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New Delhi, India, 2–13 September 2019 Agenda item 6 (a) Programme and budget Programme and budget for the biennium 2020–2021

Programme and budget for the biennium 2020–2021

Draft decision submitted by the Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling the financial rules for the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD),¹

Also recalling decision 7/COP.13,

Further recalling decision 9/COP.9 on the programme and budget for the biennium 2010–2011, paragraphs 13 and 14,

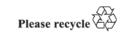
Having considered the information contained in the documents prepared by the secretariat and the Global Mechanism on the programme and budget,²

Programme budget for the biennium 2020–2021

- 1. *Approves* the programme budget for the biennium 2020–2021 in the amount of EUR 16,430,903 for the purposes specified in table 1 below;
- 2. Expresses its appreciation to the Government of Germany for its biennial voluntary contribution to the core budget of EUR 1,022,584 and its special contribution of EUR 1,022,584 (Bonn Fund) as host Government to the secretariat;
- 3. *Approves* the staffing table for the programme budget, as contained in table 2 below;
- 4. *Decides* to maintain the level of the working capital reserve at 12 per cent of the estimated annual expenditure in the Trust Fund for the Core Budget of the UNCCD;
- 5. Authorizes the Executive Secretary, on an exceptional basis, to draw upon the available unspent balances or contributions from prior financial periods for 2020–2021 in an amount up to EUR 242,821, provided that the use of the balance does not reduce the

² Documents ICCD/COP(14)/6; ICCD/COP(14)/7-ICCD/CRIC(18)/2; ICCD/CRIC(18)/3; ICCD/COP(14)/8; ICCD/COP(14)/9; ICCD/COP(14)/10; and ICCD/COP(14)/11.







¹ Decision 2/COP.1, annex.

working capital reserve, and that any such utilization be distributed to programmes and the Global Mechanism proportionate to the approved budget;

- 6. *Adopts* the indicative scale of contributions for 2020 and 2021, contained in the annex to this decision;
- 7. *Invites* all Parties to the Convention to note that contributions to the core budget are expected on or before 1 January of each year, in accordance with paragraph 14 (a) of the financial rules of the Conference of the Parties;
- 8. Authorizes the Executive Secretary to make transfers between each of the main appropriation lines as set out in table 1 below, up to an aggregate limit of 20 per cent of the total estimated expenditure for those appropriation lines, provided that a further limitation of up to minus 25 per cent of each such appropriation line shall apply, and *requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Conference of the Parties on any such transfers;
- 9. Also authorizes the Executive Secretary to establish lower-level positions in addition to the approved staffing table as set out in table 2 below within a budget for staff costs not to exceed EUR 10,946,166; requests the Executive Secretary to analyse the organizational structure and the staffing to ensure effectiveness and efficiency in the implementation of the approved work programme; and *further requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth session on:
 - (a) The level of positions filled against the approved staffing table; and
 - (b) The outcomes of the analysis;
- 10. *Invites* the United Nations General Assembly to include, in the calendar of conferences and meetings for the biennium 2020–2021, the sessions of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies envisaged for the biennium;
- 11. Approves a contingency budget as set out in table 3 below, amounting to EUR 2,104,660 for conference servicing, to be added to the programme budget for the biennium 2020–2021 in the event that the General Assembly decides not to provide resources for these activities in the United Nations regular budget;
- 12. *Decides* that, to the extent that offsetting voluntary contributions for the purpose expressed in paragraph 11 does not reach this amount, the balance will be included in the contingency budget for conference servicing;
- 13. *Takes note* of the estimated additional costs of up to EUR 1,518,560 as set out in table 4 below, in the event that the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties is held in Bonn, Germany;
- 14. *Also takes note* of the estimated additional costs of up to EUR 688,170, as set out in table 5 below, in the event that the nineteenth session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention is held in Bonn, Germany;
- 15. Further takes note of the funding estimates for the Special Trust Fund specified by the Executive Secretary in table 6 below, and *invites* Parties to make contributions to this Fund;
- 16. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth session on the status of income and expenditure and budget performance, using a results-based approach;
- 17. Notes the ongoing discussion at the United Nations General Assembly and the recommendations expressed in the 2018 report of the Board of Auditors on the requirements for after-service health insurance and requests the Executive Secretary to continue monitoring developments within the United Nations system and, on that basis, prepare a report with options on how to address this in the budget for the biennium 2022–2023, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth session;
- 18. Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare a results-based budget and work programme for the biennium 2022–2023 in line with decision XX/COP.14 (on workplans), presenting two budget scenarios and a work programme based on the projected needs for the biennium in (a) a zero nominal growth scenario; and (b) a scenario based on further

