THE CONVENTION ON WETLANDS 64th meeting of the Standing Committee Gland, Switzerland, 20-24 January 2025

SC64 Doc.9.3 Rev.1¹

Financial and budgetary matters: Budget scenarios for 2026-2028 and draft resolution on financial and budgetary matters

Actions requested:

The Standing Committee is invited to:

- i. take note of the contents of this report;
- ii. confirm the budget scenario to be presented to the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties;
- iii. decide to forward the draft resolution on financial and budgetary matters to COP15 for its consideration.

Introduction

- 1. The Secretariat has prepared two core budget scenarios for the Standing Committee to consider and confirm a scenario to be presented to the 15th meeting of Conference of the Contracting Parties (COP15) in the draft resolution on financial and budgetary matters. The Secretariat's draft of the resolution text is included below in the present document, for the Standing Committee's approval. The two scenarios presented in this document underscore the critical need for an increase in the core budget of the Convention. Over the past 15 years, the core budget has remained the same, despite the growing number and scale of deliverables requested of the Secretariat by Contracting Parties as well as inflationary pressures.
- 2. The final resolution will include a list of fundraising priorities for non-core activities. That list will be discussed and completed at COP15.

Core budget scenarios for the 2026-2028 triennium

- 3. Two core budget scenarios for the 2026-2028 triennium are proposed in Annex 1 to the present document, which do not include any funding requests arising from other draft resolutions submitted. The two scenarios are:
 - a. an increase of **9.6**% (CHF 1,455K) compared to the 2023-2025 triennium, implying an increase of contributions from Contracting Parties of 9.4% (**scenario A**);

¹ Revised on 15 January 2025 to update Annex 2 following the publication of the new UN scale of assessments, see <u>A/RES/79/249</u>.

b. an increase of **11.3**% (CHF 1,724K) compared to the 2023-2025 triennium, implying an increase of contributions from Contracting Parties of 11.2% (**scenario B**);

The proposed figures for each budget category and line have been included for each of the scenarios, to enable Contracting Parties to see the details of how their assessed contributions will be spent.

- 4. In **scenario A**, the total increase in the core budget from 2026 to 2028 would be CHF 1,455K over the previous triennium, amounting to a new budget total of CHF 16,698K. This scenario includes the following elements, which also apply to **scenario B** unless indicated otherwise:
 - a. It is assumed that full Swiss franc (CHF) contributions from all Contracting Parties are received, based on the UN scale of assessment, including a voluntary contribution of 22% of the total core budget from the United States of America. Annex 2 to the present document shows the current calculation of the contribution of each of the Contracting Parties through the 2026-2028 triennium under each of the two scenarios.
 - b. The level of core funding for staffing increases, including for two new positions. Annex 3 to the present document shows the Secretariat core staff for 2026-2028, by function and grade, under each scenario. The two new positions are Communications Officer, P2 and Data Analyst, P1. These positions are essential for the Secretariat to meet growing demands on communications and data management for new and updated Wetlands of International Importance, as the current staffing levels do not allow for the coverage and responsiveness desired by Contracting Parties.
 - c. Staff costs have been budgeted based on current actual costs in accordance with IUCN policy, and include necessary adjustments needed to provide equity within the IUCN compensation framework and competitiveness with UN organizations and the UN-administered Conventions, and to ensure the required skill sets and experience to meet the support requests of the Contracting Parties.
 - d. Staff salaries also include an annual increase to cover for cost-of-labour adjustments, performance and promotions in line with the IUCN Human Resources policies on global compensation, performance and development. The COP13-approved budget for 2019-2021 included a provision to implement these adjustments. In the view of the Secretariat, it is important to embed these adjustments to respond to the application of IUCN human resources policies, as well as providing needed incentives to recruit and retain staff.
 - e. Total salary and related costs represent 75% of the total core budget, an increase of CHF 1,688K comparing to staff costs in the 2023-2025 triennium, when total salary and related costs were 71% of the total core budget.
 - f. The Secretariat has identified further adjustments to the budget based on the needs that the Secretariat anticipates in 2026-2028, and also based on the actual expenditure in the 2023-2025 triennium:
 - i. The "CEPA Programme" budget line has been reduced by CHF 45K because the budget allocated in the past generated savings that will be carried forward to the new triennium.

