1,504	2,912
Germany	6.111	7.639	1,075,502	1,149,091	2,224,593
Ghana	0.024	0.030	4,224	4,513	8,737
Greece	0.325	0.406	57,198	61,112	118,310
Grenada	0.001	0.001	176	188	364
Guatemala	0.041	0.051	7,216	7,709	14,925
Guinea	0.003	0.004	528	564	1,092
Guinea-Bissau	0.001	0.001	176	188	364
Guyana	0.004	0.005	704	752	1,456
Haiti	0.006	0.008	1,056	1,128	2,184
Honduras	0.009	0.011	1,584	1,692	3,276
Hungary	0.228	0.285	40,127	42,872	82,999
Iceland	0.036	0.045	6,336	6,769	13,105
India	1.044	1.305	183,738	196,310	380,048
Indonesia	0.549	0.686	96,621	103,232	199,853
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	0.371	0.464	65,294	69,762	135,055
Iraq	0.128	0.160	22,527	24,069	46,596
Ireland	0.439	0.549	77,262	82,548	159,810
Israel	0.561	0.701	98,733	105,488	204,221
Italy	3.189	3.987	561,246	599,648	1,160,895
Jamaica	0.008	0.010	1,408	1,504	2,912
Japan	8.033	10.042	1,413,763	1,510,497	2,924,260
Jordan	0.022	0.028	3,872	4,137	8,009
Kazakhstan	0.133	0.166	23,407	25,009	48,416
Kenya	0.030	0.038	5,280	5,641	10,921
Kiribati	0.001	0.001	176	188	364

Kuwait	0.234	0.293	41,183	44,001	85,183
Kyrgyzstan	0.002	0.003	352	376	728
Lao People's Democratic Republic	0.007	0.009	1,232	1,316	2,548
Latvia	0.050	0.063	8,800	9,402	18,202
Lebanon	0.036	0.045	6,336	6,769	13,105
Lesotho	0.001	0.001	176	188	364
Liberia	0.001	0.001	176	188	364
Libya	0.018	0.023	3,168	3,385	6,553
Liechtenstein	0.010	0.013	1,760	1,880	3,640
Lithuania	0.077	0.096	13,552	14,479	28,030
Luxembourg	0.068	0.085	11,968	12,786	24,754
Madagascar	0.004	0.005	704	752	1,456
Malawi	0.002	0.003	352	376	728
Malaysia	0.348	0.435	61,246	65,437	126,683
Maldives	0.004	0.005	704	752	1,456
Mali	0.005	0.006	880	940	1,820
Malta	0.019	0.024	3,344	3,573	6,917
Marshall Islands	0.001	0.001	176	188	364
Mauritania	0.002	0.003	352	376	728
Mauritius	0.019	0.024	3,344	3,573	6,917
Mexico	1.221	1.526	214,889	229,593	444,482
Micronesia (Federated States of)	0.001	0.001	176	188	364
Monaco	0.011	0.014	1,936	2,068	4,004
Mongolia	0.004	0.005	704	752	1,456
Montenegro	0.004	0.005	704	752	1,456
Morocco	0.055	0.069	9,680	10,342	20,022
Mozambique	0.004	0.005	704	752	1,456
Myanmar	0.010	0.010	1,408	1,504	2,912
Namibia	0.009	0.011	1,584	1,692	3,276
Nauru	0.001	0.001	176	188	364
Nepal	0.010	0.010	1,408	1,504	2,912

Netherlands (Kingdom of the)	1.377	1.721	242,344	258,926	501,271
New Zealand	0.309	0.386	54,382	58,103	112,486
Nicaragua	0.005	0.006	880	940	1,820
Niger	0.003	0.004	528	564	1,092
Nigeria	0.182	0.228	32,031	34,223	66,254
Niue	0.001	0.001	176	188	364
North Macedonia	0.007	0.009	1,232	1,316	2,548
Norway	0.679	0.849	119,500	127,677	247,177
Oman	0.111	0.139	19,535	20,872	40,407
Pakistan	0.114	0.143	20,063	21,436	41,500
Palau	0.001	0.001	176	188	364
Panama	0.090	0.113	15,839	16,923	32,763
Papua New Guinea	0.010	0.013	1,760	1,880	3,640
Paraguay	0.026	0.033	4,576	4,889	9,465
Peru	0.163	0.204	28,687	30,650	59,337
Philippines	0.212	0.265	37,311	39,864	77,175
Poland	0.837	1.046	147,307	157,387	304,694
Portugal	0.353	0.441	62,126	66,377	128,503
Qatar	0.269	0.336	47,343	50,582	97,924
Republic of Korea	2.574	3.218	453,010	484,006	937,016
Republic of Moldova	0.005	0.006	880	940	1,820
Romania	0.312	0.390	54,910	58,667	113,578
Russian Federation	1.866	2.333	328,406	350,876	679,282
Rwanda	0.003	0.004	528	564	1,092
Saint Kitts and Nevis	0.002	0.003	352	376	728
Saint Lucia	0.002	0.003	352	376	728
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	0.001	0.001	176	188	364
Samoa	0.001	0.001	176	188	364
San Marino	0.002	0.003	352	376	728
Sao Tome and Principe	0.001	0.001	176	188	364
Saudi Arabia	1.184	1.480	208,377	222,635	431,013

