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INTERGOVERNMENTAL NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE
FOR A FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE
Third session
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Agenda item 3

REVIEW OF EXTRABUDGETARY FUNDS

Note by the Executive Secretary

- I. SPECIAL VOLUNTARY FUND TO SUPPORT THE PARTICIPATION OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
- 1. By its resolution 45/212, paragraph 10, the General Assembly established "a special voluntary fund, administered by the head of the <u>ad hoc</u> secretariat under the authority of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, to ensure that developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, as well as small island developing countries, are able to participate fully and effectively in the negotiating process". Governments, regional economic integration organizations and the relevant bodies of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Meteorological Organization, have been called upon by the General Assembly and/or the Committee to contribute generously to the special voluntary fund.
- 2. The state of pledges and receipts for the special voluntary fund is shown in Table 1 (at the end of this document).

3. In addition:

- (a) Australia and New Zealand have informed the Executive Secretary of their bilateral funding arrangements, as explained in document A/AC.237/8/Add.1, amounting to approximately \$US105,300 and \$US45,700 respectively to date. Australia will provide additional funding for the same purposes in its financial year 1991/1992.
- (b) The Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has indicated his agreement in principle to an amount in the order of \$US100,000 being made available for funding the participation of developing countries in the negotiating process. This would come predominantly from resources of the Fifth Cycle.
- (c) The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) has made provision for a contribution of Swiss Francs 50,000 in 1992.
- (d) The Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has advised the Executive Secretary that, in case delays in payments of pledged contributions impair the capacity of the special voluntary fund, he would consider favourably a future request for temporary financing from the Environment Fund to help cover such shortfalls until receipts of contributions to the fund permit the loan to be reimbursed.
- 4. Arrangements made for financing the participation of developing countries in the first session of the Committee did not draw a large response. For the second session, offers to fund travel and subsistence for one delegate were made to some 100 countries, as explained in document A/AC.237/8, paragraphs 6-9. These arrangements were discussed by the Committee at its second session, after which the Chairman expressed the sense of the meeting that the arrangements should be maintained for subsequent sessions. UNDP field offices continue to be the main channels for issuing tickets and subsistence allowances to delegates.
- 5. Amounts committed for financing participation in the first session and estimated for the second and third sessions, including provision for programme support costs at 13 per cent, are as follows:

First session: \$US 65,000 (15 delegates funded) Second session: \$US410,000 (81 delegates funded)

Third session: \$US390,000 (assuming 80 delegates funded)

Total : \$U8865,000

- 6. For the second and third sessions, amounts to be transferred from the Japanese Trust Fund for International Co-operation for Development in connection with pre-session seminars and training activities are estimated at \$US30,000 and \$US80,000 respectively. The balance of the Japanese pledge from that Trust Fund should cover the cost of training activities before the fourth session.
 - 7. Assuming contributions in the pipeline and outstanding pledges due this year (see Table 1) are received in the near future, the total amount paid into the fund by the end of 1991 will be \$US1,238,000. After deducting \$US685,000 (the total amount estimated for the first three sessions), the balance available for financing participation in future sessions of the Committee will be of the order of \$US370,000.
 - 8. These estimates, based on the latest figures available, taken together with the expected contribution of the UNDP, appear to assure the capacity of the fund to finance participation in the fourth session of the Committee, along the same lines as for the second and third sessions.
- 9. A small balance in the fund may be carried over into 1992. So far, pledges for 1992 amount to some \$US130,000 (Germany, WMO). Should the transfer of the entire Japanese contribution be completed, a further \$US200,000 would be available. The estimated funding need continues to be of the order of \$US500,000 for covering the participation of 100 delegates in a session. Thus, some new contributions will have to be made to enable the fund to operate in 1992. Additional contributions of \$US200,000 would secure adequate financing to cover participation in the fifth session of the Committee. It is important that contributions mentioned in this paragraph be received in the fund as early as possible, if possible before the end of 1991, to permit timely arrangements to be made for the fifth session.

II. TRUST FUND FOR THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS

10. The General Assembly, by its resolution 45/212, paragraph 20, decided "that the negotiating process shall be funded through existing United Nations budgetary resources, without negatively affecting its programmed activities, and through voluntary contributions to a trust fund established specifically for that purpose for the duration of the negotiations". It also invited "the World Meteorological Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme and other relevant bodies of the United Nations system, including those in the field of development, to make contributions to the negotiating process, including its funding"; Governments, regional economic integration organizations and other interested organizations were similarly invited "to contribute generously to the trust fund" (paras. 21 and 22).