- ii. "Web/IT Support and Development" has been reduced by CHF 58K because of the reduced costs following the redevelopment of the website in 2023.
- iii. "Ramsar Sites Information Service and National Reports Data System (Maintenance and Development)" has been reduced by CHF 100K because the Secretariat anticipates lower system costs after the enhancements are implemented in 2024 and 2025.
- iv. "Staff Hiring and Departure Costs" has been reduced by CHF 20K, based on actual costs in the last triennium.
- v. "Equipment/Office Supplies" has been reduced by CHF 145K on the basis of the actual costs in the last triennium.
- vi. Budget section H, the IUCN Administrative Service Charge has been increased by CHF 27K compared to the previous triennium to reflect the number of staff and as well an increase in office administration and energy costs. With this increase, the IUCN service charge represents 10% of the total budget, and is thus below the maximum allowed of 13% of the total budget, in Resolution XIV.1 on *Financial and budgetary matters* and in the proposed draft resolution for the 2026-2028 triennium (see paragraph 20 of the draft resolution text below).
- vii. The "Travel" budget line in budget section A, "Secretariat Senior Management & Governance" has been increased by CHF 33K. Also, it has been further adjusted with a reallocation of CHF 36K from budget section C, "Regional Advice and Support" and a reallocation of CHF 15K from budget section B "Resource mobilization and Outreach" to budget section A. These adjustments are made in line with the requirements of the work plan for the Secretariat, while the overall travel budget represents 3% of the total core budget, the same as in the 2023-2025 triennium.
- vii. The "Standing Committee Meetings" budget line has been increased by CHF 75K based on actual costs in the last triennium, resulting from increased costs associated with increasing attendance and the provision of live streaming.
- g. As in the previous triennium, CHF 100K per annum is budgeted for start-up funding for Ramsar Regional Initiatives.
- h. No funding is allocated from the core budget for Ramsar Advisory Missions or meetings of the Conference of the Contracting Parties, as for 2023-2025 (noting the inclusion of COP meeting costs in budget scenario B, described below at paragraph 6.a).
- i. Compared to the last triennium, the same amount allocated for the provisions has been maintained.
- 5. The amount allocated to staff provisions has been calculated based on actual costs in the last triennium. However, the amount of the provision for outstanding contributions will not be sufficient, and so savings from the core budget will need to be allocated each year, as in the 2023-2025 triennium. The Secretariat estimates a total provision for outstanding contributions of up to CHF 450K (up to a maximum of CHF 150K per year). Given that the amount of CHF 90K is already included in the budget (CHF 30K per year), an additional allocation of up to CHF 360K (CHF 120K per year) will be needed to cover this in the 2026-2028 triennium. The Secretariat

suggests to cover this with the surplus from the previous triennium reported in document SC64 Doc 9.1 *Report on financial matters for 2024 and 2025*. Thus, both **scenario A** and **scenario B** assume approval of the use of 2024 surplus for this purpose.

- 6. In the **11.3% scenario (B)**, the total increase in budget would be CHF 1,724K over the triennium, amounting to a new budget total of CHF 16,967K, with the following additions to Scenario A:
 - a. Scenario B includes the adjustments indicated in Scenario A, and also includes an allocation of CHF 236K in year 2028 for costs associated with the provision of services related to a COP (interpretation, translation, report writing and other support services). This is a standard inclusion in budgets for comparable Conventions, such as the Convention on Migratory Species and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora. Costs associated with hosting a COP (venue, communications, welcome reception, audio-visual services or the Secretariat travel and accommodation) are borne by the host country. Without this budgetary allocation, the additional service costs must also be covered by the host country.
 - b. Scenario B also includes an allocation of CHF 33K for "Planning and Capacity Building" within the 2026-2028 triennium. This allocation will enable the Secretariat staff to enhance their competencies and build capacity to efficiently deliver on activities requested by the Contracting Parties, and promote overall well-being of the Secretariat staff.
 - c. As in Scenario A, an additional amount of CHF 360K will be needed for the provisions for outstanding contributions. The Secretariat suggests that this is covered from the core budget surplus from the previous triennium, as presented in paragraph 5 above.

Structure of the core budget scenarios

7. To maintain the current approach showing expenditures per department/category, the Secretariat proposes to maintain the same broad structure of the budget as that of the previous triennium.

Non-core funds to be raised

8. In addition to the core budget, non-core funding priorities for the Secretariat are decided by the Conference of the Contracting Parties, as a list annexed to the final resolution on financial and budgetary matters. These include established areas of the Secretariat's work and priorities identified in the Resolutions adopted by the Conference of the Parties. The Secretariat has included Annex 4 to the present document as a placeholder for inclusion in the draft resolution to be submitted to COP15.

Draft Resolution XV.xx Financial and budgetary matters

- 1. RECALLING the budgetary provisions established by paragraphs 5 and 6 of Article 6 of the Convention;
- 2. RECALLING Resolution XII.7 on *Resource mobilization and partnership framework of the Ramsar Convention* and the related provisions of Resolution XIV.1 on *Financial and budgetary matters*;
- 3. ACKNOWLEDGING WITH APPRECIATION the prompt payment by the majority of Contracting Parties of their contributions to the core budget of the Convention; but NOTING WITH CONCERN that a number of Parties have significant outstanding contributions;
- 4. NOTING WITH GRATITUDE the additional voluntary financial contributions made by many Contracting Parties, including those from Contracting Parties of Africa specifically earmarked for African Regional Initiatives (in accordance with paragraph 23 of Resolution X.2 on *Financial and budgetary matters*), and also the contributions made by non-governmental organizations and private companies for activities undertaken by the Secretariat;
- 5. RECALLING the *Delegation of Authority to the Secretary General of the Convention on Wetlands* signed by the Director General of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the Chairman of the Convention's Standing Committee on 29 January 1993, and the *Supplementary Note to Delegation of Authority* signed on the same date;
- 6. ACKNOWLEDGING WITH APPRECIATION the financial and administrative services provided to the Convention Secretariat by IUCN, underpinned by the Services Agreement between the Convention and IUCN revised in 2009;
- 7. NOTING that Contracting Parties have been kept informed of the financial situation of the Secretariat through the audited annual financial statements for the years from 2022 to 2024 and the reports submitted to the Standing Committee meetings from 2023 to 2025; and
- 8. RECOGNIZING the need to continue to strengthen financial partnerships with relevant international organizations and other entities, and to explore additional funding opportunities through their existing financial mechanisms;

