



Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles Third Conference of the Parties

September 26th-28th, 2006 – Mazatlán, México

COP3/2006/R-5

Establishment of a working group on financial aspects and related subjects

CONSIDERING what is established in Article XIII of the Convention on “Financial Resources” in order that the Parties examine the needs and possibilities for having the financial resources for its operation;

RECALLING that Article VI 2. of the Convention establishes that “the Parties shall determine the means of financing necessary to carry out the functions of the Secretariat”;

RECALLING that Resolution COP1CIT-002 “Guidelines for the operation of the Inter-American Convention Special Fund” establishes that “all Parties, international organizations and non-governmental organizations interested in the work and the success of this Convention, are urged to contribute to the Fund and to seek funding from other sources”;

TAKING into consideration the importance of endowing the Convention with resources for its operation;

REAFFIRMING the ideas reflected in the minutes of COP1CIT where it was stated that “it is time now to establish a minimum voluntary contribution from each Party, which could have a basis of US\$2,000, and which could be accounted for in the efforts each Party conducts to protect the sea turtles.”; and

RECOGNIZING the need for advancing the objectives of the Convention;

THE THIRD CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES OF THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION OF SEA TURTLES RESOLVES TO:

ESTABLISH a working group on financial aspects and related subjects, taking into account the following considerations:

1. The Working Group will be constituted by a representative from each of the Parties, to be named through the focal point 30 calendar days from the adoption of this resolution at the latest;
2. The Working Group will operate between sessions of the Conference of the Parties through the available means of communication (email and/or teleconference).



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3. For the purpose of adhering to the entrusted duties with respect to time and form the Working Group will be coordinated by a representative of the Government of Venezuela, with the support of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat.
4. The Coordinator will be responsible for compiling documents and presenting them to the next COP, whether it is summoned as an ordinary or extraordinary session.
5. The objective of the Working Group is to formulate specific proposals on financial aspects and related subjects and present them to the COP, with the following considerations:
 - Developing viable financial mechanisms for endowing the Special Fund for the Inter-American Convention, considering both contributions from the Parties and fundraising from other sources.
 - Analyzing the budget and determining the required funding to carry out planned actions, while considering the available funds.
 - Providing specific analysis of required funds for each type of activity, among them on: the establishment of a permanent Secretariat, support to Party States, and requirements for specific actions contemplated in the 2007-2012 Strategic Plan and the 2007-2008 Work Plan.
6. To initiate the operation of the Working Group the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat will prepare within 45 days a document reflecting the relevant aspects expressed by the Parties at COP3IAC. This document will be forwarded to the Coordinator, who will prepare a base analysis document.
7. The Working Group must start operating before the end of 2006, from the base analysis document to be circulated by the Coordinator.
8. The Working Group must give recommendations to the COP for the adoption of the required measures or resolutions.

Finally, the Conference of the Parties urges the Parties to make contributions according to their capabilities, in order to provide support for the operation of the Convention in the advancement of its objectives. Likewise, the COP exhorts the Parties to, within their possibilities, finance the participation of their representatives in the meetings of the Convention in order to lessen the impact of this item on the limited availability of resources and carry out specific actions for compliance with the objectives of the Convention.

Mazatlan, Mexico September 2006