

RC-3/9: Financing and budget for the biennium 2007–2008

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling the financial rules of the Conference of the Parties, its subsidiary bodies and the Convention secretariat adopted in its decision RC-1/4;

Recalling decisions RC-1/17 on financing and budget for the biennium 2005–2006, in particular its paragraph 20, and decision RC-2/7,

1. *Approves* the operational budgets for the biennium 2007–2008 of 3,521,430 United States dollars for 2007 and 3,547,928 United States dollars for 2008 for the purposes set out in table 1 of the present decision;
2. *Invites* the governing bodies of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to continue their financial support for the operation of the Convention and its secretariat in 2007–2008;
3. *Welcomes* the annual contribution of 1.2 million euros pledged for 2007 and 2008 by the host Governments of the Convention secretariat to offset planned expenditures;
4. *Adopts* the indicative scale of contributions for the apportionment of expenses for 2007–2008 as contained in table 2 of the present decision and authorizes the head(s) of the Convention secretariat, in keeping with the financial rules, to adjust the scale to include all Parties for which the Convention enters into force before 1 January 2007 for 2007 and before 1 January 2008 for 2008;
5. *Decides* to set the level of the working capital reserve at 15 per cent of the average biennial operational budgets for 2007–2008;
6. *Approves* the staffing table of the Convention secretariat for the operational budgets for 2007–2008 as contained in table 3 of the present decision, which includes provision for co-financing with the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants the position of the United Nations Environment Programme joint head of the secretariats at the D-1 level;
7. *Approves* on an exceptional basis 37,500 United States dollars in the operational budget for 2007 and 37,500 United States dollars in the operational budget for 2008 to support travel for participants for members from developing countries and countries with economies in transition to attend meetings of the ad hoc joint working group on enhancing cooperation and coordination;
8. *Notes* with concern that a number of Parties have not paid their contributions to the operational budgets for 2005 and/or 2006, which were expected on 1 January 2005 and 1 January 2006, respectively, in accordance with paragraph 14 of the financial rules;
9. *Welcomes* the statement by the Government of Italy outlining a schedule for bringing up to date its host Government contributions as stated in the report of the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties;
10. *Invites* the President of the Conference of the Parties and the head(s) of the Convention secretariat to write to the relevant Parties impressing upon them the importance of paying their respective arrears for 2005 and of timely payment for 2006;
11. *Requests* the head(s) of the Convention secretariat to report on the results of these efforts to consult with Parties on timely payments and to provide information on the experience of other environmental conventions;
12. *Invites* Parties to note that contributions to the operational budgets for a calendar year are expected on 1 January of that year, and urges Parties in a position to do so to pay their contributions promptly and in full and, in this regard, requests that Parties be notified of the amount of their contributions for a given year by 15 October of the previous year;
13. *Welcomes* the work done by the Convention secretariat in keeping up-to-date on the Convention website the list of assessed contributions received;
14. *Agrees* to expand the list of contributions posted on the Convention website to include those Parties that have not paid their assessed contributions to the operational budgets;
15. *Authorizes* the head(s) of the Convention secretariat to make transfers of up to 20 per cent of one main appropriation line of the approved budgets to other main appropriation lines;

16. *Authorizes* the head(s) of the Convention secretariat to make commitments up to the level of the approved operational budgets, drawing on available cash resources;

17. *Takes note* of the funding estimates for activities under the Voluntary Special Trust Fund of the Convention included in table 4 of the present decision and urges Parties and invites non-Parties and others to contribute to the Voluntary Special Trust Fund;

18. *Decides* that the trust funds for the Convention shall be further continued until 31 December 2008 and requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to extend the two trust funds of the Convention for 2007–2008, subject to the approval of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme;

19. *Requests* the head(s) of the secretariat to prepare the 2009–2010 operational budgets on the basis of a programmatic structure and to reflect the expenditure for the 2007–2008 biennium in the same format, for comparative purposes, in the budget document;

20. *Requests* the head(s) of the secretariat in producing the 2009–2010 budgets to make efforts towards achieving a harmonized budget format with the secretariats of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants and the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal.