THE CONFERENCE OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES

- 9. APPRECIATES that, since the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties (COP14), in 2022, the Secretariat has continued to manage the Convention's resources, prudently, efficiently and openly;
- 10. EXPRESSES ITS GRATITUDE to the Contracting Parties that have served in the Subgroup on Finance of the Standing Committee during the 2023-2025 triennium, and in particular to the United States of America, which has acted as Chair of the Subgroup;
- 11. DECIDES that the *Terms of Reference for the Financial Administration of the Convention* contained in Annex 3 to Resolution 5.2 on *Financial and budgetary matters* are to be applied in their entirety to the 2026-2028 triennium;

- 12. FURTHER DECIDES that a Subgroup on Finance will be established for the triennium and will operate under the aegis of the Standing Committee with the roles and responsibilities specified in Resolution VI.17 on *Financial and budgetary matters*, and will include one Standing Committee representative from each region of the Convention plus the immediately prior Chair of the Subgroup on Finance, as well as any other interested Contracting Parties, bearing in mind the desirability of equitable regional participation and the need to keep the group to a manageable size, and will designate one of its members as its Chair; and NOTES that travel support for eligible Contracting Parties to attend Subgroup meetings will be limited to the regional representatives of the Standing Committee;
- 13. NOTES that the budget for the 2026-2028 triennium includes a core element funded by contributions from Contracting Parties, and APPROVES the core budget for the 2026-2028 triennium as presented in Annex 1 of the present Resolution, to enable the implementation of the Fifth Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- 14. DECIDES that the contribution of each Contracting Party to the core budget should be in accordance with the most recent scale of assessments for the contribution of Member States to the United Nations budget as approved by the UN General Assembly, except in the case of Contracting Parties which, in applying the UN scale of assessments, would make annual contributions to the Convention core budget of less than CHF 1,000, in which case the annual contribution is to be that amount;²
- 15. URGES all Contracting Parties to pay their contributions promptly by 1 January of each year, or as soon thereafter as that country's budget cycle will permit;
- 16. FURTHER URGES Contracting Parties with outstanding contributions to make a renewed effort to settle them as expeditiously as possible to enhance the financial sustainability of the Convention through contributions by all Contracting Parties;
- 17. INSTRUCTS the Secretariat to continue regularly to inform the Contracting Parties of the status of contributions, including by publishing updated summaries on the Convention website on a monthly basis, and sending quarterly status reports to all the Parties; and FURTHER INSTRUCTS the Secretariat to notify Contracting Parties that have outstanding contributions and assist them in identifying appropriate actions to rectify the situation and to agree on a payment plan with Parties with long-standing outstanding contributions, and report back at each meeting of the Standing Committee and the Conference of the Contracting Parties on activities taken in this regard and results achieved, and identify good practices and efforts that could be shared; and AGREES that the Standing Committee should continue to consider appropriate action concerning Parties that have neither paid their outstanding contributions nor submitted a payment plan for this purpose;
- 18. INSTRUCTS the Secretariat to share with Regional Representatives on the Standing Committee the status of outstanding contributions, and REQUESTS the Regional Representatives to engage with the concerned Parties from their respective regions to encourage them to identify appropriate options to rectify the situation;
- 19. REAFFIRMS the decision taken at COP11 (in Resolution XI.2 on *Financial and budgetary matters*) that the Reserve Fund:
 - a. provides for unforeseen and unavoidable expenditures;

² Estimated core budget contributions for the 2026-2028 triennium are presented in Annex 2 of the present Resolution.

