

Agenda Item 13.2

Report of the Secretariat on Finance and
Administrative Issues
Accounts for 2010

**Document 13-02
(restricted)**

Report on Budgetary Issues 2010

Action Requested

- Take note of the report
- Comment

Submitted by

Secretariat



NOTE:
IN THE INTERESTS OF ECONOMY, DELEGATES ARE KINDLY REMINDED TO BRING THEIR
OWN COPIES OF DOCUMENTS TO THE MEETING

Report on Budgetary Issues 2010

This report has been prepared by the CMS/ASCOBANS Secretariat, using information provided by the United Nations Office in Nairobi (UNON). It should be noted that final figures for the financial year 2010 are not yet available. Accordingly, this report contains figures as recorded in the bookkeeping system on 15 March 2011 and may still be subject to changes, mainly in relation to variations in the exchange rate between Euro and USD.

Section I: BA Trust Fund

Table 1: Income to the General Trust Fund

Contributions to the General Trust Fund for the Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas (ASCOBANS) (BA) as at 31 December 2010.

COUNTRIES	MOP 6 approved contribution for 2010	Contributions received for 2010 in previous year	Contributions received 2010	Outstanding Amount
	EUR	EUR	EUR	EUR
Belgium	13,498	0	0	13,498
Denmark	9,052	0	9,052	0
Finland	6,908	0	6,908	0
France	36,017	0	36,017	0
Germany	36,017	0	36,017	0
Lithuania	380	0	380	0
Netherlands	22,941	0	22,941	0
Poland	6,136	0	6,136	0
Sweden	13,118	0	13,118	0
United Kingdom	36,017	0	36,017	0
Total	180,084	0	166,586	13,498

Table 2: The MOP6 approved budget for 2010, the status of expenditures and final balance, as recorded in our internal bookkeeping system at 15 March 2010 on the General Trust Fund for ASCOBANS (BA)

BL	Budget Item	MOP6 approved budget for 2010 in EURO*	Expenditure in EURO**	Balance in EURO	Description of the expenditure
1101	Executive Secretary (D1), 3%	5,263	6,210	-947	Cost sharing: 3% reimbursed to CMS
1102	CMS Professional Staff (P4), 15% (ASCOBANS Senior Advisor)	19,584	22,028	-2,444	Cost sharing: 15% reimbursed to CMS
1103	Associate Coordination Officer (P2), 75%	61,200	49,788	11,412	Cost sharing: 25% reimbursed from the CMS budget
1220	Professional Consultancies and fractional CMS Staff time	8,000	5,101	2,899	Cost sharing with CMS and Consultancies
1301	General Services: Administrative Assistant (GS-5), 50%	36,750	24,856	11,894	
1601	Travel Secretariat Staff	4,370	5,069	-699	
1602	Experts on Mission	1,500	1,303	197	Support given to: Stefan Bräger (WG GES), Rüdiger Stempel & Euan Dunn (Bycatch Workshop), Russell Leaper (AC17)
1999	Personnel Subtotal	136,667	114,356	22,311	
2201	Conservation Projects	50,821	-1,374	52,195	MOP6-approved allotment of 1,590 Euro was increased from balance on 2009 budget
2999	Subprojects Subtotal	50,821	-1,374	52,195	
3302	Meeting of the Advisory Committee	3,000	-86	3,086	Budget line replenished from Belgium's reimbursement of 2009 over-expenditure, decreasing the expenditure on this line
3999	Meetings Subtotal	3,000	-86	3,086	
4101	Miscellaneous Office Supplies	753	237	516	