Table 1

Operational budget under the General Trust Fund (RO) for 2007–2008
(in United States dollars)

	2007	2008
	US\$	US\$
A. Ensure effective functioning of the COP and its subsidiary bodies		
<i>COP4</i>		
Conference services	312,500	312,500
Travel non staff (Bureau)	50,000	50,000
Subtotal	362,500	362,500
<i>CRC3 and CRC4</i>		
Conference services	115,000	120,000
Experts' travel	80,000	80,000
Subtotal	195,000	200,000
Working group on synergies	37,500	37,500
Study on currencies	50,000	0
Subtotal	87,500	37,500
B. Outreach and assistance to Parties in the implementation of the Convention		
Consultants (development of documentation, assistance to the Parties)	35,000	35,000
Resource kit	60,000	70,000
Website development	10,000	10,000
Subtotal	105,000	115,000
C. Coordination with Secretariats of other international bodies		
Resources are included below in section E., Core secretariat costs		
D. Other secretariat functions as specified by the Convention and determined by the COP		
Consultants/sub-contracts	20,000	20,000
Printing of PIC circular and DGDs	30,000	30,000
Subtotal	50,000	50,000
E. Core secretariat costs		
Professional personnel ^a	1,540,061	1,586,263
Consultants	15,000	15,000
Administrative support ^{a/}	408,249	420,496
Official travel	160,000	160,000

		2007	2008
		US\$	US\$
	Sub-contracts	75,000	75,000
	Equipment and premises	70,000	70,000
	Miscellaneous (including dispatch, communications, information, etc.)	48,000	48,000
	Subtotal	2,316,310	2,374,759
Total activities		3,116,310	3,139,759
Administrative overhead (13%)		405,120	408,169
Operational budget		3,521,430	3,547,928
Increment to the working capital reserve (15 %)		-26,332	
Increment to the special contingency reserve (indexed to fluctuations in salary scales)		11,400	11,742
GRAND TOTAL		3,506,498	3,559,670

Reserves		
Working capital reserve (2007–2008): 15% of average of 2007 and 2008 budgets		530,202
Special contingency reserve	391,400	403,142

Calculation of assessed contributions			
Host Government contribution^b		-1,522,843	-1,522,843
Total to be covered by assessed contributions		1,983,655	2,036,827

^a This does not include the direct contribution (US\$ 367,155 for 2007 and US\$ 378,170 for 2008) provided by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

^b Host Government contribution (Italy and Switzerland each Euro 600.000, equiv. to US\$ 1,522,843 at 1.27 US\$/EUR).

Table 2

2007–2008 indicative scale of contributions for the general trust fund for the operational budget (RO) (in US dollars)

Portion of operational budget to be covered by assessed contributions: 2007: 2,139,595
2008: 2,172,427