recommended adjustments to the first scenario and the added costs or savings related to them:

Financial performance of the Convention trust funds

19. *Approves* the following amendment to the financial rules of the Conference of the Parties, its subsidiary bodies and the Convention secretariat:³

Replace paragraph 12 (a) with the following:

"Contributions made each year by Parties on the basis of the indicative scale adopted by consensus by the Conference of the Parties, and based on the most recent scale of assessments of the United Nations as may be adopted by the General Assembly;"

- 20. Takes note of the audited financial statements for the secretariat and Global Mechanism for 2017 and 2018, and of the report on financial performance and the reports on the implementation of the work programme of the secretariat and the Global Mechanism for the biennium 2018–2019, and the status of contributions as at 15 August 2019;
- 21. Further takes note of the observations made by the Board of Auditors in its report on the audited financial statements for the Convention trust funds for 2017 and 2018, and requests the Executive Secretary to implement the recommendations, as appropriate;
- 22. *Urges* the Executive Secretary to further reduce the environmental impact of the operations of the Secretariat by rationalizing resource use and travel, such as by adopting wider use of videoconferencing facilities and prioritizing official travel that is directly related to the implementation of the approved work programme;
- 23. *Notes* that an agreement of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification secretariat with the internal audit service is still pending and *requests* the Executive Secretary to re-establish this service, as appropriate and in a cost-effective way;
- 24. Requests the secretariat to foster transparency and accountability, establish a section on the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification website to publish up-to-date information relevant to the governance of the Convention and the Global Mechanism including, inter alia, the audit reports, applicable financial rules and regulations, and any other relevant budgetary and financial information;
- 25. Authorizes the Executive Secretary, on an exceptional basis, to use the remainder of the amount previously allocated from the reserves of the Trust Fund for the Core Budget of the UNCCD for the furtherance of the Drought Initiative described in decision XX/COP.14 (on drought);
- 26. *Encourages* the secretariat and the Global Mechanism, within their respective mandates, to mobilize voluntary contributions as financial and non-financial resources to the Drought Initiative, as appropriate;
- 27. Expresses appreciation to Parties that have paid their contributions to the core budget in a timely manner;
- 28. Calls upon Parties that have not paid their contributions to the core budget to do so without delay, bearing in mind that contributions are expected on or before 1 January of each year, and requests the secretariat to notify Parties of the amounts of their contributions to the core budget as early as possible in the year preceding the year in which they are due;
- 29. *Urges* Parties with outstanding contributions to make a renewed effort to address this issue as expeditiously as possible to enhance the financial stability of the Convention through contributions by all Parties;
- 30. Requests the Executive Secretary to continue engaging Parties with outstanding contributions from past years with a view to the Parties entering into a voluntary plan to

³ Decision 2/COP.1, annex.

pay the outstanding contribution and to continue to report on the implementation of any arrangements regarding outstanding contributions;

- 31. Also requests the Executive Secretary to report on core budget contributions made by Parties for prior financial periods that have been received during the biennium 2020–2021;
- 32. *Expresses appreciation* for the contributions received from Parties to the Supplementary Fund, the Special Fund and the extrabudgetary funds of the Global Mechanism:

Evaluation reports

- 33. *Welcomes* the recommendations of the independent evaluations and assessments summarized in document ICCD/COP(14)/12, and *requests* the secretariat and the Global Mechanism to use these recommendations in planning and conducting their work;
- 34. *Takes note* of the proposed 2020–2021 workplan of the Evaluation Office, and *requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth session on the outcomes of the evaluations that will be conducted in 2020–2021 and on the action taken to meet the pending recommendations of earlier evaluations, as appropriate.

