

RESOLUTION 9.2 LONG-TERM PENDING CONTRIBUTIONS

The Meeting of the Parties to the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and contiguous Atlantic area:

Concerned about the question of arrears in the payment of contributions to the ACCOBAMS budget and supplementary fund that can adversely affect the implementation of the objective of the Agreement, which is to ensure that coordinated measures are taken to achieve and maintain a favourable conservation status for cetaceans,

Moved also by the desire to preserve good relationships with all ACCOBAMS Parties, and considering the involvement of all ACCOBAMS Parties as crucial for achieving the Agreement's objective,

Convinced that measures aimed at recovering unpaid contributions should be considered as a mean to facilitate the Party concerned in meeting its financial obligations,

Considering Article 14, paragraph 2, of the Rules of Procedure for the Meeting of the Parties,

Taking into consideration the recommendation by the Sixth Meeting of the ACCOBAMS Extended Bureau,

1. *Decides* that:

- Parties which are three or more years behind in paying their contributions on the date of the opening session of the Meeting of the Parties shall not be eligible to vote at that Meeting of the Parties;
- Representatives of Parties which are three or more years behind in paying their contributions shall not be eligible as chairperson or vice-chairperson of the Meeting of the Parties or as members or alternate members of the Follow-up Committee;
- Parties which are three or more years behind in paying their contributions shall not be eligible for financial support for the participation of their representatives to ACCOBAMS Meetings; and
- the above-mentioned measures do not apply if the Meeting of the Parties is satisfied, on the basis of a formal communication sent by the State concerned, that the delay in payment arises from exceptional circumstances. The decision will apply for the following triennium;

2. *Mandates* the Bureau to decide if governmental bodies of Parties which are five or more years behind in paying their contributions shall not be eligible for financial support from the Supplementary Conservation Grants Fund;

3. *Encourages* Parties which are behind in paying their contributions to keep contact with the Secretariat to reschedule the payment of the arrears under a written payment plan to be approved by the Bureau;

4. *Decides* that Rules of Procedure for the Meeting of the Parties will be amended accordingly.