- b. receives realized triennial core budget surpluses (or deficits);
- c. should not be lower than 6% of the annual core budget of the Convention and not greater than 15%; and
- d. should be administered by the Secretary General with the approval of the Subgroup on Finance established by the Standing Committee;
- 20. REQUESTS the Secretariat to endeavour to maintain the Reserve Fund over the 2026-2028 triennium and to report annually to the Standing Committee on its status and to seek the concurrence of the Subgroup on Finance prior to any use of the Fund;
- 21. APPROVES the use of CHF 360,000 of surplus funds from the 2023-2025 triennium to increase the provision on outstanding contributions for the 2026-2028 triennium;
- 22. AUTHORIZES the Standing Committee, with the advice of its Subgroup on Finance, to transfer core budget allocations between budget lines as may be required in the light of significant positive or negative changes during the triennium to costs, rates of inflation, interest and tax income projected in the budget, without increasing the assessed contributions of Parties or increasing the charges paid to IUCN above a maximum of 13% of the budget;
- 23. RECOGNIZES the benefits of flexibility in travel budget lines to deliver on the Secretariat Work Plan for the triennium; and REAFFIRMS the decision taken at the COP14 that authorizes the Secretary General to transfer resources between travel budget lines, ensuring that the Subgroup on Finance is informed and that such transfers are reported to the Standing Committee at its next meeting;
- 24. REAFFIRMS the decision taken at COP14 (in Resolution XIV.1 on *Financial and budgetary matters*) that authorizes the Secretary General, within the rules of IUCN, to adjust the staffing levels, numbers and structure of the Secretariat presented in Annex 3 of the present Resolution, provided that the adjustments are within the costs indicated and made in accordance with the 1993 *Delegation of Authority to the Secretary General of the Convention on Wetlands* and its *Supplementary Note*;
- 25. REAFFIRMS that the uncommitted/unexpended balances for budget lines can be carried forward to the next year within the triennium and presented to the following meeting of the Subgroup on Finance;
- 26. ENCOURAGES Contracting Parties and INVITES other governments, financial institutions, International Organization Partners and other implementing partners to provide non-core funds to support the implementation of the Convention;
- 27. EXPRESSES GRATITUDE to the governments of Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, China, Finland, Germany, Norway, the Republic of Korea, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, and Zimbabwe, and to Danone and the Nagao Natural Environment Foundation, for their voluntary contributions to non-core activities in the years 2022-2024;
- 28. NOTES that the Secretariat will seek additional non-core resources in line with the priorities identified by the Conference of the Parties, which are listed in Annex 4 of the present Resolution; and REQUESTS that the Secretariat continue to develop new approaches and tools to secure voluntary financial support;

- 29. NOTES the resource mobilization work plan for the Convention approved by the Standing Committee and INSTRUCTS the Secretariat to update it to reflect the priorities identified by the Contracting Parties at COP15 and make it available to the Standing Committee at its 67th meeting, for its consideration;
- 30. REQUESTS the Secretariat to provide to the Ramsar Regional Initiatives (RRIs) in Africa, on an annual basis, the available balance of the African voluntary contribution fund; and INVITES those RRIs to submit requests to the Secretariat as part of their reports to access available funds in accordance with the provisions of Resolution XIV.7 on *Ramsar Regional Initiatives*;
- 31. INVITES the African regional representatives in the Standing Committee to decide on the use of those funds referenced in paragraph 30 of the present Resolution, based on the requests submitted by the RRIs, and inform the Secretariat accordingly;
- 32. NOTES WITH APPRECIATION the alignment of the Secretariat with International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) policies and procedures for managing non-core funding; and REAFFIRMS the decision taken at COP14 that requests the Secretariat within its existing legal framework and mandate to assist, as appropriate, Contracting Parties in the administration of non-core funded projects, including but not limited to successful fundraising for RRIs; and FURTHER REAFFIRMS that Secretariat staff supported with core funds will oversee the implementation of the projects for which non-core funds are directly sent to the Secretariat, while staff supported with non-core funds will be recruited for the project implementation, as required;
- 33. NOTES with appreciation the transparency and accountability of the Secretariat in regard to financial matters, and REQUESTS the Secretariat to continue to make information accessible to ensure transparency and accountability, including *inter alia*: completed and accepted audit reports; financial rules and regulations; annual reports of the Secretary General to the Standing Committee; procedures for engagement with the private sector; materials related to staff codes of conduct and professional ethics; the 1993 delegation of authority and its supplementary note; anti-fraud policies; anti-harassment policies; whistle-blower rules and protections; policies on conflict of interest; policies on gender equity and equality; and any other relevant information;
- 34. REQUESTS the Secretariat to consider Contracting Parties that are on the UN Conference on Trade and Development's List of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) as eligible for sponsorship for delegate travel, whether or not they are formally classified as such on economic grounds in the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) list; and
- 35. CONFIRMS that the present Resolution and its annexes supersede Resolution XIV.1 on *Financial and budgetary matters*, which is retired, and paragraph 11.a of Resolution VI.17 on *Financial and budgetary matters*.