				2007	2008
		United Nations scale of assessments 2006	Scale for the Trust Fund with 22% ceiling and 0.01% base	Assessed contributions to be covered by the Parties	Assessed contributions to be covered by the Parties
	Member State	Percentage	Percentage	US dollars	US dollars
1	Argentina	0.956	1.299	25,776	26,467
2	Armenia	0.002	0.010	198	204
3	Australia	1.592	2.164	42,924	44,075
4	Austria	0.859	1.168	23,161	23,782
5	Belgium	1.069	1.453	28,823	29,595
6	Belize	0.001	0.010	198	204
7	Benin	0.002	0.010	198	204
8	Bolivia	0.009	0.012	243	249
9	Brazil	1.523	2.070	41,064	42,164
10	Bulgaria	0.017	0.023	458	471
11	Burkina Faso	0.002	0.010	198	204
12	Burundi	0.001	0.010	198	204
13	Cameroon	0.008	0.011	216	221
14	Canada	2.813	3.824	75,845	77,878
15	Cape Verde*	0.001	0.010	198	204
16	Chad	0.001	0.010	198	204
17	Chile	0.223	0.303	6,013	6,174
18	China	2.053	2.790	55,354	56,838
19	Congo	0.003	0.010	198	204
20	Cook Islands	0.001	0.010	198	204
21	Côte d'Ivoire	0.010	0.014	270	277
22	Cyprus	0.039	0.053	1,052	1,080
23	Czech Republic	0.183	0.249	4,934	5,066
24	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	0.010	0.014	270	277
25	Democratic Republic of the Congo*	0.003	0.010	198	204
26	Denmark	0.718	0.976	19,359	19,878
27	Djibouti	0.001	0.010	198	204
28	Dominica*	0.001	0.010	198	204
29	Dominican Republic*	0.035	0.048	944	969
30	Ecuador	0.019	0.026	512	526
31	El Salvador	0.022	0.030	593	609
32	Equatorial Guinea	0.002	0.010	198	204
33	Eritrea	0.001	0.010	198	204
34	Estonia*	0.012	0.016	324	332
35	Ethiopia	0.004	0.010	198	204
36	European Community	2.500	2.500	49,591	50,921
37	Finland	0.533	0.724	14,371	14,756
38	France	6.030	8.196	162,583	166,941
39	Gabon	0.009	0.012	243	249

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	<i>Member State</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>US dollars</i>	<i>US dollars</i>
40	Gambia	0.001	0.010	198	204
41	Germany	8.662	11.774	233,548	239,809
42	Ghana	0.004	0.010	198	204
43	Greece	0.530	0.720	14,290	14,673
44	Guinea	0.003	0.010	198	204
45	Hungary	0.126	0.171	3,397	3,488
46	India	0.421	0.572	11,351	11,655
47	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	0.157	0.213	4,233	4,347
48	Ireland	0.350	0.476	9,437	9,690
49	Italy	4.885	6.640	131,711	135,242
50	Jamaica	0.008	0.011	216	221
51	Japan	19.468	22.000	436,404	448,102
52	Jordan	0.011	0.015	297	305
53	Kenya	0.009	0.012	243	249
54	Kuwait*	0.162	0.220	4,368	4,485
55	Kyrgyzstan	0.001	0.010	198	204
56	Latvia	0.015	0.020	404	415
57	Liberia	0.001	0.010	198	204
58	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	0.132	0.179	3,559	3,654
59	Liechtenstein	0.005	0.010	198	204
60	Lithuania	0.024	0.033	647	664
61	Luxembourg	0.077	0.105	2,076	2,132
62	Madagascar	0.003	0.010	198	204
63	Malaysia	0.203	0.276	5,473	5,620
64	Mali	0.002	0.010	198	204
65	Marshall Islands	0.001	0.010	198	204
66	Mauritania	0.001	0.010	198	204
67	Mauritius	0.011	0.015	297	305
68	Mexico	1.883	2.560	50,770	52,131
69	Mongolia	0.001	0.010	198	204
70	Namibia	0.006	0.010	198	204
71	Netherlands	1.690	2.297	45,566	46,788
72	New Zealand	0.221	0.300	5,959	6,118
73	Niger*	0.001	0.010	198	204
74	Nigeria	0.001	0.010	198	204
75	Norway	0.679	0.923	18,307	18,798
76	Oman	0.070	0.095	1,887	1,938
77	Pakistan	0.055	0.075	1,483	1,523
78	Panama	0.019	0.026	512	526
79	Paraguay	0.012	0.016	324	332
80	Peru	0.092	0.125	2,481	2,547
81	Philippines*	0.095	0.129	2,561	2,630
82	Poland	0.461	0.627	12,430	12,763
83	Portugal	0.470	0.639	12,672	13,012
84	Qatar	0.064	0.087	1,726	1,772
85	Republic of Korea	1.796	2.441	48,424	49,723
86	Republic of Moldova	0.001	0.010	198	204
87	Romania	0.060	0.082	1,618	1,661
88	Rwanda	0.001	0.010	198	204
89	Samoa	0.001	0.010	198	204
90	Saudi Arabia	0.713	0.969	19,224	19,740
91	Senegal	0.005	0.010	198	204
92	Singapore	0.388	0.527	10,461	10,742

