

**EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES FOR GRANTING THE RIGHT TO VOTE**  
**CIRCONSTANCES EXCEPTIONNELLES POUR OBTENIR LE DROIT DE VOTE**



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According to Article 14.2 of the Rules of Procedure of the Meeting of the Parties:

*“Representatives of Parties which are three or more years behind in paying their subscriptions on the date of the opening session of the Meeting of the Parties shall not be eligible to vote. However, the Meeting of the Parties may allow such Parties to continue to exercise their right to vote if it is satisfied that the delay in payment arises from exceptional circumstances.”*

In November 2025, Countries which are more than three years behind in paying their ordinary contributions are Albania, Libya and Syria.

The Secretariat has received a formal letter from Libya explaining the “exceptional circumstances” originating the delay in payment. This letter is reflected below.

\*

Conformément à l’Article 14.2 du Règlement Intérieur de la Réunion des Parties :

*« Les Représentants des Parties qui ont un retard de trois ans ou plus dans le versement de leur contribution à la date de la séance d’ouverture de la Réunion des Parties ne sont pas autorisés à voter. Cependant, la Réunion des Parties peut leur permettre de continuer d’exercer leur droit de vote s’il est entendu que le retard du règlement résulte de circonstances exceptionnelles. »*

En novembre 2025, les Pays ayant ont un retard de plus de trois dans le versement de leur contribution ordinaire sont l’Albanie, la Libye et la Syrie.

Le Secrétariat a reçu une lettre officielle de la Libye exposant les « circonstances exceptionnelles » expliquant ce retard de paiement. Cette lettre est présentée ci-dessous.



وزارة البيئة

Ministry of Environment

دولة ليبيا  
State of Libya

حكومة الوحدة الوطنية  
Government of National Unity

التاريخ: / / 14 هـ  
الموافق 2025/ 11 / 13 م

الرقم الإشاري: .....  
رقم الملف: .....

To: The Executive Secretary ACCOBAMS Secretariat.

Subject: Explanation of Exceptional Circumstances Regarding Delay in Payment of Ordinary Contributions

Dear Executive Secretary,

In reference to Article 14.2 of the Rules of Procedure of the Meeting of the Parties (MOP), and to your communication requesting clarification regarding Libya's arrears in ordinary contributions, I would like to convey the following on behalf of the State of Libya.

The Government of Libya acknowledges the outstanding contributions due under ACCOBAMS and reaffirms its full commitment to meeting all obligations under the Agreement. The delay in payment over the past years has resulted from exceptional national circumstances beyond our control, including ongoing financial constraints, fluctuations in public budget allocations, and administrative delays associated with internal restructuring across governmental institutions.

Despite these challenges, the Government of Libya reiterates its strong support for ACCOBAMS and its objectives, and recognizes the importance of maintaining active participation, including the right to vote at the Ninth Meeting of the Parties (MOP9), to be held in Cyprus from 18 to 21 November 2025.

We also wish to inform the Secretariat that the Ministry of Environment, in coordination with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, has already initiated all necessary financial and administrative procedures to settle the outstanding contributions. Both ministries are actively working to ensure that the payment is processed as soon as possible, in accordance with national financial regulations.

In light of the above, and considering the exceptional circumstances outlined, the State of Libya respectfully requests that the Meeting of the Parties consider allowing our delegation to retain its voting rights during MOP9.

We remain fully committed to strengthening our cooperation within ACCOBAMS and to contributing effectively to the conservation of cetaceans in the Mediterranean and Black Seas.

Please accept the assurances of our highest consideration

Dr. Ibrahim Mohamed  
Minister of Environment



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