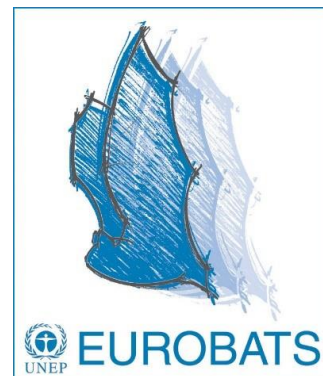


9th Session of the Meeting of the Parties

Brijuni, Croatia, 10 – 13 October 2022



Resolution 9.1

Financial and Administrative Matters (Budget 2023 – 2026)

The Meeting of the Parties to the Agreement on the Conservation of Populations of European Bats (hereafter "the Agreement"),

Having regard to Article V (1) of the Agreement which states that the Meeting of the Parties shall consider and decide upon "financial rules, including the provision of the budget and the scale of contributions for the next financial period";

Recalling Resolution No. 8.1 adopted at its 8th Session (Monte Carlo, Monaco, October 2018) on financial and administrative matters;

Recognising the continuing growth of the Agreement in membership, activities and geographical scope and the resulting need to strengthen the capacity of the Secretariat of the Agreement to enable it to fulfil the additional tasks;

Acknowledging with appreciation the substantial contribution of the German Government in providing, and agreeing to continue to provide, the accommodation for the Secretariat on a rent-free basis and its annual voluntary contribution of EUR 25,600 in support of special measures and projects aimed at improving the implementation of the Agreement;

Acknowledging with appreciation that the Government of the Principality of Monaco has made an additional annual contribution of EUR 30,000 to the budget of the Agreement in the years 2020, 2021 and 2022, the Government of Luxembourg has contributed EUR 10,000 in 2020 and 2021 for the post of Scientific Officer and Croatia additional EUR 1,000 as well as Malta EUR 2,500 for the next meeting of the Advisory Committee;

Appreciating that also Luxembourg and Switzerland regularly make voluntary contributions for projects, publications and other activities;

Expressing sincere thanks to the Government of Germany for their substantial additional contribution for the organisation of this Session of the Meeting of Parties;

Noting with concern that a number of Parties have not paid their contributions to the core budget, thus affecting adversely the implementation of the Agreement;

Expressing sincere gratitude to the Government of Croatia for hosting this 9th Session of the Meeting of Parties;

1. *Confirms* that all Parties shall contribute to the budget adopted at the scale agreed upon by the Meeting of the Parties in accordance with Article V (1) of the Agreement;
2. *Discharges and approves* the income and expenditure for the year 2018 and the income and expenditure for the years 2019 - 2021 as presented to the Meeting by the Secretariat and UN Environment. The Meeting further agrees that the expenditure for the year 2022 should be discharged and approved by the 10th Session of the Meeting of the Parties;
3. *Approves* the increase of post occupancy of the Administrative Assistants from 50% to 80%¹;
4. *Adopts* the budget for 2023 - 2026 attached as Annex 1 to this resolution;
5. *Agrees* to the scale of contributions of Parties to the Agreement as listed in Annex 2 to this resolution and to the application of that scale *pro rata* to new Parties;
6. *Instructs* the Standing Committee and the Secretariat to review the cost estimates in the budget on an annual basis in view of the USD/EUR exchange rate, potential accessions of new Parties as well as general savings and to redirect the available resources to the priorities identified at this 9th Session of the Meeting of Parties;
7. *Requests* all Parties to pay their annual contributions promptly as far as possible but in any case, not later than the end of June of the year to which they relate;

¹ For one of the two posts effective from 2023-2026, for the second post subject to the availability of funds.

