12th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar, Iran, 1971)

Punta del Este, Uruguay, 1-9 June 2015

Agenda item III

Provisional Annotated Agenda

I  Opening of the Meeting
II  General Statements and Keynote Addresses
III  Adoption of the Agenda
IV  Adoption of the Rules of Procedure
V  Election of the President and Vice-Presidents and remarks by the President
VI  Appointment of the Credentials Committee and any other committees
VII  Admission of Observers
VIII  Report of the Chairperson of the Standing Committee
IX  Report of the Secretary General and overview of the implementation of the Convention at the global level
X  Report on implementation of the CEPA Programme 2009-2015
XII  Issues arising from Resolutions and Recommendations of previous meetings of the Conference of the Contracting Parties
XIII  Financial report for 2012-2015 by the Chairperson of the Standing Committee Subgroup on Finance and proposed budget for the triennium 2016-2018
XIV  Election of Contracting Parties for the Standing Committee 2015-2018
XV  Consideration of the draft Resolutions and Recommendations submitted by Contracting Parties and the Standing Committee
XVI  Report of the Credentials Committee
XVII  Report on the discussions, conclusions and recommendations in the preceding sessions
XVIII  Adoption of Resolutions and Recommendations
XIX  Date and venue of the next Ordinary Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties
XX  Any other business
XXI  Adoption of the report of the 12th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties
XXII  Close of the meeting
Monday, 1 June 2015

08:30 – 18:00 Registration of delegates (continues each day to 9 June)

08:30 – 09:30 Meeting of the Management Working Group (closed session). The Management Working Group will meet in room Rio de Janeiro C.

09:30 – 13:00 49th Meeting of the Standing Committee (subsequently to meet as the Conference Committee). The Standing Committee will meet in room Rio de Janeiro C.

14:00 – 18:00 Regional meetings (including discussions on Contracting Parties to be proposed for election to the Standing Committee at plenary agenda item XIV). A separate agenda has been prepared for each regional meeting.

Africa Regional Meeting: Room Punta del Este A
Americas Regional Meeting: Room Punta del Este B
Asia / Oceania Regional Meeting: Room Rio de Janeiro B
Europe Regional Meeting: Room Rio de Janeiro A

18:15 – 19:15 Meetings of Ramsar Regional Initiatives
Africa Regional Initiatives: Punta del Este A
Black and Azov Seas Coastal Wetlands Initiative: Riviera
Carpathian Wetland Initiative: Caribe
High Andean: Punta del Este B
Mangroves and Coral Reefs: Bariloche
MedWet: Rio de Janeiro A
NorBalWet Initiative: Rio de Janeiro B

Tuesday, 2 June 2015

08:00 – 18:00 Registration (continued)

09:00 – 13:00 Regional meetings (continued)

14:00 – 15:00 Regional meetings (continued)

16:00 – 18:00 Opening ceremony and welcoming statements (includes Agenda items I and II)

The Conference will be opened by high level representatives of the Government of Uruguay the Chairperson of the Conference Committee, followed by general statements by the Secretary General and invited guests.

19:00 – 21:00 Welcome Host Country reception for Country Delegations

Wednesday, 3 June 2015

08:00 – 18:00 Registration (continued)
08:30 – 09:45  Meeting of the Conference Committee

10:00 – 12:30  Plenary Session

III  Adoption of the agenda

The Conference will consider document Ramsar COP12 DOC. 1 Rev.1: Provisional Agenda and adopt the Agenda for this meeting.

IV  Adoption of the Rules of Procedure

The Conference will consider document Ramsar COP12 DOC.3: Rules of Procedure and will adopt the Rules for the 12th Meeting under Article 6.4 of the Convention which provides that the COP “shall adopt rules of procedure for each of its meetings”.

V  Election of the President and Vice-Presidents and remarks by the President

Pursuant to Rule of Procedure 21, the Conference will elect the President and two Vice-Presidents for the meeting on the basis of proposals made by the Conference Committee.

