



联合国  
粮食及  
农业组织

Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

Organisation des Nations  
Unies pour l'alimentation  
et l'agriculture

Продовольственная и  
сельскохозяйственная организация  
Объединенных Наций

Organización de las  
Naciones Unidas para la  
Alimentación y la Agricultura

منظمة  
الغذية والزراعة  
للأمم المتحدة

## CENTRAL ASIAN AND CAUCASUS REGIONAL FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE COMMISSION

### Seventh Session

11-13 October 2021  
Istanbul, Turkey

### COMMISSION BUDGET AND MEMBERS CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2021 AND 2022

## INTRODUCTION

1. This document provides an overview of the Commission's autonomous budget for 2021 and 2022, and an update on the Commission's spending over the intersessional period between 2018-2021. Additionally, the document provides the 2021-2022 expenditure estimates for review and decision making by the Commission.
2. Since the establishment of the Commission, the budget from Member's contributions has been based on a total fixed annual contribution of USD 180,000. From administrative, financial and operational functional perspectives, the autonomous budget has been interlinked to the number of Members of the Commission. It should be noted that at its Sixth Session (2018), CACFish further fixed the level of total annual contributions to the autonomous budget from the Members at USD 180,000 per annum for an unspecified period.
3. The amount of the fixed annual budget from the Members contribution (i.e. USD 180,000) was considered the minimum funding level required to maintain operational services and the delivery of the scheduled activities (i.e. annual sessions/meetings, and activities of Commission, including the Five-year Regional Work Programme, and its subsidiary body, namely the Technical Advisory Committee).
4. To date, the contributions from the Members have constituted the core of the CACFish budget. Although Article IX of the Agreement enables the Commission to receive voluntary donations or donations in connection to its specific projects or activities, only on one occasion has CACFish benefited from a donation – a donation of USD 100,000 from Turkey in 2016. As detailed in the working document CACFish/VII/2021/3<sup>1</sup> (Secretariat Report on Administrative, Operational and Financial Issues), at the end of 2020, cumulative arrears reached the sum of USD 371,304. On the

<sup>1</sup> Link

other hand, CACFish budget earned a total of USD 19,751 (as of August 2021) as accrued interest from its budget accounts. It should be noted that incorporation of the earned interest into the Commission budget requires Commission's approval.

5. In principle, the CACFish budget for 2021 relies on Member's contributions to the CACFish autonomous budget. This budget has become a limiting factor for implementing the activities of the Commission, particularly with respect to the delivery of the Regional Work Programme. This makes it critical for the Commission, amongst others, to seek extra-budgetary funding, and to increase the membership of the Commission.

6. In pursuant to the Article IX (Expenses) of the Agreement, each Party to the Agreement (i.e. Member State) is under an obligation to pay its contributions, on an annual basis, to the autonomous budget of the Commission, and in accordance with the scheme determined in the Financial Regulations of the Commission. This scheme comprises the following three weighted components: (1) basic fee (20 percent); (2) national wealth (gross domestic product per capita, GDP) (35 percent), and, (3) fish production (45 percent). In accordance with the decision taken at its Fourth Session (2015), the Commission has agreed to convene its regular sessions once every two years, starting from 2016. While this change has resulted in a two-year budgeting process, Members' contributions to the CACFish autonomous budget should still be paid annually. In cases where a new Member joins the Commission, the two-year budget needs to be amended to reflect the new situation.

7. The Seventh session of the Commission, which was originally scheduled to take place physically in October 2020, was postponed to 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In June 2021, the Secretariat sent official letters to the CACFish Members for the payment of Budget Contributions for 2021 (based on the fixed annual budget requirement of USD 180,000) and for arrears by the respective Members. The breakdown of CACFish Members' contributions for 2021 is presented in the Annex Table I. There are slight variations between the budgets approved for 2018 and 2020 as seen in the Annex Table II.

8. In line with the current methodology, the Members' contribution to the 2022 CACFish autonomous budget will be calculated upcoming year by the Secretariat, otherwise decided by the Commission, and using the scheme referred to in Paragraph 6, and notified accordingly to the Members by the Secretariat.

### **Estimates of Expenditure 2020-2021**

9. As of 12th August 2021, the Commission had a usable balance of USD 474,120 (with interest earned) while payments in arrears amounted to USD 371,304 USD. Estimated budget expenditures proposed for 2021 and 2022, in addition to expenditures of the Commission during the intersessional period covering the years of 2019 and 2020, are presented in Annex Table III and Annex Table IV respectively. These figures are based on the historical autonomous annual budget of USD 180,000. The 2021-2022 expenditure budget includes the following essential items: consultancy services and salaries of temporary administrative/technical staff, travel, administrative services and supplies.

10. The proposed autonomous budget for 2021 and 2022 is based on the following assumptions:

- Within the limits of the proposed autonomous budget, the Regional Work Plan would not be effectively implemented unless direct external financial resources were made available.
- Significant arrears to the budget will continue to impact financial planning.
- The Commission will receive operational, administrative and logistic support from FAO in the short-term, via its Sub-regional Office for Central Asia (SEC) where the Commission is seated, or until the Commission has sufficient funds, staff, and if appropriate, premises.

