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**United Nations
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Programme**

**United Nations Environment Assembly of the
United Nations Environment Programme
Fifth session**

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Item 6 of the provisional agenda**

**Programme of work and budget and other
administrative and budgetary issues**

**Information on implementation of decision 4/3 on the
management of trust funds and earmarked contributions*****

Note by the Executive Director

Introduction

1. The establishment and management of trust funds are governed by the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, the Staff Regulations and Rules of the United Nations and other policies and procedures put in place by the Secretary-General.
2. The agreements for which the United Nations Environment Programme carries out the functions of the secretariat continues to be administered on the principle of cost recovery when it comes to administrative costs in accordance with the Financial Rules and Regulations of United Nations.
3. Pursuant to decision 3/3 of the Environment Assembly on the management of trust funds and earmarked contributions, the Executive Director has continued to review the status of the trust funds with the aim of identifying the inactive ones for closure. To date, UNEP has managed to close 22 inactive trust funds. The closure process was carried out after performing the appropriate financial reconciliation processes, recovering all the costs due to UNEP and after consulting with the appropriate authorities in accordance with the terms of the reference of the affected trust funds. The trust funds administered by the secretariats of conventions and protocols were closed upon the approval of the relevant contracting Parties. In addition to this, UNEP expects to close an additional 6 trust funds by the end of year 2021.
4. The following sections describe the various actions that the Executive Director has taken or intends to take with regard to the trust funds managed by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

* In accordance with the decisions taken at the meeting of the Bureau of the United Nations Environment Assembly held on 8 October 2020 and at the joint meeting of the Bureaux of the United Nations Environment Assembly and the Committee of Permanent Representatives held on 1 December 2020, the fifth session of the Assembly is expected to adjourn on 23 February 2021 and resume as an in-person meeting in February 2022.

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*** The present document is being issued without formal editing.

I. Trust funds in support of the programme of work of the United Nations Environment Programme

5. The Executive Director wishes to report that the following new trust funds have been established since the fourth session of United Nations Environment Assembly:

- (a) BRL – Trust Fund for the Revolving Fund Activities of the Bamako Convention;
- (b) FEC – Trust Fund for the core activities of the “Faith for Earth Coalition” of United Nations Environment Programme;
- (c) FIL – Trust Fund to support the activities of the UNEP Financial Services Initiative on Environment.¹

6. The Executive Director wishes to extend the following trust funds, upon receiving a request to do so from the relevant Governments or authorities. In order to reduce the administrative burden, the Executive Director wishes to extend the duration of below trust funds to 31 December 2025 except for the Trust fund for the activities of the Climate and Clean Air Coalition to Reduce Short-lived Climate Pollutants which is extended to 31 December 2030 as requested by the authorities:

- (a) AFB – Technical cooperation trust fund for UNEP activities as a multilateral implementing entity of the Adaptation Fund Board, which is extended up to 31 December 2025;
- (b) AML – General trust fund for the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment, which is extended up to 31 December 2025;
- (c) BPL – Technical Cooperation Trust Fund for the Implementation of the Agreement with Belgium (financed by the Government of Belgium), which is extended up to 31 December 2025;
- (d) CLL – Trust fund to support the activities of the Climate Technology Centre and Network, which is extended up to 31 December 2025;
- (e) CML – Trust fund to support implementation of a special programme on chemicals and waste, which is extended up to 31 December 2025;
- (f) ECL – Technical Cooperation Trust Fund financed by the European Commission to support cooperation between the European Commission and the United Nations Environment Programme on Strengthening International Environmental Governance under a 2011 Strategic Cooperation Agreement and the 2014 Programme Cooperation Agreement, which is extended up to 31 December 2025;
- (g) ESS – Technical Cooperation Trust Fund for UNEP’s Implementation of the Ecosystem Based Adaptation (EBA), which is extended up to 31 December 2025;
- (h) EUL – Technical Cooperation Trust Fund to Support the Achievement of Contribution Agreement No. DCI-ENV/2010/258-800, Strategic Cooperation Agreement between the European Commission Directorate-General for Development and Cooperation and UNEP (covering environment and sustainable management of natural resources, including energy, priorities 1, 2 and 3.3, “Support for mainstreaming”, which is extended up to 31 December 2025;
- (i) GPP – Trust fund for assisting the delegates from the developing countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States in attending the sessions of the ad hoc open-ended working group for the Global Pact for the Environment, which is extended up to 31 December 2025;
- (j) GPS – Trust fund in support of the Secretariat functions and the organization of meetings and consultations for the Global Pact for the Environment, which is extended up to 31 December 2025;
- (k) IAL – Technical cooperation trust fund for the Ireland Aid Multilateral Environment Fund for Africa (financed by the Government of Ireland), which is extended up to 31 December 2025;
- (l) IEL – Technical cooperation trust fund for priority projects to improve the environment in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (financed by the Government of the Republic of Korea), which is extended up to 31 December 2025;