8. *Requests* the Standing Committee, with support of the Secretariat to investigate the reasons that Parties are in arrears; propose possible solutions to address the financial and procedural impacts; and, where appropriate, approach national focal points to facilitate payment of outstanding contributions;
9. *Decides* to exclude countries that are eligible to receive funding of their participation at meetings, but have payments in arrears of more than three years, to receive such funding;
10. *Invites* Contracting Parties to consider the feasibility of providing gratis personnel and/or junior professional officers, in accordance with the United Nations rules and regulations, to strengthen the capacity of the Agreement Secretariat;
11. *Urges* all Parties to make voluntary contributions to support requests from countries with economies in transition to participate in and implement the Agreement throughout the four-year period;
12. *Invites* non-party Range States, governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations to make voluntary contributions towards special activities for the implementation of the Agreement;
13. *Requests* the Executive Director of UN Environment to extend the duration of the Trust Fund for the administration of the budget to 31 December 2026;
14. *Approves* the Terms of Reference for the Administration of the Trust Fund as set out in Annex 3 to this resolution, for the period 2023 - 2026;
15. *Instructs* the Secretariat to report on its income and expenditure to the Standing Committee at each of its meetings, and to report back to the Meeting of Parties at its next session;
16. *Requests* the Secretariat to monitor exchange rate fluctuations carefully and adjust levels of expenditure where necessary;
17. *Instructs* the Standing Committee, through the Secretariat, to advise the Executive Director of UN Environment, when requested, of its priorities for expenditure to enable the consideration of any need for withdrawing funds from the Trust Fund reserve.

Budget Estimates for 2023 - 2026 (in EURO)

Budget line	2023	2024	2025	2026	Total
10 Personnel					
1100 Professional Staff					
1101 Executive Secretary (P4)	184.000	184.000	184.000	184.000	736.000
1102 Assoc. Scientific and Project Officer (P2 part-time 80%)	99.200	100.700	102.200	103.700	405.800
1220 Consultancies	1.500	1.500	1.500	1.500	6.000
1300 Administrative Support					
1301 Administrative Assistant (G6 part-time 80%)	68.800	68.800	68.800	68.800	275.200
1302 Administrative Assistant (G6 part-time 80%) **	68.800	68.800	68.800	68.800	275.200
1303 Secretary (G4 part-time 50%)	0	0	0	0	0
1600 Travel on official business					
1601 Secretariat staff	10.000	10.000	10.000	10.000	40.000
1602 Experts on mission	0	0	0	0	0
1999 Personnel Subtotal	432.300	433.800	435.300	436.800	1.738.200
20 Subcontracts					
2201 Bat Conservation Projects	0	0	0	0	0
2999 Subcontracts Subtotal	0	0	0	0	0
30 Meetings					
3301 Meeting of Parties	0	0	0	20.000	20.000
3302 Meeting of the Standing Committee	0	0	0	1.000	1.000
3303 Meeting of the Advisory Committee ***	20.000	20.000	20.000	20.000	80.000
3999 Meetings Subtotal	20.000	20.000	20.000	41.000	101.000
40 Equipment and Premises					
4100 Expendable equipment					
4101 Miscellaneous office supplies	2.000	2.000	2.000	2.000	8.000
4200 Non-expendable equipment					
4201 Office equipment	2.000	2.000	2.000	2.000	8.000
4300 Premises					
4301 Rent and maintenance costs*	0	0	0	0	0
4302 IT Services	10.000	10.000	10.000	10.000	40.000
4999 Equipment and Premises Subtotal	14.000	14.000	14.000	14.000	56.000
50 Miscellaneous Costs					
5100 Operation and Maintenance					
5101 Operation/maintenance computers	500	500	500	500	2.000
5102 Operation/maintenance of photocopier/fax	900	900	900	900	3.600
5200 Reporting Costs					
5201 Information material and social media outreach	5.000	10.000	10.000	10.000	35.000
5202 Reference material	200	200	200	200	800
5300 Sundry					
5301 Telephone and Fax	2.000	2.000	2.000	2.000	8.000
5302 Postage and miscellaneous	2.000	2.000	2.000	2.000	8.000
5401 Hospitality	400	400	400	400	1.600
5999 Miscellaneous Costs Subtotal	11.000	16.000	16.000	16.000	59.000
SUBTOTAL	451.500	438.000	439.500	482.000	1.811.000
6000 UNEP programme support costs (13%)	58.695	56.940	57.135	62.660	235.430
GRAND TOTAL	510.195	494.940	496.635	544.660	2.046.430
Withdrawal from Reserve	40.000	20.000	20.000	20.000	100.000
Contributions to be shared by Parties	470.195	474.940	476.635	524.660	1.946.430

* Paid entirely by the host country (Germany).