VI  Appointment of the Credentials Committee and any other committees

Pursuant to Rule of Procedure 19, the Conference will appoint a Credentials Committee on the basis of proposals made by the Conference Committee, and may establish any other committees necessary to enable the Conference to carry out its functions. The COP may establish a Committee on Finances and Budget.

VII  Admission of Observers

Provisions have always been made for the participation in the Meetings of the Conference of the Contracting Parties of international agencies or bodies, and national governmental and non-governmental agencies or bodies, provided the Parties present do not decide otherwise (a COP document with the list of registered observers for their consideration will be tabled at the meeting).

VIII  Report of the Chairperson of the Standing Committee

The Chairperson of the Standing Committee will introduce her report, highlighting the activities of the Standing Committee during the past triennium, under agenda item VIII with recommendations, if necessary, for the future work of the Committee. (Document COP12 DOC. 5)

13:00 – 15:00  Lunch break

15:30 – 16:00 *Panel Discussion on “Innovative Public-Private partnerships” with Danone and Livelihoods funds. Laurent Sacchi, Bernard Giraud, Ramsar Secretary General and invited guests.*

16:00 – 18:00 **Plenary Session**

**IX** Report of the Secretary General and overview of the implementation of the Convention at the global level

The Secretary General will present a report and a general overview of the implementation of the Convention, based upon available reports including the regional implementation reports. (Document COP12 DOC.8)

**X** Report on implementation of the CEPA Programme 2009-2015 (Document COP12 DOC.18)

**XI** Report of the Chairperson of the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP)

The Chairperson of the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP) will introduce his report on the activities of the Panel over the past triennium, with recommendations for the future work of the Panel. (Document COP12 DOC.6)

**XII** Issues arising from Resolutions and Recommendations of previous meetings of the Conference of the Contracting Parties.

All pertinent issues are covered by the reports of the Standing Committee, Secretary General and the Chair of the Scientific and Technical Review Panel and in the draft Resolutions submitted to the COP and consequently will be considered under Agenda Item XIV.

20:00 – 21:30 Presentation of Ramsar Wetland Conservation Awards followed by a reception

**Thursday, 4 June 2015**

08:00 – 18:00 Registration (continued)

08:30 – 09:45 Meeting of the Conference Committee (Room Rio de Janeiro C)

10:00 – 10:30 Special Presentation: Could the SDGs help save wetlands? Jane Madgwick, Chief Executive Officer, Wetlands International

10:30 – 13:00 Plenary Session

**XIII** Financial report for 2012-2015 by the Chairperson of the Standing Committee Subgroup on Finance and proposed budget for the triennium 2016-2018

**XIV** Election of Contracting Parties for the Standing Committee 2015-2018

On the basis of the proposals presented by the six Ramsar Regions, the Conference will elect the countries that will serve on the Standing Committee
from the close of the 12th Meeting of the COP until the close of the 13th Meeting. (The new Standing Committee will meet immediately after the close of Ramsar COP12 in room Rio de Janeiro C, and, on the basis of Rule of Procedure 26, will designate the Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee, as well as the countries that will serve on its Subgroup on Finance and any other subgroup that may have been established.)

**XV Consideration of the draft Resolutions and Recommendations submitted by Contracting Parties and the Standing Committee**

First discussion of the proposals, in order to receive suggestions for amendments and to allow the search for consensus to begin before the final drafts of the decisions come up for approval on the last days of the Conference. Document COP12 DOC.2 contains the guide to the 15 draft proposals approved by the Standing Committee at its 48th Meeting (January 2015) for consideration by Ramsar COP12, and related COP12 information documents.

(Note: Contracting Parties will be able to submit new proposals during the meeting to the Conference Committee, provided that those new proposals deal with: a) urgent issues resulting from the debates during the meeting; and/or b) new developments that it was not possible to foresee in advance.)