¹ an “assessed contribution type” of trust fund established in order to reduce the workload attributable with the technical aspects associated to the way the current “grant type” trust fund operate in Enterprise Resource Planning System (Umoja).

- (m) MCL – General trust fund in support of activities on mercury and other metals, which is extended up to 31 December 2025;
- (n) MDL – Technical cooperation trust fund for UNEP implementation of the Millennium Development Goals Achievement Fund, which is extended up to 31 December 2025;
- (o) REL – Technical cooperation trust fund for the promotion of renewable energy in the Mediterranean region (financed by the Government of Italy), which is extended up to 31 December 2025;
- (p) SLP – Trust fund to support the activities of the Climate and Clean Air Coalition to Reduce Short-lived Climate Pollutants, which is extended up to 31 December 2030;
- (q) SML – General trust fund for the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management Quick Start Programme, which is extended up to 31 December 2025;
- (r) WPL – General trust fund to provide support the Global Environment Monitoring System/Water Programme Office and to promote its activities, which is extended up to 31 December 2025.

II. Trust funds in support of regional seas programmes, conventions, protocols and special funds

7. The Executive Director wishes to extend the following three trust funds as requested by the 13th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties of the Convention of Migratory Species, 9th meeting of the parties of Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas and 8th meeting of the signatories to Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation and Management of Marine Turtles and their Habitats of the Indian Ocean and South-East Asia (IOSEA) respectively:

- (a) BAL – General Trust Fund for the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic, North East Atlantic, Irish and North Seas, which is extended up to 31 December 2024;
- (b) MRL – Technical cooperation trust fund on the Conservation and Management of Marine Turtles and their Habitats of the Indian Ocean and South-East Asia, which is extended up to 31 December 2023;
- (c) MSL – Trust Fund for the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, which is extended up to 31 December 2023.

8. The Executive Director wishes to extend the following trust funds, upon receiving a request to do so from the relevant Governments or contracting parties:

(a) Trust funds administered by the coordinating unit for the Action Plan for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Sustainable Development of the Coastal Areas of the Mediterranean:

- (i) CAL – Support of the Mediterranean Action Plan (financed by the Government of Greece), which is extended up to 31 December 2023;
- (ii) MEL – Trust fund for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution, which is extended up to 31 December 2023;
- (iii) QML – Support of the Mediterranean Action Plan, which is extended up to 31 December 2023;

(b) Trust funds administered by the Secretariat of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants:

- (i) BCL – Trust fund for the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, which is extended up to 31 December 2023;
- (ii) BDL – Trust fund to assist developing countries and other countries in need of technical assistance in the implementation of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, which is extended up to 31 December 2023;