Annex 1 Proposed budget scenarios for 2026-2028³

				Total
9.6% increase, Convention on Wetlands Proposed	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
Budget 2026-2028	2026	2027	2028	2026-
CHF 000's				2028
INCOME				
Parties' Contributions	4,133	4,133	4,133	12,399
Voluntary Contributions	1,166	1,166	1,166	3,498
Income Tax	249	249	249	747
Income Interest	18	18	18	54
TOTAL INCOME	5,566	5,566	5,566	16,698
EXPENDITURES				
A. Secretariat Senior Management & Governance	1,238	1,240	1,260	3,738
Salaries, Social Costs and other Benefits	1,170	1,172	1,192	3,534
Travel	68	68	68	204
B. Resource Mobilization and Outreach	672	675	673	2,020
Salaries, Social Costs and other Benefits	552	555	563	1,670
CEPA Programme	15	15	15	, 45
Comms, Translations, Publications and Reporting	60	C 0	60	100
Implementation	60	60	60	180
Web/IT Support and Development	40	40	30	110
Travel	5	5	5	15
C. Regional Advice and Support	1,243	1,264	1,266	3,773
Salaries, Social Costs and other Benefits	1,188	1,209	1,211	3,608
Travel	55	55	55	165
D. Support to Regional Initiatives	100	100	100	300
Regional Networks and Centres	100	100	100	300
E. Science and Policy	987	986	994	2,967
Salaries, Social Costs and other Benefits	839	848	856	2,543
STRP Implementation	35	35	35	105
Travel STRP Chair	5	5	5	15
STRP Meetings	50	50	50	150
Ramsar Sites Information Service and National Reports	40	30	30	100
Data System(Maintenance and Development)				
Travel	18	18	18	54
F. Administration	492	467	439	1,398
Salaries, Social Costs and other Benefits	372	375	379	1,126
Staff Hiring and Departure Costs	60	42	30	132
Equipment/Office Supplies	60	50	30	140
Planning and Capacity Building	0	0	0	0
G. Standing Committee Services	175	175	175	525
Standing Committee Delegates' Support	45	45	45	135
Standing Committee Meetings	35	35	35	105
Standing Committee Translation	60	60 25	60 25	180
Rapporteur and interpretation at SC meetings	35	35	35	105

³ The table in the final resolution will be consistent with previous years and include only the totals of the main categories.

9.6% increase, Convention on Wetlands Proposed Budget 2026-2028 CHF 000's	Budget 2026	Budget 2027	Budget 2028	Total Budget 2026- 2028
H. IUCN Administrative Service Charges (maximum)	550	550	550	1,650
Administration, Human Resources, Finance and IT Services	550	550	550	1,650
I. Miscellaneous - Reserve Fund	109	109	109	327
Staff Provisions	20	20	20	60
Provisions for Outstanding Contributions	30	30	30	90
Legal Services	59	59	59	177
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	5,566	5,566	5,566	16,698

Scenario B, 11.3 % Increase compared to 2023-2025 t				Total
11.3% increase, Convention on Wetlands proposed	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
Budget 2026-2028	2026	2027	2028	2026-
CHF 000's	2020	2027	2020	2028
INCOME				2020
Parties' Contributions	4,142	4,142	4,327	12,611
Voluntary Contributions	1,168	1,168	1,219	3,555
Income Tax	249	249	249	747
Income Interest	18	18	18	54
TOTAL INCOME	5,577	5,577	5,813	16,967
	3,377	3,377	3,013	10,507
EXPENDITURES				
A. Secretariat Senior Management & Governance	1,238	1,240	1,260	3,738
Salaries, Social Costs and other Benefits	1,170	1,172	1,192	3,534
Travel	68	68	68	204
B. Resource Mobilization and Outreach	672	675	673	2,020
Salaries, Social Costs and other Benefits	552	555	563	1,670
CEPA Programme	15	15	15	45
Comms, Translations, Publications and Reporting	60	60	60	100
Implementation	60	60	60	180
Web/IT Support and Development	40	40	30	110
Travel	5	5	5	15
C. Regional Advice and Support	1,243	1,264	1,266	3,773
Salaries, Social Costs and other Benefits	1,188	1,209	1,211	3,608
Travel	55	55	55	165
D. Support to Regional Initiatives	100	100	100	300
Regional Networks and Centres	100	100	100	300
E. Science and Policy	987	986	994	2,967
Salaries, Social Costs and other Benefits	839	848	856	2,543
STRP Implementation	35	35	35	105
Travel STRP Chair	5	5	5	15
STRP Meetings	50	50	50	150
Ramsar Sites Information Service and National Reports				
Data System (Maintenance and Development)	40	30	30	100
Travel	18	18	18	54
F. Administration	503	478	450	1,431
Salaries, Social Costs and other Benefits	372	375	379	1,126
Staff Hiring and Departure Costs	60	42	30	132
Equipment/Office Supplies	60	50	30	140
Planning and Capacity Building	11	11	11	33
G. Standing Committee Services	175	175	411	761
Standing Committee Delegates' Support	45	45	45	135
Standing Committee Delegates Support	35	35	35	105
Standing Committee Translation	60	60	60	103
Rapporteur and interpretation at SC meetings	35	35	35	180
Conference of the Parties				
	0	0 550	236 550	236
H. IUCN Administrative Service Charges (maximum)	550			1,650
Administration, Human Resources, Finance and IT Services	550	550	550	1,650
I. Miscellaneous - Reserve Fund	109	109	109	327
Staff Provisions	20	20	20	60
Provision for Outstanding Contributions	30	30	30	90
Legal Services	59	59	59	177
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	5,577	5,577	5,813	16,967

Scenario B, 11.3 % increase compared to 2023-2025 triennium

Annex 2 Estimated core budget contributions by Contracting Parties for 2026-2028⁴