				2007	2008
		United Nations scale of assessments 2006	Scale for the Trust Fund with 22% ceiling and 0.01% base	Assessed contributions to be covered by the Parties	Assessed contributions to be covered by the Parties
	<i>Member State</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>US dollars</i>	<i>US dollars</i>
93	Slovenia	0.082	0.111	2,211	2,270
94	South Africa	0.292	0.397	7,873	8,084
95	Spain	2.520	3.425	67,945	69,767
96	Sri Lanka*	0.017	0.023	458	471
97	Sudan	0.008	0.011	216	221
98	Suriname*	0.001	0.010	198	204
99	Sweden	0.998	1.357	26,908	27,630
100	Switzerland	1.197	1.627	32,274	33,139
	Syrian Arab Republic				
101		0.038	0.052	1,025	1,052
102	Thailand	0.209	0.284	5,635	5,786
103	Togo	0.001	0.010	198	204
104	Ukraine	0.039	0.053	1,052	1,080
	United Arab Emirates				
105		0.235	0.319	6,336	6,506
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland				
106		6.127	8.329	165,199	169,627
	United Republic of Tanzania				
107		0.006	0.010	198	204
108	Uruguay	0.048	0.065	1,294	1,329
109	Venezuela	0.171	0.232	4,611	4,734
110	Yemen*	0.006	0.010	198	204
		77.32	100	1,983,655	2,036,827

* New Parties which have ratified the Convention.

Table 3
Staffing table of the Rotterdam Convention

Staff category and level	2007–2008	Approved staffing	FAO	UNEP
A. Professional category				
	D-1	0.50	0.25 ¹	0.25
	P-5	2.00	1.00 ¹	1.00
	P-4 ²	4.00	2.00 ¹	2.00
	P-3	5.00	2.00 ¹	3.00
	P-2	2.00	1.00 ¹	1.00
	Subtotal	13.50	6.25¹	7.25
B. General Service category		5.25	2.50 ¹	2.75
	TOTAL (A + B)	18.75	8.75	10.00

¹ FAO contribution of 25 per cent of one D-1 post, one P-5 post, one P-3 post and 25 per cent of one General Service post.

² One UNEP administrative officer to be funded from programme support costs.

Standard salary costs for Geneva and Rome 2007–2008
(in US dollars)

	Geneva		Rome	
	2007 ¹	2008 ²	2007	2008 ²
A Professional category				
D-2 level	248,200	255,646	216,852	223,358
D-1 level	236,100	243,183	201,984	208,044
P-5 level	207,800	214,034	178,944	184,312
P-4 level	179,800	185,194	153,540	158,146
P-3 level	149,100	153,573	122,604	126,282
P-2 level	119,600	123,188	96,852	99,758
B General Service category				
GS	99,000	101,970	60,444	62,257

¹ United Nations standard salary costs for Geneva, for the year 2007 (version 2).

² 2007 costs plus 3 per cent.

Table 4

2007–2008 estimate for activities under the Voluntary Special Trust Fund (RV)
(in United States dollars)

	2007	2008
Participant travel		
Participant travel COP	0	500,000
Subtotal activities	0	500,000
Administrative overhead (13%)	0	65,000
Total	0	565,000
Facilitation of implementation and ratification		
Technical assistance	1,084,000	1,119,000
Printed material	0	0
Website	0	0
Subtotal activities	1,084,000	1,119,000
Administrative overhead (13%)	140,920	145,470
Total	1,224,920	1,264,470
Overall total of activities under Voluntary Special Trust Fund	1,224,920	1,829,470