13:00 – 15:00 Lunch break

15:00 – 18:00 **Plenary Session**

**XV Consideration of the draft Resolutions and Recommendations submitted by Contracting Parties and the Standing Committee** (continued)

18:30 – 21:00 **Regional Meetings** to prepare and canvass views for the upcoming sessions

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**Friday, 5 June 2015**

08:00 – 18:00 Registration (continued)

08:30 – 09:45 Meeting of the Conference Committee (with Standing Committee 2015-2018 appointees as observers)

10:00 – 10:30 *Special Presentation: Healthy wetlands for the sustainable future of our planet.*

*Elizabeth Maruma Mrema, Director Division of Environmental Law and Conventions (DELC), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)*

10:30 – 13:00 **Plenary Session**

**XV Consideration of the draft Resolutions and Recommendations submitted by Contracting Parties and the Standing Committee** (continued)

13:00 – 15:00 Lunch break

15:00 – 18:00 **Plenary Session**
**XV**  Consideration of the draft Resolutions and Recommendations submitted by Contracting Parties and the Standing Committee (continued)

**Saturday, 6 June 2015**

08:00 – 18:00  Registration (continued)

08:30 – 09:45  Meeting of the Conference Committee with Standing Committee 2015-2018 appointees as observers

10:00 – 10:30  *Special Presentation: International Water Governance: Nothing fishy about it. Sibylle Vermont, Deputy Head of Section Global Affairs, International Affairs Division Federal Office for the Environment, Switzerland*

10:30 – 13:00  **Plenary Session**

**XV**  Consideration of the draft Resolutions and Recommendations submitted by Contracting Parties and the Standing Committee (continued)

13:00 – 15:00  Lunch break

15:00 – 18:00  **Plenary Session**

**XV**  Consideration of the draft Resolutions and Recommendations submitted by Contracting Parties and the Standing Committee (continued)

18:30 – 20:00  Preparatory meeting of the appointees to the incoming Standing Committee 2015-2018

**Sunday, 7 June 2015**

08:00 – 18:00  Registration (continued)

08:30 – 09:45  Meeting of the Conference Committee (if needed) with Standing Committee 2015-2018 appointees as observers

  **Field visits** organized by Uruguay

**Monday, 8 June 2015**

08:00 – 18:00  Registration (continued)

08:30 – 09:45  Meeting of the Conference Committee with Standing Committee 2015-2018 appointees as observers

10:00 – 13:00  **Plenary Session**
XVI  Report of the Credentials Committee

Report of the Credentials Committee (a Ramsar COP12 document will be tabled at the meeting by the chair of the Credentials Committee). As established by the Rules, the Credentials Committee will require that the credentials of the delegates of Contracting Parties be presented in English, French or Spanish, on the appropriate letterhead, and be signed by the Head of State or Government and/or the Minister of Foreign Affairs, or by an official legally empowered by the State concerned to accredit representatives at international meetings.

XVII  Report on the discussions, conclusions and recommendations in the preceding sessions

Report on the discussions, in the Committee on Finances and Budget, and any others that have been established. Discussion and consensus building.

13:00 – 15:00  Lunch break

15:00 – 18:00  Plenary Session

XVIII  Adoption of Conference Resolutions and Recommendations

Tuesday, 9 June 2015

08:00 – 18:00  Registration (continued)

08:30 – 09:45  Meeting of the Conference Committee with Standing Committee 2015-2018 appointees as observers

10:00 – 13:00  Plenary Session

XVIII  Adoption of Conference Resolutions and Recommendations  (continued)

13:00 – 15:00  Lunch break

15:00 – 18:00  Plenary Session

XIX  Date and venue of the next Ordinary Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties

The Conference will take a decision on the timing and venue of the 13th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties which in principle should be held in 2018, on the basis of invitations received from Contracting Parties to host the meeting.

XX  Any other business

XXI  Adoption of the report of the 12th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties
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<td>18:30 – 19:30</td>
<td><strong>50th Meeting of the Standing Committee</strong> (incoming members to elect officers and subgroup members, and agree the date and venue of the first full meeting)</td>
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