Contraction Doub		0/	Annual	Annual	Estimated	Estimated	Estimated
Contracting Party (Membership as at 1	2025-2027	% Ramsar	2023-2024	contribution 2025⁵	annual	annual contribution	annual
January 2025)	UN Scale ⁵	total	2023-2024 (for	2025	2026-2028	2026-2027	2028
Junuary 2023)		totai	reference)		Scenario A	Scenario B ⁶	Scenario B ⁶
Albania	0.010	0.010%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Algeria	0.087	0.089%	5,337	4,258	4,666	4,676	4,889
Andorra	0.004	0.004%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Angola	0.010	0.010%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Antigua and Barbuda	0.002	0.002%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Argentina	0.490	0.503%	35,204	23,981	26,278	26,336	27,536
Armenia	0.007	0.007%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Australia	2.040	2.094%	103,361	99,838	109,401	109,645	114,641
Austria	0.626	0.643%	33,246	30,637	33,571	33,646	35,179
Azerbaijan	0.034	0.035%	1,469	1,664	1,823	1,827	1,911
Bahamas	0.015	0.015%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Bahrain	0.050	0.051%	2,644	2,447	2,681	2,687	2,810
Bangladesh	0.010	0.010%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Barbados	0.007	0.007%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Belarus	0.043	0.044%	2,007	2,014	2,306	2,311	2,416
Belgium	0.773	0.793%	40,541	37,831	41,455	41,547	43,440
Belize	0.001	0.001%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Benin	0.005	0.005%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Bhutan	0.001	0.001%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	0.018	0.018%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Bosnia and Herzegovina	0.014	0.014%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Botswana	0.013	0.013%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Brazil	1,411	1,448%	98,562	69,055	75,669	75,838	79,294
Bulgaria	0.071	0.073%	2,742	3,475	3,808	3,816	3,990
Burkina Faso	0.005	0.005%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Burundi	0.001	0.001%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Cabo Verde	0.001	0.001%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Cambodia	0.008	0.008%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Cameroon	0.014	0.014%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Canada	2,543	2.610%	128,674	124,455	136,376	136,680	142,908
Central African Republic	0.001	0.001%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Chad	0.005	0.005%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Chile	0.374	0.384%	20,564	18,304	20,057	20,102	21,018
China	20.004	20.553%	746,880	979,002	1,072,781	1,075,158	1,124,157
Colombia	0.197	0.202%	12,045	9,641	10,565	10,588	11,071
Comoros	0.001	0.001%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000

⁴ Estimated changes in annual contributions will be included in the draft resolution to be presented to COP15 on the basis of the scenarios approved by SC64.

⁵ As per UN Resolution A/RES/79/249.

⁶ See paragraph 6 of the present report for details.

			Annual	Annual	Estimated	Estimated	Estimated
Contracting Party	2025-2027	%		contribution	annual	annual	annual
(Membership as at 1 January 2025)	UN Scale ⁵	Ramsar total	2023-2024 (for	2025 ⁵	contribution 2026-2028	contribution 2026-2027	2028
January 2023)		total	reference)		Scenario A	Scenario B ⁶	Scenario B ⁶
Congo	0.005	0.005%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Costa Rica	0.063	0.065%	3,378	3,083	3,379	3,386	3,540
Côte d'Ivoire	0.024	0.025%	1,077	1,175	1,287	1,290	1,349
Croatia	0.088	0.090%	4,456	4,307	4,719	4,730	4,945
Cuba	0.122	0.125%	4,651	5,971	6,543	6,557	6,856
Cyprus	0.035	0.036%	1,763	1,713	1,877	1,881	1,967
Czechia	0.344	0.353%	16,647	16,835	18,448	18,489	19,332
Democratic People's	0.005	0.005%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Republic of Korea							
Democratic Republic of	0.010	0.010%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
the Congo	0.551		27.070	25.007	20 447	20 5 40	20.040
Denmark	0.551	0.545%	27,076	25,987	28,447	28,540	29,840
Djibouti	0.002	0.002%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Dominican Republic	0.069	0.071%	3,281	3,377	3,700	3,709	3,878
Ecuador	0.065	0.067%	3,770	3,181	3,486	3,494	3,653
Egypt	0.182	0.187%	6,806	8,907	9,760	9,782	10,228
El Salvador	0.013	0.013%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Equatorial Guinea	0.008	0.008%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Estonia	0.045	0.046%	2,154	2,202	2,413	2,419	2,529
Eswatini	0.002	0.002%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Fiji	0.003	0.003%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Finland -	0.386	0.396%	20,417	18,891	20,700	20,746	21,692
France	3.858	3.960%	211,421	188,812	206,898	207,357	216,807
Gabon	0.011	0.011%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Gambia	0.001	0.001%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Georgia	0.009	0.009%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Germany	5.692	5.846%	299,212	278,569	305,252	305,930	319,872
Ghana	0.025		-			1,344	1,405
Greece	0.280	0.287%	15,913		15,016	15,049	15,735
Grenada	0.001	0.001%	1,000	-	1,000	1,000	1,000
Guatemala	0.046	0.047%	2,007	2,251	2,467	2,472	2,585
Guinea	0.004	0.004%	1,000	-	1,000	1,000	1,000
Guinea-Bissau	0.001	0.001%	1,000		1,000	1,000	1,000
Honduras	0.010	0.010%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Hungary	0.223	0.229%	11,164		11,959	11,986	12,532
Iceland	0.035	0.036%	1,763		1,877	1,881	1,967
India	1.106	1.135%	51,117	54,128	59,313	59,445	62,154
Indonesia	0.579	0.594%	26,881	28,336	31,051	31,120	-
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	0.386	0.396%	18,165		20,700	20,746	21,692
Iraq	0.131	0.134%	6,267	6,411	7,025	7,041	7,362
Ireland	0.472	0.484%	21,495		25,313	25,369	26,525
Israel	0.609	0.625%	27,468		32,660	32,732	34,224
Italy	2.813	2.887%	156,142	137,669	150,856		158,081
Jamaica	0.007	0.007%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000