** Subject to the availability of funds and to be decided by the Standing Committee.

*** The meetings in 2023 and 2026 are part of the core budget, the meetings in 2024 and 2025 will be considered upon the availability of funds.

Contributions 2023 - 2026

Party	UN Scale	Contributions	Percent	Contributions	Percent	Contributions	Percent	Contributions	Percent	Total	Total	Incr./Decr.	Incr./Decr.
	2023	2023	2023	2024	2024	2025	2025	2026	2026	2023 - 2026	2019 - 2022	2023-2026	Percent
Albania	0,008	2.000	0,425	2.000	0,421	2.000	0,420	2.000	0,381	8.000	6.000	2.000	33,333
Belgium	0,828	13.355	2,840	13.505	2,843	13.558	2,845	15.075	2,873	55.493	50.644	4.849	9,574
Bosnia & Herzegovina	0,012	2.000	0,425	2.000	0,421	2.000	0,420	2.000	0,381	8.000	2.333	5.667	242,906
Bulgaria	0,056	2.000	0,425	2.000	0,421	2.000	0,420	2.000	0,381	8.000	6.000	2.000	33,333
Croatia	0,091	2.000	0,425	2.000	0,421	2.000	0,420	2.000	0,381	8.000	6.000	2.000	33,333
Cyprus	0,036	2.000	0,425	2.000	0,421	2.000	0,420	2.000	0,381	8.000	6.000	2.000	33,333
Czech Republic	0,340	5.484	1,166	5.545	1,168	5.567	1,168	6.190	1,180	22.787	17.282	5.505	31,853
Denmark	0,553	8.919	1,897	9.019	1,899	9.055	1,900	10.068	1,919	37.062	34.161	2.901	8,493
Estonia	0,044	2.000	0,425	2.000	0,421	2.000	0,420	2.000	0,381	8.000	6.000	2.000	33,333
Finland	0,417	6.726	1,430	6.801	1,432	6.828	1,433	7.592	1,447	27.947	28.152	-205	-0,727
France	4,318	69.644	14,812	70.426	14,828	70.705	14,834	78.618	14,985	289.393	261.419	27.974	10,701
Georgia	0,008	2.000	0,425	2.000	0,421	2.000	0,420	2.000	0,381	8.000	6.000	2.000	33,333
Germany	6,111	94.039	20,000	94.988	20,000	95.327	20,000	104.932	20,000	389.286	319.387	69.899	21,885
Hungary	0,228	3.677	0,782	3.719	0,783	3.733	0,783	4.151	0,791	15.281	12.290	2.991	24,334
Ireland	0,439	7.081	1,506	7.160	1,508	7.188	1,508	7.993	1,523	29.422	22.533	6.889	30,572
Israel	0,561	9.048	1,924	9.150	1,927	9.186	1,927	10.214	1,947	37.598	22.970	14.628	63,684
Italy	3,189	51.435	10,939	52.012	10,951	52.218	10,956	58.062	11,067	213.727	203.778	9.949	4,882
Latvia	0,050	2.000	0,425	2.000	0,421	2.000	0,420	2.000	0,381	8.000	6.000	2.000	33,333
Lithuania	0,077	2.000	0,425	2.000	0,421	2.000	0,420	2.000	0,381	8.000	6.000	2.000	33,333
Luxembourg	0,068	2.000	0,425	2.000	0,421	2.000	0,420	2.000	0,381	8.000	6.000	2.000	33,333
North Macedonia	0,007	2.000	0,425	2.000	0,421	2.000	0,420	2.000	0,381	8.000	6.000	2.000	33,333
Malta	0,019	2.000	0,425	2.000	0,421	2.000	0,420	2.000	0,381	8.000	6.000	2.000	33,333
Moldova	0,005	2.000	0,425	2.000	0,421	2.000	0,420	2.000	0,381	8.000	6.000	2.000	33,333
Monaco	0,011	2.000	0,425	2.000	0,421	2.000	0,420	2.000	0,381	8.000	6.000	2.000	33,333
Montenegro	0,004	2.000	0,425	2.000	0,421	2.000	0,420	2.000	0,381	8.000	6.000	2.000	33,333
Netherlands	1,377	22.209	4,723	22.459	4,729	22.548	4,731	25.071	4,779	92.287	84.523	7.764	9,185
Norway	0,679	10.951	2,329	11.074	2,332	11.118	2,333	12.363	2,356	45.507	43.468	2.039	4,690
Poland	0,837	13.500	2,871	13.651	2,874	13.705	2,875	15.239	2,905	56.096	41.945	14.151	33,737
Portugal	0,353	5.693	1,211	5.757	1,212	5.780	1,213	6.427	1,225	23.658	23.036	622	2,701
Romania	0,312	5.032	1,070	5.089	1,071	5.109	1,072	5.681	1,083	20.910	9.935	10.975	110,471
San Marino	0,002	2.000	0,425	2.000	0,421	2.000	0,420	2.000	0,381	8.000	6.000	2.000	33,333
Serbia	0,032	2.000	0,425	2.000	0,421	2.000	0,420	2.000	0,381	8.000	5.700	2.300	40,351
Slovakia	0,155	2.500	0,532	2.528	0,532	2.538	0,532	2.822	0,538	10.388	5.568	4.820	86,568
Slovenia	0,079	2.000	0,425	2.000	0,421	2.000	0,420	2.000	0,381	8.000	6.000	2.000	33,333
Sweden	0,871	14.048	2,988	14.206	2,991	14.262	2,992	15.858	3,023	58.375	52.874	5.501	10,403
Switzerland	1,134	18.290	3,890	18.495	3,894	18.569	3,896	20.647	3,935	76.001	62.092	13.909	22,400
Ukraine	0,056	2.000	0,425	2.000	0,421	2.000	0,420	2.000	0,381	8.000	6.000	2.000	33,333
United Kingdom	4,375	70.563	15,007	71.356	15,024	71.638	15,030	79.656	15,182	293.213	272.557	20.656	7,579
Sum contrib.	27,742	470.195	100,000	474.940	100,000	476.635	100,000	524.660	100,000				
Shared by Parties		470.195		474.940		476.635		524.660		1.946.430	1.678.647	267.783	15,952
Total Budget		510.195		494.940		496.635		544.660		2.046.430	1.840.657	205.773	11,179
From Reserve		40.000		20.000		20.000		20.000		100.000			

