



## 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.4

### Draft Daily Report Day 3 – Wednesday 24 October (Afternoon plenary session)

Wednesday 24 October 2018

15.15 – 18.10 Plenary session

**Agenda item 18: Consideration of the draft resolutions and recommendations submitted by Contracting Parties and the Standing Committee (continued)**

**18.19 Draft resolution on the importance of wetlands [for][in the context of] peace and [human security][security]**

1. **Senegal** introduced the draft resolution in document COP13 Doc.18.19.
2. **France** and **Rwanda** supported the draft resolution in principle but believed that it would benefit from some amendments.
3. **France**, supported by **Ukraine**, proposed the establishment of a working group to produce a revised version.
4. **Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Islamic Republic of Iran, Japan, Thailand, Turkey** and the **United States of America** did not support the draft resolution in its current form, believing that significant parts of it lay outside the scope and competence of the Convention.
5. The **President** established a working group to take forward discussion of the draft resolution. He requested all Contracting Parties with proposed amendments to communicate these to the Secretariat within two hours of the close of the session. These would be made available to the chair of the working group, once appointed.

**18.6 Draft resolution on the review of the fourth Strategic Plan of the Ramsar Convention**

6. The **Secretariat** introduced the draft resolution in document COP13 Doc.18.6.

7. **Australia, Austria** on behalf of the Member States of the European Union, **Belgium, Burundi, Canada, Islamic Republic of Iran, Malawi** on behalf of the Africa region, **Thailand** and the **United States of America** supported the draft resolution, with **Austria on behalf of the EU, Belgium, Canada, Thailand** and the **United States of America** noting that they had amendments to propose.
8. **China** drew attention to inconsistencies in the definitions of “wetland” applied by the Ramsar Convention and within the 2030 Agenda.
9. The **President** requested all Contracting Parties with proposed amendments to communicate these to the Secretariat within two hours of the close of the session so that a revised version of the draft resolution could be prepared for consideration at a later session.

**18.7 Draft Resolution on enhancing the Convention’s implementation, visibility and synergies with other multilateral environmental agreements and other international institutions**

10. The **Secretariat** introduced the draft resolution in document COP13 Doc.18.7.
11. **China, Eswatini** on behalf of the Africa region, **France** and **Islamic Republic of Iran** expressed general support for the draft resolution in document COP13 Doc.18.7. **Canada, Colombia, Ecuador, India**, the **United Kingdom** speaking also on behalf of **Finland**, and the **United States of America** all indicated that they had amendments to propose.
12. **Turkey** stated that, were the existing paragraph 34 to be retained in an adopted Resolution, it would enter a reservation on this paragraph.
13. The observer from the **Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity** encouraged the participation of the Ramsar Convention in the development of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.
14. The **President** requested all Contracting Parties with proposed amendments to communicate these to the Secretariat within two hours of the close of the session so that a revised version of the draft resolution could be prepared for consideration at a later session.

**18.25 Draft resolution on wetlands in polar and subpolar regions**

15. **Sweden** introduced the draft resolution in document COP13 Doc.18.25, indicating that a revised version had been prepared.
16. **Argentina, Australia, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Denmark, Ecuador, France, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa** on behalf of the African region, the **United Kingdom** and the **United States of America** all proposed amendments to the draft resolution, many Parties expressing concern that aspects of the present draft were beyond the scope and mandate of the Ramsar Convention.
17. The **President** established a working group to produce a revised version of the draft resolution for consideration at a later session. He requested all Contracting Parties with proposed amendments to communicate these to the Secretariat within two hours of the close of the session. These would be made available to the chair of the working group, once appointed.

#### **18.8 Ramsar Regional Initiatives 2019-2021 and their Operational Framework**

18. The **Secretariat** introduced the draft resolution in document COP13 Doc. 18.8.
19. Interventions broadly in support of the draft resolution, but raising a number of specific observations and proposed amendments, were made by **Argentina, Australia, Bahrain, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Japan, Mongolia, New Zealand, Senegal, Slovenia, Sweden** on behalf of the Member States European Union present at COP13, **Turkey** and the **United States of America**.
20. The **President** established a working group to take forward discussion of the draft resolution and report back to a future session. He requested all Contracting Parties with proposed amendments to communicate these in writing to the Secretariat within two hours of the close of the session. These would be made available to the chair of the working group, once appointed.

#### **18.10 The status of Sites in the Ramsar List of Wetlands of International Importance.**

21. The **Secretariat** introduced the draft resolution in document COP13 Doc.18.10.
22. Interventions broadly in support of the draft resolution, but raising a number of specific observations and proposed amendments, were made by **Argentina, Australia, Austria** on behalf of the European region, **Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Burkina Faso, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Islamic Republic of Iran, Kenya** on behalf of the African region, **Liberia, Oman, Peru, South Sudan, Uganda**, the **United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zambia** and the observer from **BirdLife International**.
23. The **President** asked all Contracting Parties with proposed amendments to submit these in writing to the Secretariat within two hours of the close of the session so that a revised version of the draft resolution could be prepared for consideration at a later plenary session.