			Annual	Annual	Estimated	Estimated	Estimated
Contracting Party	2025-2027	%		contribution	annual	annual	annual
(Membership as at 1	UN Scale ⁵	Ramsar	2023-2024	2025 ⁵	contribution	contribution	
January 2025)		total	(for		2026-2028	2026-2027	2028 Sconorio B ⁶
lanan	6.930	7.113%	reference) 393,318	339,157	Scenario A 371,643	Scenario B ⁶ 372,469	Scenario B ⁶ 389,443
Japan	0.930	0.022%	1,077	1,028	1,126	1,129	1,180
Jordan Kasalukatan	0.021	0.022%	6,512	6,411	7,025	7,041	
Kazakhstan	0.131		-		-		7,362
Kenya		0.038%	1,469	1,811	1,984	1,989	2,079
Kiribati	0.001	0.001%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Kuwait	0.222	0.228%	11,457	10,865	11,905	11,932	12,476
Kyrgyzstan	0.003	0.003%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Lao People's Democratic Republic	0.006	0.006%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Latvia	0.050	0.051%	2,448	2,447	2,681	2,687	2,810
Lebanon	0.022	0.023%	1,763	1,077	1,180	1,182	1,236
Lesotho	0.022	0.023%	1,000	1,000	1,100	1,000	1,200
Liberia	0.001	0.001%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Libya	0.001	0.001%	1,000	1,958	2,145	2,150	2,248
Liechtenstein	0.009	0.009%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Lithuania	0.081	0.083%	3,770	3,964	4,344	4,354	4,552
Luxembourg	0.073	0.075%	3,329	3,573	3,915	3,924	4,102
Madagascar	0.073	0.004%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Malawi	0.004	0.004%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	0.336	0.335%	17,039	15,955	17,483	17,522	18,320
Malaysia	0.005	0.005%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Mali	0.003	0.003%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Malta Maraball Jalanda	0.020	0.021%	1,000			1,073	
Marshall Islands	0.001	0.001%	1,000	1,000 1,000	1,000 1,000	1,000	1,000
Mauritania	0.003	0.003%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000 1,000
Mauritius	1.137	1.167%	-	55,645	60,975	61,111	
Mexico	0.011	0.011%	59,784 1,000	,	1,000	1,000	63,896 1,000
Monaco	0.011		-	-	•		
Mongolia		0.004%	-	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Montenegro	0.004		1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Morocco	0.059	0.061%	-	2,887	3,164	3,171	3,316
Mozambique	0.002	0.002%	-	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Myanmar	0.010	0.010%	-	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Namibia	0.007	0.007%	-	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Nepal	0.010	0.010%	-	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Netherlands, the Kingdom of	1.298	1.332%	67,422	63,525	69,609	69,764	72,943
New Zealand	0.302	0.310%	-	14,780	16,196	16,232	16,971
Nicaragua	0.004	0.004%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Niger	0.004	0.004%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Nigeria	0.150	0.154%	8,911	7,341	8,044	8,062	8,430
North Macedonia	0.008	0.008%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Norway	0.653	0.670%	33,246	31,958	35,019	35,097	36,696
Oman	0.115	0.118%	5,435	5,628	6,167	6,181	6,463
Pakistan	0.123	0.126%	5,582	6,020	6,596	6,611	6,912

