



**Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species
of Wild Animals**



RESOLUTION 6.9*

**JURIDICAL PERSONALITY OF, AND HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT
FOR, THE CONVENTION SECRETARIAT**

Adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its Sixth Meeting (Cape Town, 10-16 November 1999)

Recalling Article IX of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (1979), Decision 12/14, section IV, of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), 1984, and Resolution 1.3 of the Conference of the Parties (Bonn, 1985), establishing the Convention Secretariat;

Aware of the precedents of other global conventions in the field of the environment which have concluded headquarters agreements for their secretariats with the relevant host countries and which have assigned to their secretariats legal competence to carry out their functions; and

Desiring to clarify the nature and legal status of the Convention Secretariat as a body;

*The Conference of the Parties to the
Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals*

Decides the following:

Juridical personality

1. The Convention Secretariat should possess in the host country such legal capacity as is necessary for the effective discharge of its functions under the Convention, in particular to contract, to acquire and dispose of movable and immovable property and to institute legal proceedings.

Privileges and immunities

2. The officials of the Convention Secretariat should enjoy such privileges and immunities as are necessary for the independent exercise of their functions in connection with the Convention Secretariat.

Further activities by the Standing Committee

3. The Standing Committee is requested to clarify, with the assistance of the Secretariat, any relevant outstanding legal questions in consultation with the Legal Branch of the United Nations and the relevant United Nations conventions, to bestow the appropriate competence on the Secretariat and to report to the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting.

Conclusion of headquarters agreement

4. The Convention Secretariat and the Executive Director of UNEP are authorized to negotiate further, conclude and sign the headquarters agreement currently under development.

If additional input in relation to the headquarters agreement is needed before its conclusion, the Standing Committee is authorized to act on behalf of the Conference of the Parties and to endorse approval of the Agreement after it has been signed.

* The original draft of this resolution, considered by the Conference of the Parties, was numbered 6.8.