BL	Budget Item	MOP6 approved budget for 2010 in EURO*	Expenditure in EURO**	Balance in EURO	Description of the expenditure
4201	Office Equipment	905	542	363	
4999	Equipment and Premises Subtotal	1,658	779	879	
5101	Operation/Maintenance computers	538	-2,124	2,662	
5102	IT Services	10,000	10,833	-833	
5103	Operation/Maintenance of printers	215	224	-9	
5201	Information Material/Outreach and Education Work	1,500	489	1,011	VAT reimbursement and payment of co-sponsored "Toothed Whale Poster" production
5202	Reference Material	107	0	107	
5203	Website Maintenance and Development	2,000	702	1,298	
5301	Telephone and Fax	591	102	489	
5302	Postage and Miscellaneous	1,500	1,264	236	
5999	Miscellaneous Costs Subtotal	16,451	11,490	4,961	
	SUBTOTAL	208,597	125,165	83,432	
6000	Programme Support Cost (PSC), 13%	27,118	16,271	10,846	
	GRAND TOTAL	235,715	141,437	94,278	

All figures are rounded to the next full Euro.

* MOP6 approved budget for 2010 in Euro. The allotment in line 2201 (Conservation Projects) was increased by the rephasal of the positive balance of the previous year's budget. Allotments in US\$ have been made based on the UN average exchange rate for 2009 (1 US\$ = 0,722 Euro).

** Estimated expenditure amount in Euro. The UN average exchange rate for 2010 (1 US\$ = 0,756 Euro) has been applied in the calculation of the equivalent Euro amounts for all expenditure items that had been recorded and reported in US\$. Some gains and losses on exchange rate are incurred due to the use of such a conversion method.

BA Trust Fund Balance

The balance of the General Trust Fund at the end of 2010 has not yet been certified by the Accounts Section, Budget and Financial Management Service of the United Nations Offices in Nairobi (UNON).

According to the records indicated above, an unspent balance of approx. 83,432 Euro (119,648 USD) should be available for rephasal from the 2010 budgetary year. However, currently only part of this money is accessible, due to a balance adjustment on the UNEP Euro account relating to the Euro-US Dollar exchange rate. The calculation method for the share of the losses of about 6% in total for each MEA were calculated in such a way as to be highly unfavourable towards CMS and the co-located Agreements AEWA, ASCOBANS and EUROBATS, resulting in losses of around 50% of their assets (48,2% / 57,725 USD in the case of ASCOBANS). The Acting Executive Secretary has brought the matter to the attention to UNEP and UNON and has requested an urgent and more realistic recalculation of the shares and release of the balance. The Secretariat will keep Parties informed of further developments on this matter after the on-going consultations with UNON to clarify the situation are completed.

Section II: XV Trust Fund

Table 3: Income, Expenditure and Commitments of the Fund for Voluntary Earmarked Contributions

Income to the fund for Voluntary Earmarked Contributions in support of the ASCOBANS Secretariat (XV Fund) in the period 1 January - 31 December 2010, as well as expenditure and commitments by 31 December 2010.

	Allotment in Euro	Total expenditure in Euro	Balance in Euro
German Voluntary Contribution for 2010	22,655	22,655	0
Finnish Voluntary Contribution for 2010, incl. balance of 2009	3,043	909	2,134
Subtotal	25,698	23,564	2,134
UNEP 13% PSC	3,341	3,063	277
Grand total	29,039	26,627	2,411

The German Voluntary Contribution was used for the production of the German language exhibition, the production of leaflets in multiple languages and stickers for the SAMBAH project, the layout of the print version of "Odontocetes: the toothed whales" (available online at http://www.cms.int/reports/small_cetaceans/index.htm), covering the travel costs of the AC Chair for participating in meetings of the EC Marine Strategy Framework Directive Working Group on Good Environmental Status), as well as for financing phase II of the project "Effects of Contaminants on Reproduction in Small Cetaceans" of the University of St. Andrews (see AC17/Doc.6-02 for details on the project). This use was in line with the donor agreement concluded with the Ministry. The Secretariat's budgetary report was accepted by the Ministry.

In agreement with the Ministry, the Finnish Voluntary Contribution was used for covering the travel expenses of an expert (Arne Bjørge) to the 6th Jastarnia Group Meeting.