			Annual	Annual	Estimated	Estimated	Estimated
Contracting Party	2025-2027	%		contribution	annual	annual	annual
(Membership as at 1	UN Scale ⁵	Ramsar total	2023-2024 (for	2025 ⁵	contribution 2026-2028	contribution 2026-2027	2028
January 2025)		lotai	reference)		Scenario A	Scenario B ⁶	Scenario B ⁶
Palau	0.001	0.001%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Panama	0.086	0.088%	4,407	4,209	4,612	4,622	4,833
Papua New Guinea	0.009	0.009%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Paraguay	0.023	0.024%	1,273	1,126	1,233	1,236	1,293
Peru	0.145	0.149%	7,981	7,096	7,776	7,793	8,149
Philippines	0.198	0.203%	10,380	9,690	10,618	10,642	11,127
Poland	0.831	0.853%	40,982	40,669	44,565	44,664	46,699
Portugal	0.328	0.337%	17,284	16,052	17,590	17,629	18,433
Republic of Korea	2.349	2.411%	126,030	114,961	125,973	126,253	132,006
Republic of Moldova	0.006	0.006%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Romania	0.358	0.367%	15,276	17,521	19,199	19,242	20,118
Russian Federation	2.094	2.149%	91,365	102,481	112,297	112,547	117,676
Rwanda	0.003	0.003%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Saint Lucia	0.002	0.002%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Samoa	0.001	0.001%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Sao Tome and Principe	0.001	0.001%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Senegal	0.007	0.007%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Serbia	0.040	0.041%	1,567	1,958	2,145	2,150	2,248
Seychelles	0.002	0.002%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Sierra Leone	0.001	0.001%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Slovakia	0.149	0.153%	7,589	7,292	7,991	8,008	8,373
Slovenia	0.077	0.079%	3,868	3,768	4,129	4,139	4,327
South Africa	0.251	0.258%	11,947	12,284	13,461	13,491	14,105
South Sudan	0.005	0.005%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Spain	1.895	1.945%	104,487	92,742	101,625	101,851	106,493
Sri Lanka	0.038	0.039%	2,203	1,860	2,038	2,042	2,135
Sudan	0.008	0.008%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Suriname	0.002	0.002%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Sweden	0.822	0.844%	42,647	40,229	44,082	44,180	46,194
Switzerland	1.029	1.056%	55,524	50,360	55,183	55,306	57,826
Syrian Arab Republic	0.006	0.006%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Tajikistan	0.003	0.003%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Thailand	0.341	0.350%	18,018	16,689	18,287	18,328	19,163
Тодо	0.002	0.002%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Trinidad and Tobago	0.033	0.034%	1,812	1,615	1,770	1,774	1,854
Tunisia	0.018	0.018%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Türkiye	0.685	0.703%	41,374	33,524	36,735	36,817	38,495
Turkmenistan	0.036	0.037%	1,665	1,762	1,931	1,935	2,023
Uganda	0.010	0.010%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Ukraine	0.074	0.076%	2,742	3,622	3,968	3,977	4,159
United Arab Emirates	0.574	0.589%	31,091	28,092	30,783	30,851	32,257
United Kingdom	3.991	4.097%	214,212	195,321	214,030	214,506	224,281
United Republic of	0.010	0.010%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Tanzania							

Contracting Party (Membership as at 1 January 2025)	2025-2027 UN Scale ⁵	% Ramsar total	Annual contribution 2023-2024 (for reference)	Annual contribution 2025⁵		Estimated annual contribution 2026-2027 Scenario B ⁶	Estimated annual contribution 2028 Scenario B ⁶
Uruguay	0.079	0.081%	4,505	3,866	4,237	4,246	4,440
Uzbekistan	0.024	0.025%	1,322	1,175	1,287	1,290	1,349
Vanuatu	0.001	0.001%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	0.069	0.071%	8,568	3,377	3,700	3,709	3,878
Viet Nam	0.159	0.163%	4,554	7,782	8,527	8,546	8,935
Yemen	0.003	0.003%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Zambia	0.006	0.006%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Zimbabwe	0.007	0.007%	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Total	75.978	78.000%	3,779,000	3,779,000	4,132,995	4,141,998	4,327,004
Other contributions*							
United States of America		22%	1,065,799	1,065,799	1,166,000	1,168,000	1,219,000
Grand Total			4,844,799	4,844,799	5,299,000	5,310,000	5,546,000

* As previously, voluntary contribution of 22% of total contributions from Contracting Parties.

Annex 3 Secretariat staff (core) for 2026-2028 as per budget in Annex 1

Team	2026	2027	2028
Secretariat Senior Management	1 S, 1 D, 3 P2,	1 S, 1 D, 3 P2	1 S, 1 D, 3 P2
Resource Mobilization and Outreach	2 P2, 1 P1, 1 A3	2 P2, 1 P1, 1 A3	2 P2, 1 P1, 1 A3
Regional Advice and Support	4 M1, 4 junior professionals	4 M1, 4 junior professionals	4 M1, 4 junior professionals
Science and Policy	1 M1, 2 P2, 2 P1	1 M1, 2 P2, 2 P1	1 M1, 2 P2, 2 P1
Administration	1 SP, 1 P2 (50%), 1 A3	1 SP, 1 P2 (50%), 1 A3	1 SP, 1 P2 (50%), 1 A3
Total	24.5 staff	24.5 staff	24.5 staff
Total costs Scenario A and B (in '000 CHF)	4,121	4,159	4,201

Note:

Costs budgeted and allocated to budget lines on the basis of current core-funded positions and two new positions. "Team" refers to the categorization of expenditures as listed in Annex 1.

Levels as per IUCN HR policy and guidelines on position classification.

S = Secretary General; D, M1-M2 = management positions; P1-P2, SP = professional positions; A1-A3 = support positions.

Annex 4 2026-2028 non-core fundraising priorities

To be finalized at COP15