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF
THE TRUST FUND FOR THE AGREEMENT ON THE
CONSERVATION OF POPULATIONS OF EUROPEAN BATS

1. The Trust Fund for the Agreement on the Conservation of Populations of European Bats (hereinafter referred to as the Trust Fund) shall be extended for a period of four years to provide financial support for the aims of the Agreement.
2. The financial period shall be for four calendar years beginning 1 January 2023 and ending 31 December 2026.
3. The Trust Fund shall be administered by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment), subject to the approval of the United Nations Environment Assembly and the consent of the Secretary-General of the United Nations.
4. The administration of the Trust Fund shall be governed by the financial regulations and rules of the United Nations, the staff regulations and rules of the United Nations, and other administrative policies or procedures, promulgated by the Secretary-General of the United Nations.
5. In accordance with United Nations rules, UN Environment shall deduct from the income of the Trust Fund an administrative charge equal to 13 per cent of the expenditure charged to the Trust Fund in respect of activities financed under the Trust Fund.
6. In the event that the Parties wish the Trust Fund to be extended beyond 31 December 2026, the Executive Director of UN Environment shall be so advised in writing immediately after the 10th Session of the Meeting of Parties. It is understood that such extension of the Trust Fund shall be decided at the discretion of the Secretary-General of the United Nations.
7. The financial resources of the Trust Fund for 2023 - 2026 shall be derived from:
 - (a) The contributions made by the Parties by reference to Annex 2, including contributions from any new Parties;
 - (b) Further contributions from Parties and contributions from States not Parties to the Agreement, other governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations and other sources.
8. All contributions to the Trust Fund shall be paid in EURO. For contributions from States that become Parties after the beginning of the financial period, the initial contribution (from the thirtieth day after deposit of the instrument of ratification, acceptance or accession till the end of the financial period) shall be determined *pro rata* based on the contribution of other States Parties on the same level on the United Nations scale of assessment, as it applies from time to time. However, if the contribution of a new Party determined on this basis would be more than 20 per cent

