



# 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar, Iran, 1971)

*“Wetlands: home and destination”*

Bucharest, Romania, 6-13 July 2012

## Agenda item XV

## Ramsar COP11 DOC 15

### Financial and budgetary matters – Outstanding contributions

1. Assessed contributions from Parties are used to finance the Conventions' Core budget.
2. Each year the Secretariat invoices Parties for their assessed contributions. The Swiss franc invoicing is based upon the approved Core budget and the current UN Scale of Assessments. (The UN Scale of Assessments is adjusted on a pro rata basis to reflect the actual membership of the Convention at the beginning of the year). Income is recognized on invoicing and a receivable recorded, assuming full collection.
3. Most Contracting Parties pay their assessed contributions on a timely basis. Some Parties, for a number of good reasons, do not pay their contributions on a timely basis, and sometimes not in the year in which they fall due. The Secretariat is generally in touch with these Parties and is able to agree payments at a specified future date, without this severely impacting the operations of the Convention or the Secretariat.
4. At the end of each financial year, the Secretariat makes an assessment of the likely collection of the outstanding assessed contributions based on the amount and length of time outstanding, and records a provision for that. Every annual increase in the provision reduces the Core funds available to spend.
5. Core contributions, outstanding contributions and the provision against them have been increasing over time, as follows:

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
	CHF'000	CHF'000	CHF'000	CHF'000	CHF'000
Assessed contributions from Parties	3,146	3,281	3,337	3,482	3,625
Contribution from USA	869	903	941	942	872
Cumulative outstanding assessed contributions at end of year	775	507	515	760	736
Provision for non-collection	256	279	282	332	361

6. Annex 1 lists Parties with outstanding contributions and the number of years that they are outstanding. Parties should note that these are contributions from 2011 and earlier which are outstanding as of 30 April 2012, and that the total of these outstanding contributions has fallen from CHF 736,000 at 31 December 2011 to CHF 422,816 at 30 April 2012.

\*\* No outstanding contributions are written off. Should a Party expressly advise that they do not recognize their outstanding contributions and/or have no intention of paying them, the Standing Committee is advised.

Annex 1 - Membership receivables, 2011 and prior, outstanding as at 30 April 2012							
Annual		No of years		Annual		No of years	
Region	contributions	outstanding		Region	contributions	outstanding	
	CHF				CHF		
Africa	LIBYA	26,526	>7	Asia	IRAN, ISLAMIC REP	15,597	1.5
Africa	NIGERIA	23,791	>7 *	Asia	UZBEKISTAN	7,930	>7
Africa	MAURITANIA	13,577	>7 *	Asia	BAHRAIN	6,325	4
Africa	CHAD	13,367	>7 *	Asia	LEBANON	4,398	3
Africa	GUINEA BISSAU	13,367	>7 *	Asia	PAKISTAN	4,064	1
Africa	GUINEA	13,215	>7	Asia	IRAQ	4,000	4
Africa	CONGO, DEM. REP.	12,846	>7 *	Asia	YEMEN	4,000	4
Africa	SIERRA LEONE	11,000	>7 *	Asia	BANGLADESH	2,489	2
Africa	CONGO	9,774	>7	Asia	TURKMENISTAN	2,382	2
Africa	BURKINA FASO	9,249	>7	Asia	KYRGYZ REP	2,000	2
Africa	DJIBOUTI	9,000	>7 *	Asia	JORDAN	1,000	1
Africa	LIBERIA	6,110	6	Asia	CAMBODIA	1,000	1
Africa	CAPE VERDE	6,000	6 *	Asia	Other bits	1,399	0
Africa	SUDAN	6,000	6			55,185	
Africa	EQUATORIAL GUINEA	5,000	5				
Africa	SAO TOME & PRINCIPE	5,000	5	Europe	GREECE	32,318	1
Africa	NIGER	4,192	4	Europe	MACEDONIA	2,000	2
Africa	CAR	4,000	4	Europe	Other bits	859	1
Africa	TUNISIA	3,203	1			35,177	
Africa	CAMEROON	3,097	3				
Africa	MALI	3,044	3	Neotropics	VENEZUELA	29,019	2
Africa	BENIN	3,000	3	Neotropics	ARGENTINA	13,423	1
Africa	ZAMBIA	3,000	3	Neotropics	CUBA	11,083	4
Africa	TANZANIA	2,000	2	Neotropics	PARAGUAY	9,081	9
Africa	OTHER BITS	1,430	0	Neotropics	SAINT LUCIA	9,000	>7
		210,788		Neotropics	ANTIGUA & BARBUDA	6,000	6
				Neotropics	GUATEMALA	5,385	4
				Neotropics	PERU	2,888	1
Note: African Parties have an additional CHF86,257 of pledged Voluntary contributions outstanding				Neotropics	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	2,222	1
				Neotropics	URUGUAY	1,286	1
GRAND TOTAL				Neotropics	SURINAME	1,212	1
422,816				Neotropics	BOLIVIA	1,000	1
ASSESSED CONTRIBUTIONS				Neotropics	Other bits	350	0
						91,949	
Key							
* No payment since acceding to Convention				Oceania	PAPUA NEW GUINEA	12,205	>7
				Oceania	PALAU	9,000	>7
				Oceania	MARSHALL ISLANDS	6,000	5
				Oceania	FIJI	1,000	1
				Oceania	SAMOA	1,512	1.5
						29,717	