- (iii) ROL – General trust fund for the operational budget of the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, which is extended up to 31 December 2023;
 - (iv) RVL – Special trust fund for the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, which is extended up to 31 December 2023;
 - (v) SCL – General trust fund for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, its subsidiary bodies and the Convention secretariat, which is extended up to 31 December 2023; SVL – Special trust fund for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, its subsidiary bodies and the Convention secretariat, which is extended up to 31 December 2023;
- (c) Trust funds administered by the secretariat of the Convention for Cooperation in the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Atlantic Coast of the West, Central and Southern Africa Region:
- (i) QAC – Support of the Convention for Cooperation in the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Atlantic Coast of the West, Central and Southern Africa Region, which is extended up to 31 December 2023;
 - (ii) WAL – Trust fund for the protection, management and development of the marine and coastal environment of the Atlantic coast of the West, Central and Southern African region, which is extended up to 31 December 2023;
- (d) Trust funds administered by the secretariat of the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians:
- (i) CAR – Trust fund for the core budget of the Carpathian Convention, which is extended up to 31 December 2023;
 - (ii) CAP – Trust fund for the core budget of the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians and related protocols, which is extended up to 31 December 2023;
- (e) Trust funds administered by the secretariat of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals
- (i) AVL – General trust fund for voluntary contributions in respect of the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds, which is extended up to 31 December 2024;
 - (ii) AWL – General trust fund for the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds, which is extended up to 31 December 2024;
 - (iii) BTL – General trust fund for the Agreement on the Conservation of Populations of European Bats, which is extended up to 31 December 2023;
 - (iv) QFL – General trust fund for voluntary contributions in respect of the Agreement on the Conservation of Populations of European Bats, which is extended up to 31 December 2023;
 - (v) QVL – General Trust Fund in respect of the Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic, North East Atlantic, Irish and North Seas, which is extended up to 31 December 2024;
 - (vi) SMU – Trust fund to support the activities of the secretariat of the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Sharks, which is extended up to 31 December 2024;
 - (vii) MVL – General Trust Fund for Voluntary Contributions in Support of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, which is extended up to 31 December 2023;

- (f) Trust funds administered by the secretariat of the Convention for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Eastern African Region:
- (i) EAL – Regional seas trust fund for the Eastern African region, which is extended up to 31 December 2025;
 - (ii) QAW – Support of the Action Plan for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Eastern African Region, which is extended up to 31 December 2025;
- (g) Trust funds administered by the secretariat of the Action Plan for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas of the East Asian Seas:
- (i) ESL – Regional trust fund for the implementation of the Action Plan for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas of East Asian Seas, which is extended up to 31 December 2024;
 - (ii) QEL – Support of the Eastern Asian Seas Action Plan, which is extended up to 31 December 2024;
- (h) Trust funds administered by the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity:
- (i) BBL – Trust fund for the core programme budget for the Nagoya Protocol, which is extended up to 31 December 2023;
 - (ii) BEL – General Trust Fund for Additional Voluntary Contributions in Support of Approved Activities under the Convention on Biological Diversity, which is extended up to 31 December 2025;
 - (iii) BGL – General trust fund for the core programme budget for the Biosafety Protocol, which is extended up to 31 December 2023;
 - (iv) BYL – General trust fund for the Convention on Biological Diversity, which is extended up to 31 December 2023;
 - (v) BZL – General Trust Fund for Voluntary Contributions to Facilitate the Participation of Parties in the Process of the Convention on Biological Diversity, which is extended up to 31 December 2025;
 - (vi) VBL – Voluntary Trust Fund to Facilitate the Participation of Indigenous and Local Communities in the Work of the Convention on Biological Diversity, which is extended up to 31 December 2025;
- (i) Trust funds administered by the Bamako Convention on the Ban of the Import into Africa and the Control of Transboundary Movement and Management of Hazardous Wastes within Africa:
- (i) BML – General Trust Fund for the Core Programme Budget of the Bamako Convention on the Ban of the Import into Africa and the Control of Transboundary Movement and Management of Hazardous Wastes within Africa, which is extended up to 31 December 2023;
 - (ii) BWL – Special Trust Fund for Voluntary Contributions in Support of the Bamako Convention on the Ban of the Import into Africa and the Control of Transboundary Movement and Management of Hazardous Wastes within Africa, which is extended up to 31 December 2023;
- (j) Trust funds administered by the secretariat of the Caribbean Environment Programme and the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region and its Protocols:
- (i) CRL – Regional trust fund for implementation of the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme, which is extended up 31 December 2023;
 - (ii) QCL – Trust Fund for Support of the Cartagena Convention Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme, which is extended up 31 December 2023.