

Report of the Scientific and Technical Review Panel



2006-2008



CHANGWON 2008

COP10

« Healthy wetlands, healthy people »



CONVENTION ON WETLANDS
CONVENTION SUR LES ZONES HUMIDES
CONVENCIÓN SOBRE LOS HUMEDALES
(Ramsar, Iran, 1971)

Outline

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1. Overview of work programme progress and products in this triennium
2. Issues related to STRP processes
3. “Emerging” issues
4. Overview of scientific and technical draft resolutions for consideration at COP10
5. Looking ahead

Work programme progress and products



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STRP Thematic Work Areas

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1. Inventory, Assessment, Monitoring and Indicators
2. Wise Use and Ecological Character
3. Ramsar Site Designation and Management
4. Water Resources Management
5. Wetlands and Agriculture
6. Wetlands and Human Health
7. Ongoing and emerging issues
8. CEPA
9. Regional Networking

Progress and achievements during 2006-2008



- Summary of progress provided in COP10.DOC5
 - All immediate priority tasks and some high priority tasks were initiated.
 - Some lower priority tasks were advanced by Panel members, observers and IOPs without additional funding.
 - Where possible, STRP responded to ad hoc requests for advice and guidance.
- Several “emerging” issues were addressed intersessionally
- Scientific and technical products due for delivery within this triennium (Annexes to COP10.DOC5)
 - Draft resolutions submitted to COP10, with information papers
 - Ramsar Technical Reports
 - STRP briefing notes and internal working papers
 - Other products, peer-reviewed papers in journals

Issues related to STRP processes



Evaluation of technical Resolutions and Handbooks

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- Detailed questionnaire, distributed widely through Ramsar networks
- Findings on scientific & technical guidance
 - format and use
 - distribution and availability
 - communication and dissemination mechanisms
 - see COP10.DOC21 for summary of findings and recommendations

Regional networking

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- Working group 9 established with vice-Chair as lead
- Ongoing severe communication problems in some regions
- Lack of understanding of Parties and STRP NFPs regarding their role and responsibilities
 - Preparation of brochure
- Meeting of European STRP NFPs was most valuable
 - Meetings of NFPs should be held in other regions, resources permitting
- Options and models for increasing and supporting the engagement of STRP NFPs
- DR9 contains terms of reference for STRP NFPs

STRP *modus operandi*

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- *Modus operandi* is generally working well
- Allows STRP to take a longer, more strategic view
- Can rapidly address emerging issues inter-sessionally
- Some refinements proposed in DR9:
 - Supernumary chair
 - Adjustment of *modus operandi* text to remove time-bound provisions for observers, thematic work areas
 - Terms of reference for STRP NFPs

“Emerging” issues addressed in 2006-08



Draft resolutions submitted to COP10:

- DR24 Climate change and wetlands
- DR26 Wetlands and mining/extractive industries

“Emerging” and ongoing issues (cont)

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- Earth observation and global wetland observing systems (G-WOS)
- Wetland restoration
- Sectoral guidance – ongoing prioritisation
- Supporting the implementation of the Convention

Overview of scientific & technical DRs



Scientific and technical draft resolutions



- Guidance arising from tasks in 2006-08 work programme
- Draft resolutions addressing important emerging issues
- Draft resolutions related to STRP processes
- The “Changwon Declaration”

Looking ahead



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STRP looking ahead

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- Increasing collaboration of STRP with scientific processes in other Conventions:
 - Need for outward delivery of science as well as inward to the Convention and Parties
 - Need to ensure transparency, credibility, independence and continuity of STRP's work

STRP looking ahead

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- Effective use of expanding scientific networks and partnerships will allow us to significantly leverage STRP core funding
 - Small size of STRP is both a strength and a constraint

- **Water, wetlands, biodiversity and climate change**

Scientific products and advice to the Convention should reflect complexity and interlinkages, while underpinning practical implementation actions

Acknowledgements

- Panel members
- IOPs
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- Voluntary contributions
- Secretariat
- Standing Committee
- Various photographers!

