

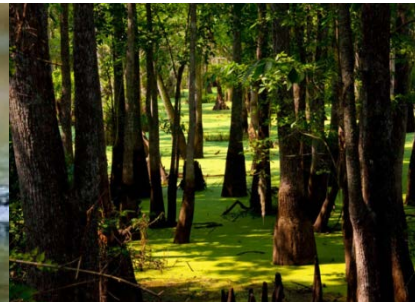


CONVENTION ON WETLANDS

(Ramsar, Iran, 1971)

SC52-03: Strategy for the potential phased integration of Arabic or other UN languages into the work of the Convention

Wednesday, 15 June 2016



Action requested



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Action requested:

1. Standing Committee is invited to advise on and approve the terms of reference and budget for a consultancy to develop a strategy outlining the potential phased integration of Arabic or other UN languages into the work of the Convention.
2. The draft strategy will be presented for discussion at SC53.



Content



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Content:

1. Background
2. Expertise and profile of the Consultant
3. Work to be undertaken
4. Timeline
5. Deliverables
6. Budget



Issy-kul Ramsar Site (Kyrgyzstan)

Background



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1. Background

- Summary of the introduction of additional languages into the work of the Convention;
- Resolution XII.3 which requested that the Secretariat develop a strategy outlining the potential phased integration of Arabic or other UN languages into the work of the Convention.



Expertise and profile of the Consultant



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2. Expertise and profile

- a. At least ten years of experience and expertise on governmental/ intergovernmental processes and similar issues and on undertaking survey-based consultations and other forms of research;
- b. Knowledge of the scope, processes and implementation of (preferably) the Ramsar Convention, or otherwise other multilateral environmental agreements;
- c. Full fluency in spoken and written English; fluency in another Convention language (French and/or Spanish) is a major advantage.



Work to be undertaken



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3. Work to be undertaken

- a. To classify the language needs of the Convention according to the short, medium and long-term;
- b. To identify barriers to effective translation, publishing and interpreting of the three official languages of the Convention, and actions needed to overcome them including identification of additional resource needs and sources to accommodate inclusion of additional languages;
- c. To propose ways forward to engage relevant Contracting Parties in finding a step-by-step integration and financing of translations at meetings, of meeting documents and as appropriate of important Ramsar information documents into additional languages;
- d. To propose a potential timeline for phased integration of procedural changes, key indicators, and milestones for any UN languages added; and
- e. To present details of the present cost of translation and interpretation into English, French and Spanish, and the proportional amount used from each Contracting Party's annual contribution to cover such costs.



Timeline, Deliverables, Budget

4. Timeline

- 42 days work over three months;
- Attendance at SC53 to present draft Strategy.

5. Deliverables

- Reports from the consultation survey and meetings with the various stakeholder groups;
- Detailed draft of Strategy for the potential phased integration of UN languages into the work of the Convention including details of the present cost of translation and interpretation into English, French and Spanish, and the proportional amount used from Contracting Parties' annual contribution to cover such costs.

6. Budget

- One-off consultancy fee CHF 30,000



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THANK YOU!

