Note by the Executive Secretary

1. The Government of Uruguay has requested that this item be placed on the agenda.

2. In order to facilitate the discussion the Executive Secretary has examined some of the financial implications of the use of Spanish as an official and/or working language, and hereby submits the following information.

3. **Interpretation**

   **Formula 1** - Simultaneous interpretation during all plenary meetings of the CONTRACTING PARTIES and the Council from Spanish into English and French . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . No extra cost involved

   **Formula 2** - Simultaneous interpretation during all plenary meetings of the CONTRACTING PARTIES and the Council from Spanish into English and French and consecutive interpretation from Spanish into English and French during all other meetings (committees, working parties, etc. etc.) . . . $12,000

   **Formula 3** - Simultaneous interpretation from and into Spanish during all plenary meetings of the CONTRACTING PARTIES and the Council, and consecutive interpretation from and into Spanish during all other meetings . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . $30,000

4. **Translation, Reproduction and Distribution of Documents**

   (a) Translation into Spanish of most documents now appearing in English and French . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . $44,500

   (b) Reproduction and distribution on the basis of a roll of 250 copies of Spanish documents . . . . . . . . . . . . . . $7,000

   (Translation of approximately 500 pages of Spanish text per annum into either English or French would cost between $2,500 and $4,000 depending on whether the temporary staff required could be recruited locally or not.)
5. The amounts mentioned in paragraphs 3 and 4 are approximate and calculated on a per annum basis. As regards the staff costs, they include basic salaries and, where appropriate, subsistence allowance and travel cost. They do not take into account the budgetary implications on other items, i.e. installation grants, travel and removal expenses (for permanent staff), contributions to the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, repatriation grants, travel on home leave, family allowances and education grants. The implications in regard to office space, office equipment, furniture, etc. have also been left out of consideration.