



## 13th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands

“Wetlands for a Sustainable Urban Future”  
Dubai, United Arab Emirates, 21-29 October 2018

Ramsar COP13 Rep.2

### Draft Daily Report Day 2 – Tuesday 23 October (Afternoon plenary session)

Tuesday 23 October 2018

15.00 – 17.45 Plenary session

#### Agenda item 10: Report on implementation of the CEPA Programme 2016-2018 and recommendations on future directions

1. The **Chair of the CEPA Oversight Panel**, Mark Taylor (Australia), presented document COP13 Doc.10, outlining progress on implementation of the communication, capacity building, education, participation and awareness (CEPA) programme in the current triennium. He drew attention to Annex B of the document, which contained initial guidance and recommendations by the CEPA Oversight Panel on a new approach for advising on and supporting CEPA in the Convention, noting that aspects of this were included in the draft resolution on review of the fourth Strategic Plan of the Convention (document COP13 Doc.18.6).
2. **Austria on behalf of the EU**, as well as **Benin, Jordan** and the **Republic of Korea**, commended progress made in the implementation of CEPA and the work of the CEPA Oversight Panel. The Republic of Korea stressed the importance of the Wetland City Accreditation scheme in raising public awareness and encouraged development of further tools to this end. Benin asked that tools for use in promoting World Wetlands Day be made available as early as possible.
3. The report on implementation of the CEPA Programme 2016-2018 and recommendations on future directions in document COP13 Doc.10 and its annexes were approved.

#### Agenda item 9: Report of the Chair of the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP)

4. The **Chair of the STRP**, Prof. Royal Gardner (United States of America) introduced document COP13 Doc.9, which described the activities and progress of the STRP in the 2016-2018 triennium. He noted that printed copies of the *Global Wetland Outlook: State of the World's Wetlands and their Services to People*, referred to in paragraph 4 of the document, were now available.

5. **Austria, Jordan** and the **United States of America** all commended the work of the STRP and its Chair, the United States of America noting with pleasure that the STRP was thriving under its revised operating methods and with broadened representation.
6. **Jordan** proposed that a clearing house mechanism analogous to that operated under the Convention on Biological Diversity be established under the Ramsar Convention to help with dissemination of STRP outputs.
7. **Cuba** also stressed the need for access to STRP outputs at national level, noting that a Cuban national plan on climate change had been adopted which emphasized the importance of protecting and restoring coastal wetlands.
8. The Report of the Chair of the STRP in document COP13 Doc.9 was approved.

**Agenda item 12: Report of the Secretary General pursuant to Article 8.2 on the List of Wetlands of International Importance**

9. The **Secretariat** introduced document COP13 Doc.12 on the List of Wetlands of International Importance, noting that the information was up to date as of 20 June 2018 and that it would be updated for the meeting of the Standing Committee in 2019.
10. The **Republic of Korea** drew attention to the large proportion of Ramsar Sites with outdated Ramsar Information Sheets, and urged Contracting Parties to provide updated information.
11. **Argentina, India** and **Senegal** stated that they had updates to the report, Argentina noting that it intended to supply the information it had referred to in its statement under agenda item 11, with regard to the use of revised nomenclature in COP documents.
12. The **United Kingdom** noted that the use of such revised nomenclature had not been approved by the Standing Committee and that further discussion would be required.
13. The **Secretariat** asked that all Contracting Parties that had updates send these to the Secretariat for inclusion in the next version of the report, to be prepared for SC57.
14. The report in document COP13 Doc.12 was approved.

**Agenda item 13: Issues arising from Resolutions and Recommendations of previous meetings of the Conference of the Parties**

15. The **Secretariat** noted that any issues arising would be addressed under other agenda items.
16. There were no comments from Contracting Parties.

**Agenda item 17: Secretariat's report on administrative and financial implications of draft resolutions**

17. The **Secretariat** introduced document COP13 Doc.17 listing projected administrative and financial implications of substantive agenda items for COP13, compiled by the Secretariat in accordance with Rule 14 of the Rules of Procedure. It noted that this document was for

information only, as these implications would be expected to be discussed under the agenda items in question.

18. **Switzerland** stated that it had revised the draft resolution it had submitted on improving the efficiency of structures and processes of the Convention (document COP13 Doc.18.2) and that it believed that this revised version, if adopted, would have no financial implications.
19. Document COP13 Doc.17 was noted.

<b>Agenda item 14: Financial report for 2016-2018 by the Chair of the Subgroup on Finance of the Standing Committee, with proposed budgets for the 2019-2021 triennium</b>
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20. The Chair of the Subgroup on Finance of the Standing Committee, Mr Abdou Salam Kane (Senegal), introduced document COP13 Doc.14, drawing attention to the two proposed core budget scenarios (A and B) for the 2019-2021 triennium that SC54 had decided to forward to COP13. Details of these were provided in paragraphs 14.a. and 14.b. respectively of the document. He noted that decisions regarding the budget for the next triennium would be reflected in a Resolution of the Conference, the draft of which was contained in document COP13 Doc.18.5
21. **Switzerland** believed adequate resources for COPs should be included in the core budget.
22. **Dominican Republic** was concerned by the proposed reduction in the budget available for Ramsar Regional Initiatives (RRIs), noting that they provided an effective mechanism through which to implement the Convention.
23. **Mongolia** expressed concerns that adoption of Scenario A would have a negative impact on the Ramsar Sites Information Service.
24. **South Africa** believed that major budget decisions relating to staffing should be made by the Conference of Contracting Parties, and not devolved to the Subgroup on Finance of the Standing Committee or any other structure.
25. The **President** established a COP13 Committee on Finance and Budget, comprising the members of the Subgroup on Finance, and open to all other Parties, to address budget options for the 2019-2021 triennium, and asked it to report back at a later session.
26. Following the conclusion of the plenary session the **Secretary General**, the **Chair of the STRP** and STRP member Prof. Max Finlayson presented highlights and key messages from the Global Wetland Outlook.