- 11. As shown in Table 2, pledges to this trust fund now total \$US130,000, of which approximately \$US50,000 are in the pipeline.
- 12. This fund will be used to defray INC secretariat expenses other than staff costs. As indicated to the Committee at its second session (A/AC.232/8, para. 18), these expenses are expected to total \$US560,000 in 1991 and 1992. So far, these expenses have been met through arrangements with the UNCTAD secretariat, authorized by the United Nations Controller. The UNCTAD secretariat continues to be temporarily responsible for administering the INC secretariat.
- 13. The INC secretariat has been provided with office accommodation on United Nations premises in Geneva, at no cost to it.
- 14. As regards support for staffing, new developments since those reported to the Committee at its second session (A/AC.237/8, para. 17, and INC/FCCC/INF.2) include: action by UNEP to make available a senior officer (D.1) for three months pending the availability of a post in the INC secretariat; an arrangement by the Government of Canada to provide the services of a professional officer (L.4) at its cost; and expressions of interest by two countries in financing temporary posts for associate experts (L.2) from developing countries.
- 15. The staffing situation of the INC secretariat continues to be precarious. Consultations are under way with the Controller with a view to securing temporary posts for the remainder of this year for those staff not financed by UNEP, WMO or bilateral contributions. The Committee may wish to note that it is the intention of the Secretary-General to seek funding for the INC secretariat for 1992 from the regular United Nations Programme Budget for 1992-1993. A statement of programme budget implications will be submitted to the General Assembly in due course, in connection with the Secretary-General's report to the Assembly, requested by Assembly resolution 45/212, paragraph 24. This statement will take account of the level of contributions to the trust fund for the negotiating process.

Voluntary Fund for participation of developing countries (General Assembly resolution 45/212, paragraph 10): Status of contributions as of 11 September 1991

Contributor	Pledge (outstanding)	Receipt (or in pipeline)
Austria	\$US25,000.00	\$US40,000.00 30 July 1991
Canada		\$US30,085.16 27 February 1991
Denmark		\$US100,000.00 23 April 1991
Commission of the European Communities	ECU50,000.00 ³ (\$US60,000.00)	
Finland		\$US104,866.77 20 March 1991
France	FF200,000.00 (\$US34,500.00)	\$US34,782.61 15 April 1991
Germany	\$US100,000.00 (for 1992)	\$US100,000.00 28 August 1991
Ireland		\$US10,000.00 3 July 1991
Japan	\$US200,000.00	ñ
Netherlands		\$US150,000.00
Norway		\$US50,000.00 23 March 1991
Spain		\$US54,644.80 15 April 1991
Sweden		\$US86,058.51 15 March 1991
Switzerland		\$US210,869.31 10 April 1991
Turkey		\$US3,000.00 5 April 1991
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (two contributions)		\$US43,312.50 4 April 1991 \$US50,682.00 10 September 1991
United States of America		\$US50,000.00 18 June 1991
Total received (or in pipeline)		\$US1,118,300.00
Outstanding pledges	(estimates)	\$US419,500.00
Total funding in view		\$US1.54 million

^{1/} Figures in brackets are approximate equivalents in US dollars.

 $^{{\}it 2}{\it 1}$ Where the date of receipt is not given, the secretariat has not yet received confirmation from United Nations Headquarters that the amount has been credited to the fund.

^{3/} Subject to clarification of conditions.

 $[\]underline{4}$ / To be paid from the Trust Fund for International Co-operation for Development, in connection with pre-INC seminars and training activities. Amount estimated for events organized before INC II and INC III approximately \$US110,000.

Table 2

Trust fund for the negotiating process (General Assembly resolution 45/212, paragraph 20) Status of contributions as of 11 September 1991

Contributor	Pledge (outstanding)	Receipt (or in pipeline) ²
Commission of the European Communities	ECU50,000.00 ³ / (\$US60,000.00)	
Spain	Ptas 2 million (\$US20,000.00)	
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland		(\$US50,000.00)
Total pledged (approximate estimates)	\$US130,000.00	

^{1/} Figures in brackets are approximate equivalents in US dollars.

² Where the date of receipt is not given, the secretariat has not yet received confirmation from United Nations Headquarters that the amount has been credited to the fund.

^{3/} Subject to clarification of conditions.