



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

April 23-24, 2009 – San José, Costa Rica

CIT-COP4-2009-R2

Working Group on the Legal Framework of the Convention and Permanent Secretariat

CONSIDERING that established in Article VI of the Convention regarding the establishment of a Secretariat;

TAKING into consideration the exchange of different view points that occurred during the COP4IAC;

AWARE of the importance of clarifying the appropriate mechanisms for the operation and functioning of the Permanent Secretariat;

RECOGNIZING the need to evaluate the most appropriate methods to address important points regarding the operation of the Permanent Secretariat, including, among others, points related to its legal status, the contributions of the Parties, and contracting personnel;

OBSERVING the need to move forward in consolidating the framework established in the Convention and the best compliance with these objectives.

THE FOURTH CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES OF THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION OF SEA TURTLES

RESOLVE TO:

ESTABLISH a Working Group that will analyze different alternatives and make recommendations according to the following considerations:

1. The Working Group will be made up of those Parties that express interest within a period of thirty days from the approval of this resolution.
2. The Working Group will have the mandate of analyzing different alternatives with the purpose of finding the most appropriate methods to confront the aspects relating to the operation of a Permanent Secretariat; including its legal status, contracting personnel, and the contributions of the Parties. Therefore, relevant practical experiences relating to the application of other environmental agreements will also be considered.
3. The Working Group will present, at the end of December of 2009, a first draft that will be distributed to the Parties by the Secretariat Pro Tempore.



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4. To facilitate its discussion during the COP5, the Working Group will provide specific proposals based on the task carried out.
5. The activities of the Working Group will be developed mainly through e-mail, telephone or video conferences. When the delegated task at hand has made sufficient advances, a meeting in person of the different members may be considered if deemed necessary.
6. The Pro Tempore Secretariat will offer their support to the Working Group so that they may begin as soon as possible and satisfactorily comply, in both time and format, with the task delegated to them in virtue of this resolution.