of the budget, the contribution of that Party shall be 20 per cent of the budget for the financial year of joining (or pro rata for a part-year).

Contributions shall be paid to the bank account of the United Nations based on the invoice provided by the United Nations Environment Programme.

9. For the convenience of the Parties, for each of the years of the financial period the Executive Director of UN Environment shall as soon as possible notify the Parties to the Agreement of their assessed contributions.
10. Contributions received into the Trust Fund that are not immediately required to finance activities shall be invested at the discretion of the United Nations, and any income shall be credited to the Trust Fund.
11. The Trust Fund shall be subject to audit by the United Nations Board of Auditors.
12. The budget estimates covering the income and expenditure for each of the four calendar years constituting the financial period to which they relate, prepared in EURO, shall be submitted to the ordinary session of the Meeting of Parties to the Agreement.
13. The estimates of each of the calendar years covered by the financial period shall be divided into sections and objects of expenditures, shall be specified according to budget lines, shall include references to the programmes of work to which they relate, and shall be accompanied by such information as may be required by or on behalf of the contributors, and such further information as the Executive Director of UN Environment may deem useful and advisable. In particular estimates shall also be prepared for each programme of work for each of the calendar years, with expenditure itemised for each programme so as to correspond to the sections, objects of expenditure, and budget lines described in the first sentence of this paragraph.
14. The proposed budget, including all the necessary information, shall be dispatched by the Secretariat to all Parties at least ninety days before the date fixed for the opening of the ordinary session of the Meeting of Parties.
15. The budget shall be adopted by a three-quarters majority of the Parties present and voting at the ordinary session.
16. In the event that the Executive Director of UN Environment anticipates that there might be a shortfall in resources over the financial period as a whole, the Executive Director shall consult with the Secretariat, who shall seek the advice of the Standing Committee as to its priorities for expenditure.
17. Commitments against the resources of the Trust Fund may be made only if they are covered by the necessary income of the Agreement.
18. Upon the request of the Secretariat of the Agreement, the Executive Director of UN Environment should, to the extent consistent with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, make transfers from one budget line to another. At the end of any calendar year within the financial period, the Executive Director of UN Environment may transfer any uncommitted balance of appropriations to the

following calendar year, provided that the total budget approved by the Parties is not exceeded, unless this is specifically sanctioned in writing by the Standing Committee.

19. At the end of each calendar year within the financial period², the Executive Director of UN Environment shall submit to the Parties, through the EUROBATS Secretariat, the accounts for the year. The Executive Director shall also submit, as soon as practicable, the audited accounts for the financial period. These shall include full details of actual expenditure compared to the original provisions for each budget line.
20. Those financial reports required to be submitted to the Executive Director of UN Environment shall be transmitted simultaneously by the Secretariat of the Agreement to the members of the Standing Committee.
21. The Secretariat of the Agreement shall provide the Standing Committee with an estimate of proposed expenditures over the coming year simultaneously with, or as soon as possible after, distribution of the accounts and reports referred to in the preceding paragraphs.
22. The present terms of reference shall be effective from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2026.

² The calendar year 1 January to 31 December is the accounting and financial year, but the accounts official closure date is 31 March of the following year. Thus, on 31 March the accounts of the previous year have to be closed, and it is only then that the Executive Director can submit the accounts of the previous calendar year.