- The Article X (Expenses) of the Agreement<sup>2</sup> provides for the “Expenses of one delegate of a Party or his alternate to attend the annual session of the Commission to be covered under the budget of the Commission. Expenses incurred by other delegates, their alternates, experts and advisers, when attending as government representatives, sessions of the Commission and meetings of its subsidiary bodies including the Technical Advisory Committee, as well as the expenses incurred by observers at such sessions and meetings, shall be borne by the respective governments or organizations.” Evidently, Members, and particularly those with developing country status, are unable to fund their national delegates and expert attendance to the activities of Commission. Therefore, running Commission activities (i.e. sessions, meetings, workshop, expert meetings, and working group meetings) with the active participation of many Members, and on the basis of Members’ providing funding for their delegates to attend, is not possible in the short-to medium-term. As a result, the budget estimate includes funding for attendance costs for Member’s representatives and experts at Commission scheduled activities. It is worth noting that the absence of financial support for delegates to attend Commission activities risks limiting country participation, thereby diminishing the effectiveness and visibility of the Commission’s activities.
- The attendance of CACFish non-member countries at CACFish events is an effective way of promoting the outcomes of the Commission’s activities at a regional level. During the intersessional period, financial support was granted to non-member countries invited to CACFish events. Similar financial support was provided to Members to ensure a quorum was present.
- The Membership of the Commission has not changed from the last session and comprises Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkey.

#### **SUGGESTED ACTION FOR THE COMMISSION**

11. In light of the above considerations, the Commission is invited to
  - review the proposed autonomous budget for 2021 and 2022 and the estimated budgetary expenditures.

---

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.fao.org/3/al945e/al945e.pdf>

**ANNEX TABLE I:  
Member contributions to CACFish 2021 autonomous budget**

MEMBER	Contribution Total (USD)	Wealth			Production			Basic Fee (USD)
		GDP-per capita USD	Share	USD	Production total (Tonnes)	% of Total	USD	
Armenia	31,498	4,528	3	15,750	18,270	10.55	8,548	7,200
Azerbaijan	23,734	4,689	3	15,750	1,676	0.97	784	7,200
Kyrgyzstan	13,711	1,293	1	5,250	2,695	1.56	1,261	7,200
Tajikistan	8,347	877	0	0	2,452	1.42	1,147	7,200
Turkey	102,710	8,958	5	26,250	148,022	85.51	69,259	7,200
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>180,000</b>		12	63,000	177,514	100.00%	81,000	36,000

\* 2019 per capita Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

<https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/WEO/weo-database/2019/October/weo-report?c=911,912,917,923,&s=NGDPDPC,&sy=2017&ey=2024&ssm=0&scsm=1&ssc=0&ssd=1&ssc=0&sic=0&sort=country&ds=.&br=1>

\*\* 2019 inland capture and inland aquaculture production figures of FAO

[http://www.fao.org/figis/servlet/SQServlet?file=/usr/local/tomcat/8.5.16/figis/webapps/figis/temp/hqp\\_8544527635194517057.xml&outtype=html](http://www.fao.org/figis/servlet/SQServlet?file=/usr/local/tomcat/8.5.16/figis/webapps/figis/temp/hqp_8544527635194517057.xml&outtype=html)

BUDGET AND CRITERIA		
Year	2021	
Budget	180,000	
BUDGET COMPONENTS		
Wealth	63,000	35%
Production	81,000	45%
Basic fee	36,000	20%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>180,000</b>	<b>100%</b>
WEALTH CATEGORIES		
GDP		
US \$	Index	
<999	0	
1,000-3,999	1	
4,000-5,999	3	
6,000-9,999	5	
≥10 000	10	

Annex Table II:

**Comparison of Member's contribution to CACFish autonomous budget for the years 2018 and 2021**

States	2018		2021		% variation (2018 vs 2021)
	National Contribution (USD)	% share in total contribution	National Contribution (USD)	% share in total contribution	
Armenia	22,211	12.34	31,498	17.50	5.16
Azerbaijan	12,710	7.06	23,734	13.18	6.12
Kyrgyzstan	13,066	7.26	13,711	7.62	0.36
Tajikistan	7,982	4.43	8,347	4.64	0.21
Turkey	124,031	68.91	102,710	57.06	-11.85

**ANNEX TABLE III:  
Estimated expenditures for 2021 and 2022**

Expenditure item	2021	2022	Expenditure total (2021 and 2022)
Salaries General Service	0	0	0
Consultants	4,000	20,000	24,000
Contracts	30,000	100,000	130,000
Locally Contracted Labour	0	0	0
Travel	52,000	52,000	104,000
Training	24,000	48,000	72,000
Expendable Procurement	1,000	4,100	5,100
Non Expendable Procurement	914	1,000	1,914
General Operating Expenses	1,400	1,529	2,929
FAO Servicing cost (5.9%)	6,686	13,371	20,057
<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>120,000</b>	<b>240,000</b>	<b>360,000</b>

**ANNEX TABLE IV:  
Expenditures in 2019 and 2020 (all figures in USD)**

<b>Expenditure item</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>Total</b>
Salaries General Service	0	0	0
Consultants	67,794	40,709	108,503
Contracts	77,653	0	77,653
Locally Contracted Labour	0	0	0
Travel	48,079	666	48,745
Training	5,383	529	5,912
Expendable Procurement	1,517	0	1,517
Non Expendable Procurement	1,184	0	1,184
General Operating Expenses	7,412	0	7,412
FAO Servicing cost (5.9%)	12,335	2,470	14,805
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>221,400</b>	<b>44,331</b>	<b>265,731</b>