Table 1
Resource requirements by subprogramme (Euros)

I. Secretariat programmes	2020	2021	Total core budget
A. Executive direction and management	1 013 419	1 013 419	2 026 838
B. Communications	561 295	561 295	1 122 590
C. External relations, policy and advocacy	1 091 937	1 091 937	2 183 874
D. Science, technology and implementation	1 602 685	1 602 685	3 205 370
E. Administrative services	1 153 523	1 153 523	2 307 045
II. Global Mechanism			
F. Global Mechanism	1 847 452	1 847 452	3 694 905
Subtotal (A-F)	7 270 311	7 270 311	14 540 622
III. Programme support costs (13%)	945 140	945 141	1 890 281
IV. Working capital reserve	-	-	-
TOTAL (I-IV)	8 215 451	8 215 452	16 430 903
Income			
Contribution from the host Government	511 292	511 292	1 022 584
Indicative contributions	7 582 749	7 582 749	15 165 498
Unspent balances or contributions from prior			
financial periods (up to)	121 410	121 411	242 821
TOTAL Income	8 215 451	8 215 452	16 430 903

Table 2 **Staffing requirements**

	Actual	Req	uired
	2019	2020	2021
Secretariat			
A. Professional category and above			
USG	1.00	1.00	1.00
ASG	0.00	0.00	0.00
D-2	1.00	1.00	1.00
D-1	0.00	0.00	0.00
P-5	7.00	7.00	7.00
P-4	7.00	7.00	7.00
P-3	4.00	4.00	4.00
P-2	1.00	1.00	1.00
P-1	0.00	0.00	0.00
Subtotal A. Professional category and above	21.00	21.00	21.00
B. General Service category	10.00	10.00	10.00
Total (A + B)	31.00	31.00	31.00
	Actual	Req	uired
	2019	2020	2021
Global Mechanism			
A. Professional category and above			
D-1	1.00	1.00	1.00
D-1 P-5	1.00 1.00	1.00 1.00	1.00 1.00
P-5	1.00	1.00	1.00
P-5 P-4	1.00 2.00	1.00 2.00	1.00 2.00
P-5 P-4 P-3	1.00 2.00 4.00	1.00 2.00 4.00	1.00 2.00 4.00
P-5 P-4 P-3 P-2	1.00 2.00 4.00 2.00	1.00 2.00 4.00 2.00	1.00 2.00 4.00 2.00
P-5 P-4 P-3 P-2 Subtotal A. Professional category and above	1.00 2.00 4.00 2.00 10.00	1.00 2.00 4.00 2.00 10.00	1.00 2.00 4.00 2.00 10.00

Table 3

Contingency budget for conference servicing

TOTAL	2 073 550	2 104 660
Programme support costs	238 550	242 130
United Nations meetings services	1 835 000	1 862 530
Object of expenditure	2018–2019	2020–2021

 $\label{thm:conference} Table\ 4$ Resource requirements for hosting the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties in Bonn

(Euros)

518 560
74 700
343 860
21 800
222 060
0–2021

Table 5
Resource requirements for hosting the nineteenth session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (Euros)

TOTAL	688 170
Programme support costs	79 170
Subtotal	609 000
Contingencies	60 900
Incremental costs	548 100
Object of expenditure	2020–2021

Table 6
Estimated resource requirements for participation in the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification process for the biennium 2020–2021 (Special Trust Fund) (Euros)

	2 200 000
Fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties ^a	1 300 000
of the Implementation of the Convention	900 000
Sessions Nineteenth session of the Committee for the Review	Estimated cost

^a Includes estimates for the participation of affected country representatives, e.g. national focal points, with a second representative from least developed countries, and science and technology correspondents.