Senegal	0.007	0.009	1,232	1,316	2,548
Serbia	0.032	0.040	5,632	6,017	11,649
Seychelles	0.002	0.003	352	376	728
Sierra Leone	0.001	0.001	176	188	364
Singapore	0.504	0.630	88,701	94,770	183,472
Slovakia	0.155	0.194	27,279	29,146	56,425
Slovenia	0.079	0.099	13,904	14,855	28,758
Solomon Islands	0.001	0.001	176	188	364
Somalia	0.001	0.001	176	188	364
South Africa	0.244	0.305	42,943	45,881	88,824
South Sudan	0.002	0.003	352	376	728
Spain	2.134	2.668	375,572	401,270	776,842
Sri Lanka	0.045	0.056	7,920	8,462	16,381
State of Palestine	0.011	0.014	1,936	2,068	4,004
Sudan	0.010	0.010	1,408	1,504	2,912
Suriname	0.003	0.004	528	564	1,092
Sweden	0.871	1.089	153,291	163,780	317,071
Switzerland	1.134	1.418	199,578	213,233	412,811
Syrian Arab Republic	0.009	0.011	1,584	1,692	3,276
Tajikistan	0.003	0.004	528	564	1,092
Thailand	0.368	0.460	64,766	69,197	133,963
Timor-Leste	0.001	0.001	176	188	364
Togo	0.002	0.003	352	376	728
Tonga	0.001	0.001	176	188	364
Trinidad and Tobago	0.037	0.046	6,512	6,957	13,469
Tunisia	0.019	0.024	3,344	3,573	6,917
Türkiye	0.845	1.056	148,715	158,891	307,606
Turkmenistan	0.034	0.043	5,984	6,393	12,377
Tuvalu	0.001	0.001	176	188	364
Uganda	0.010	0.010	1,408	1,504	2,912
Ukraine	0.056	0.070	9,856	10,530	20,386

United Arab Emirates	0.635	0.794	111,756	119,403	231,160
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	4.375	5.469	769,976	822,660	1,592,635
United Republic of Tanzania	0.010	0.010	1,408	1,504	2,912
Uruguay	0.092	0.115	16,191	17,299	33,491
Uzbekistan	0.027	0.034	4,752	5,077	9,829
Vanuatu	0.001	0.001	176	188	364
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	0.175	0.219	30,799	32,906	63,705
Viet Nam	0.093	0.116	16,367	17,487	33,855
Yemen	0.008	0.010	1,408	1,504	2,912
Zambia	0.008	0.010	1,408	1,504	2,912
Zimbabwe	0.007	0.009	1,232	1,316	2,548
	78.013	100	14,078,652	15,041,954	29,120,606

B

Matters related to the appointment of executive secretaries

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling decisions IV/17 of 15 May 1998, VII/33 and VII/34 of 20 February 2004, VIII/10 of 31 March 2006 and X/45 of 29 October 2010, including the revised administrative arrangements between the United Nations Environment Programme and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity contained in annex I to decision X/45,

Noting that the recruitment process for the position of Executive Secretary is also subject to the Staff Regulations and Rules of the United Nations⁸ and the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations,⁹ including those that relate to human resources,

Emphasizing the need for inclusive, transparent and objective processes in the appointment of future executive secretaries of the Convention, in line with section II of the revised administrative arrangements between the United Nations Environment Programme and the Secretariat contained in annex I to decision X/45, and the need to clarify the procedure and relevant guidelines to ensure that the Parties, through the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties, are able to fulfil their consultative role, in particular concerning the terms of reference for the position and the review of the recommended candidate,

Recalling that the revised administrative arrangements between the United Nations Environment Programme and the Secretariat contained in annex I to decision X/45 stipulates that the Executive Secretary is appointed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations as recommended by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme in consultation with the Conference of the Parties through its Bureau,

Recalling also the call by the Conference of the Parties in its decisions IV/17, VII/33, VIII/10 and X/45, including the revised administrative arrangements contained in annex I to decision X/45, for a transparent and objective process for the appointment of the Executive Secretary,

1. *Welcomes* the appointment of Astrid Schomaker effective on 1 July 2024;
2. *Clarifies* that, for the purposes of interpreting article 2 of the revised administrative arrangements between the United Nations Environment Programme and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Conference of the Parties will consider itself properly consulted in the appointment process of the Executive Secretary, through its Bureau, if all the following actions are undertaken:
 - (a) The Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme presents to the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties the proposed terms of reference for the selection of a new executive secretary, containing the criteria to guide the recruitment process;
 - (b) The Bureau of the Conference of the Parties will, within one month, consider the proposed terms of reference and convey its views to the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme through the President of the Conference of the Parties;
 - (c) The Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme will inform, in writing, the Bureau of the of the Conference of the Parties of the final terms of reference and justify the reasons for the acceptance or, otherwise, of the views of the Bureau;
 - (d) Following the establishment of a transparent process for recruitment, open to nominations to all Parties, and a selection process resulting in the selection of a potential candidate, the Executive Director will inform the Bureau of a potential nominee before submitting a

recommendation to the Secretary-General and indicate why the candidate is believed to best meet the criteria;

(e) The Bureau will, within one month, consider the proposed nomination, with the Bureau members engaging with their constituencies, and formulate its opinion, by consensus or expressing different views, which will be communicated by the President of the Conference of the Parties to the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, to be included with the recommendation that will be sent by the Executive Director to the Secretary-General;

(f) If the consultation by the Executive Director with the Bureau relates to a reappointment of the Executive Secretary, the Bureau will formulate its opinion, by consensus or expressing different views, with the Bureau members engaging with their constituencies, within one month, in relation to the performance of the Executive Secretary with regard to programme delivery and policy-related issues, having taken into consideration the allocation of financial and human resources that was placed at the disposal of the Executive Secretary to facilitate the successful implementation of the programme of work, which will be communicated by the President of the Conference of the Parties to the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme for inclusion in the recommendation that will be sent by the Executive Director to the United Nations Secretary-General;

3. *Decides* that the term of office for all executive secretaries will be two years [with the possibility of reappointment for [one or two] additional terms, on the basis on performance.]