

DECISIONS OF THE SECOND BUREAU MEETING OF THE 9TH GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE LUSAKA AGREEMENT

DECISION BGC 2/IX/1

PROGRAMME OF WORK AND BUDGETS FOR THE TASK FORCE

The Bureau of the Governing Council,

Having met at the Laico Regency Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya on 15th and 16th October 2009 to review progress made by the Lusaka Agreement Task Force on the implementation of the Agreement and the Governing Council Decisions made at its 9th meeting and the first Bureau meeting held in February 2009;

Considering the mandate vested upon it through its Governing Council Decisions VII/I/c (ii) and VIII/II.5 permitting it to continue exercising decision-making powers on substantive issues as may be appropriate;

Taking note that the Lusaka Agreement Task Force made considerable progress in its implementation of the planned and approved activities during the year as presented by its Director in document *LATF/BGC2/Exp/9.3* entitled '*LATF Progress Report for the Period 5th October 2008 - 30th September 2009*;

Considering the Progress Report on the implementation of the *Programme of the Work and Budget of the Lusaka Agreement Task Force* for the Financial Year 2008/2009 presented by its Director and discussed by the Bureau;

Acknowledging the efforts made by some Party States to pay their full contributions and others part of their dues to the budget of the Lusaka Agreement Task Force;

1. **Takes note** of the positive progress made by the Lusaka Agreement Task Force in the implementation of its Programme of Work and the Decisions of the 9th Governing Council meeting and the first Bureau meeting;
2. **Directs** the Director of the Task Force to continue pursuing the goal on expansion of membership to the Agreement by creating awareness to potential members;

3. **Further Directs** the Director of the Lusaka Agreement Task Force to continue implementing the approved Programme of Work for the financial year 2009/2010 taking into account the need to expand the focus of its activities on plants and forest conservation and sustainable management matters;
4. **Approves** the Audit Report for the Financial Year 2008/2009;
5. **Instructs** the Director of the Lusaka Agreement Task Force to provide progress report on the implementation of this decision to the 10th Governing Council meeting.

DECISION BGC2/IX/2

SETTLEMENT OF UNPAID DUES TO LATF STAFF, REVIEW OF LATF TRAVEL ALLOWANCES AND SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET

Considering the Proposals presented by the Director of the Task Force;

Acknowledging that the proposals are in line with the Rules of the Task Force;

Further taking note of the progress made on implementation of Decision *BGC 1/IX/1.5* of the first Bureau meeting of the 9th Governing Council that directed the Director to develop a comprehensive proposal for a remuneration package for compensation of Task Force staff including the two immediate former Director and the Intelligence Officer;

Considering the proposal to review the Task Force travel allowances;

Having considered the supplementary budget presented by the Director of the Lusaka Agreement Task Force to support settlement of unpaid dues to Task Force staff and review of LATF travel allowances;

1. **Approves** the proposal on settlement of the unpaid dues to Task Force staff,
2. **Approves** the proposal on revision of the Task Force travel allowances and adopts the revised rates with immediate effect,
3. **Adopts** the supplementary budget amounting to US\$ 355,197 to support settlement of unpaid dues to Task Force staff and review of Task Force travel allowances using funds brought forward from financial year 2008/2009,

4. **Directs** the Task Force to come up with innovative ways of sourcing funding for the activities of the Lusaka Agreement,
5. **Further Directs** the Director of the Lusaka Agreement Task Force to implement and report on the progress of the implementation of this decision to the 10th Governing Council meeting.

DECISION BGC2/IX/3

15TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LUSAKA AGREEMENT

Taking note of the proposal and the need to recognize the 15th Anniversary to publicize the Lusaka Agreement;

1. **Approves** the proposal on undertaking of the 15th anniversary celebrations;
2. **Directs** the Task Force to further expand the scope of the proposal and to defer its implementation to the next financial year 2010/2011;
3. **Instructs** the Task Force to organise an African conference on Fight against loss of Biodiversity which will involve key stakeholders including international institutions/organisations.

DECISION BGC2/IX/4

DISPOSAL OF THE 6.5 TONNES OF CONTRABAND IVORY

Recalling Decision IX/6 of the 9th Governing Council which directed the Task Force to dispose off the 6.5 tonnes contraband ivory seized in Singapore in 2002 upon obtaining a no objection consent from the Republics of Malawi, Zambia and The United Republic of Tanzania;

Acknowledging the position of the Government of Zambia that the ivory is returned to their country;

Further acknowledging the position of the Government of Malawi that the ivory either is returned to their country or the Task Force identifies donors who would accept debt for nature swap;

Recognizing the position of the Government of The United Republic of Tanzania that it fully supports the implementation of the decision of the 9th Governing Council without the option of returning it to its country;

Taking note of the emerging complications surrounding its disposal;

Appreciating the need for more sensitisation among the interested member States and other Stakeholders on the implication of Decision IX/6;

Taking Cognisance of CITES provision on disposal of illegally traded, confiscated and accumulated specimens of Appendix-I species (*Conf.9.10 (Rev.CoP14)*);

1. **Directs** the Task Force to continue with widespread sensitization activities with respect to CITES regulations among the concerned Parties and other stakeholders, and thereafter proceed with the implementation of the Governing Council decision on the disposal,
2. **Further Directs** the Director of the Task Force to report on the progress of the disposal to the next Governing Council meeting.

Signed after adoption by:

Hon. Ezekiel Maige (MP) **Date**

Deputy Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism of The United Republic of Tanzania and the representative of the President of the 9th Governing Council of the Lusaka Agreement.

Hon. Henri Djombo (MP) **Date**

Minister for Sustainable Development, Forest Economy and Environment, of the Republic of Congo and Vice President of the 9th Governing Council of the Lusaka Agreement.

Hon. Serapio Rukundo (MP) **Date**

Minister of State for Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities of the Republic of Uganda and Rapporteur of the 9th Governing Council of the Lusaka Agreement.