Annex

Indicative scale of contributions for the core budget of the Convention for 2020–2021

Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification ^a	United Nations scale of assessment ^b		2020 indicative contributions (euros)	2021 indicative contributions (euros)	Total amount payable (euros)
Afghanistan	0.007	0.007	517	517	1 034
Albania	0.008	0.008	591	591	1 182
Algeria	0.138	0.135	10 201	10 201	20 402
Andorra	0.005	0.005	370	370	740
Angola	0.010	0.010	739	739	1 478
Antigua and Barbuda	0.002	0.002	148	148	296
Argentina	0.915	0.892	67 640	67 640	135 280
Armenia	0.007	0.007	517	517	1 034
Australia	2.210	2.155	163 372	163 372	326 744
Austria	0.677	0.660	50 046	50 046	100 092
Azerbaijan	0.049	0.048	3 622	3 622	7 244
Bahamas	0.018	0.018	1 331	1 331	2 662
Bahrain	0.050	0.049	3 696	3 696	7 392
Bangladesh	0.010	0.010	739	739	1 478
Barbados	0.007	0.007	517	517	1 034
Belarus	0.049	0.048	3 622	3 622	7 244
Belgium	0.821	0.800	60 691	60 691	121 382
Belize	0.001	0.001	76	76	152
Benin	0.003	0.003	222	222	444
Bhutan	0.001	0.001	76	76	152
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	0.016	0.016	1 183	1 183	2 366
Bosnia and Herzegovina	0.012	0.012	887	887	1 774
Botswana	0.014	0.014	1 035	1 035	2 070
Brazil	2.948	2.874	217 927	217 927	435 854
Brunei Darussalam	0.025	0.024	1 848	1 848	3 696
Bulgaria	0.046	0.045	3 400	3 400	6 800
Burkina Faso	0.003	0.003	222	222	444
Burundi	0.001	0.001	76	76	152
Cabo Verde	0.001	0.001	76	76	152
Cambodia	0.006	0.006	444	444	888
Cameroon	0.013	0.013	961	961	1 922
Canada	2.734	2.665	202 108	202 108	404 216
Central African Republic	0.001	0.001	76	76	152
Chad	0.004	0.004	296	296	592
Chile	0.407	0.397	30 087	30 087	60 174
China	12.005	11.704	887 455	887 455	1 774 910
Colombia	0.288	0.281	21 290	21 290	42 580
Comoros	0.001	0.001	76	76	152
Congo	0.006	0.006	444	444	888

Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification ^a	United Nations Ind scale of assessment ^b	dicative scale of assessment for 2020–2021	2020 indicative contributions (euros)	2021 indicative contributions (euros)	Total amount payable (euros)
Cook Islands	0.001	0.001	76	76	152
Costa Rica	0.062	0.060	4 583	4 583	9 166
Côte d'Ivoire	0.013	0.013	961	961	1 922
Croatia	0.077	0.075	5 692	5 692	11 384
Cuba	0.080	0.078	5 914	5 914	11 828
Cyprus	0.036	0.035	2 661	2 661	5 322
Czechia	0.311	0.303	22 990	22 990	45 980
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	0.006	0.006	444	444	888
Democratic Republic of the					
Congo	0.010	0.010	739	739	1 478
Denmark	0.554	0.540	40 954	40 954	81 908
Djibouti	0.001	0.001	76	76	152
Dominica	0.001	0.001	76	76	152
Dominican Republic	0.053	0.052	3 918	3 918	7 836
Ecuador	0.080	0.078	5 914	5 914	11 828
Egypt	0.186	0.181	13 750	13 750	27 500
El Salvador	0.012	0.012	887	887	1 774
Equatorial Guinea	0.016	0.016	1 183	1 183	2 366
Eritrea	0.001	0.001	76	76	152
Estonia	0.039	0.038	2 883	2 883	5 766
Eswatini	0.002	0.002	148	148	296
Ethiopia	0.010	0.010	739	739	1 478
European Union	2.500	2.500	189 569	189 569	379 138
Fiji	0.003	0.003	222	222	444
Finland	0.421	0.410	31 122	31 122	62 244
France	4.427	4.316	327 260	327 260	654 520
Gabon	0.015	0.015	1 109	1 109	2 218
Gambia	0.001	0.001	76	76	152
Georgia	0.008	0.008	591	591	1 182
Germany	6.090	5.937	450 196	450 196	
Ghana	0.015	0.015	1 109	1 109	
Greece	0.366	0.357	27 056	27 056	54 112
Grenada	0.001	0.001	76	76	152
Guatemala	0.036	0.035	2 661	2 661	5 322
Guinea	0.003	0.003	222	222	444
Guinea-Bissau	0.001	0.001	76	76	152
Guyana	0.002	0.002	148	148	296
Haiti	0.003	0.003	222	222	444
Honduras	0.009	0.009	665	665	1 330
Hungary	0.206	0.201	15 228	15 228	30 456
Iceland	0.028	0.027	2 070	2 070	4 140
India	0.834	0.813	61 652	61 652	123 304
Indonesia	0.543	0.529	40 141	40 141	80 282
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	0.398	0.388	29 422	29 422	58 844

Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification ^a	United Nations Ind scale of assessment ^b	licative scale of assessment for 2020–2021	2020 indicative contributions (euros)	2021 indicative contributions (euros)	Total amount payable (euros)
 Iraq	0.129	0.126	9 536	9 536	19 072
Ireland	0.371	0.362	27 426	27 426	54 852
Israel	0.490	0.478	36 223	36 223	72 446
Italy	3.307	3.224	244 466	244 466	488 932
Jamaica	0.008	0.008	591	591	1 182
Japan	8.564	8.349	633 083	633 083	1 266 166
Jordan	0.021	0.020	1 552	1 552	3 104
Kazakhstan	0.178	0.174	13 158	13 158	26 316
Kenya	0.024	0.023	1 774	1 774	3 548
Kiribati	0.001	0.001	76	76	152
Kuwait	0.252	0.246	18 629	18 629	37 258
Kyrgyzstan	0.002	0.002	148	148	296
Lao People's Democratic					
Republic	0.005	0.005	370	370	740
Latvia	0.047	0.046	3 474	3 474	6 948
Lebanon	0.047	0.046	3 474	3 474	6 948
Lesotho	0.001	0.001	76	76	152
Liberia	0.001	0.001	76	76	152
Libya	0.030	0.029	2 218	2 218	4 436
Liechtenstein	0.009	0.009	665	665	1 330
Lithuania	0.071	0.069	5 249	5 249	10 498
Luxembourg	0.067	0.065	4 953	4 953	9 906
Madagascar	0.004	0.004	296	296	592
Malawi	0.002	0.002	148	148	296
Malaysia	0.341	0.332	25 208	25 208	50 416
Maldives	0.004	0.004	296	296	592
Mali	0.004	0.004	296	296	592
Malta	0.017	0.017	1 257	1 257	2 514
Marshall Islands	0.001	0.001	76	76	152
Mauritania	0.002	0.002	148	148	296
Mauritius	0.011	0.011	813	813	1 626
Mexico	1.292	1.260	95 509	95 509	191 018
Micronesia (Federated States					
of)	0.001	0.001	76	76	152
Monaco	0.011	0.011	813	813	1 626
Mongolia	0.005	0.005	370	370	
Montenegro	0.004	0.004	296	296	592
Morocco	0.055	0.054	4 066	4 066	
Mozambique	0.004	0.004	296	296	
Myanmar	0.010	0.010	739	739	
Namibia	0.009	0.009	665	665	1 330
Nauru	0.001	0.001	76	76	152
Nepal	0.007	0.007	517	517	1 034
Netherlands	1.356	1.322	100 241	100 241	200 482
New Zealand	0.291	0.284	21 512	21 512	43 024

Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification ^a	United Nations scale of assessment ^b	Indicative scale of assessment for 2020–2021	2020 indicative contributions	2021 indicative contributions	Total amount
			(euros)	, ,	
Nicaragua	0.005	0.005	370	370	
Niger	0.002	0.002	148	148	296
Nigeria	0.250		18 481	18 481	36 962
Niue	0.001	0.001	76 517	76	152
North Macedonia	0.007	0.007	517	517	1 034
Norway	0.754		55 739	55 739	
Oman	0.115	0.112	8 501	8 501	17 002
Pakistan	0.115	0.112	8 501	8 501	17 002
Palau	0.001	0.001	76	76	
Panama	0.045	0.044	3 327	3 327	6 654
Papua New Guinea	0.010		739	739	
Paraguay	0.016		1 183	1 183	2 366
Peru	0.152		11 236	11 236	
Philippines	0.205	0.200	15 154	15 154	
Poland	0.802	0.782	59 287	59 287	118 574
Portugal	0.350		25 873	25 873	51 746
Qatar	0.282		20 846	20 846	
Republic of Korea	2.267	2.210	167 585	167 585	
Republic of Moldova	0.003	0.003	222	222	444
Romania	0.198	0.193	14 637	14 637	29 274
Russian Federation	2.405	2.345	177 787	177 787	355 574
Rwanda	0.003	0.003	222	222	444
Saint Kitts and Nevis	0.001	0.001	76	76	152
Saint Lucia	0.001	0.001	76	76	152
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	0.001	0.001	76	76	150
	0.001	0.001	76	76	152
Samoa		0.001	76	76	152
San Marino	0.002		148	148	
Sao Tome and Principe	0.001	0.001	76	76	
Saudi Arabia	1.172		86 639	86 639	
Senegal	0.007		517	517	
Serbia	0.028		2 070	2 070	
Seychelles	0.002		148	148	
Sierra Leone	0.001	0.001	76	76	
Singapore	0.485	0.473	35 853	35 853	
Slovakia	0.153		11 310	11 310	
Slovenia	0.076		5 618	5 618	
Solomon Islands	0.001	0.001	76	76	
Somalia	0.001	0.001	76	76	
South Africa	0.272		20 107	20 107	40 214
South Sudan	0.006		444	444	
Spain	2.146		158 640	158 640	
Sri Lanka	0.044		3 253	3 253	
State of Palestine	0.008		591	591	1 182
Sudan	0.010	0.010	739	739	1 478

Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification ^a	United Nations I scale of assessment ^b	Indicative scale of assessment for 2020–2021	2020 indicative contributions (euros)	2021 indicative contributions (euros)	Total amount payable (euros)
Suriname	0.005	0.005	370	370	740
Sweden	0.906	0.883	66 975	66 975	133 950
Switzerland	1.151	1.122	85 086	85 086	170 172
Syrian Arab Republic	0.011	0.011	813	813	1 626
Tajikistan	0.004	0.004	296	296	592
Thailand	0.307	0.299	22 695	22 695	45 390
Timor-Leste	0.002	0.002	148	148	296
Togo	0.002	0.002	148	148	296
Tonga	0.001	0.001	76	76	152
Trinidad and Tobago	0.040	0.039	2 957	2 957	5 914
Tunisia	0.025	0.024	1 848	1 848	3 696
Turkey	1.371	1.337	101 349	101 349	202 698
Turkmenistan	0.033	0.032	2 439	2 439	4 878
Tuvalu	0.001	0.001	76	76	152
Uganda	0.008	0.008	591	591	1 182
Ukraine	0.057	0.056	4 214	4 214	8 428
United Arab Emirates	0.616	0.601	45 537	45 537	91 074
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Island	4.567	4.452	337 610	337 610	675 220
United Republic of Tanzania	0.010	0.010	739	739	1 478
United States of America	22.000	21.448	1 626 323	1 626 323	3 252 646
Uruguay	0.087	0.085	6 431	6 431	12 862
Uzbekistan	0.032	0.031	2 366	2 366	4 732
Vanuatu	0.001	0.001	76	76	152
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic					
of)	0.728	0.710	53 816	53 816	107 632
Viet Nam	0.077	0.075	5 692	5 692	11 384
Yemen	0.010	0.010	739	739	1 478
Zambia	0.009	0.009	665	665	1 330
Zimbabwe	0.005	0.005	370	370	740
Total	102.510	100.000	7 582 749	7 582 749	15 165 498

^a Parties include States and regional economic integration organizations that are Parties as of 31 May 2019.

Note: The United States of America views its funding to the core budget of the Convention as a voluntary contribution.

13

^b In accordance with A/RES/73/271.