

**14th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties  
to the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands**

**“Wetlands Actions for People and Nature”  
Wuhan, China and Geneva, Switzerland, 5-13 November 2022**

**Ramsar COP14 Doc.18.16**

**Note from the Secretariat:**

At the resumed session of its 59th meeting, the Standing Committee in Decision SC59/2022-13 decided to forward the draft resolution on *Review of the Ramsar criteria, and delisting of Ramsar Sites located in territories which are not recognized at the UN level as part of the territory of the submitting country*, in document SC59 Doc 24.2, to COP14 for further consideration with all the document's text in square brackets.

**Draft resolution on review of the Ramsar Criteria, and delisting  
of Ramsar Sites located in territories which are not recognized  
at the UN level as part of the territory of the submitting country**

*Submitted by Algeria*

1. [RECALLING Article 2.1 which states: “*Each Contracting Party shall designate appropriate wetlands within its territory for inclusion in a List of Wetlands of International Importance*” and that “*the boundaries of each wetland shall be precisely described and also delimited on a map*”];
2. ALSO RECALLING that the Contracting Parties, in Resolution 5.3, confirmed that a “Ramsar Information Sheet” and a map of the Site should be provided at the time of designation of a wetland (Ramsar Site) to the List of Wetlands of International Importance, and reaffirmed this in Resolutions VI.13, VI.16 and VII.12;
3. NOTING that the 4th meeting adopted “*Criteria for identifying wetlands of international importance*” in Recommendation 4.2;
4. AWARE that Resolution VI.2 of the 6th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties adopts further specific criteria for the identification of Wetlands of International Importance, taking into account fish, and further includes in its annex specific guidelines for the application of these criteria;
5. NOTING Action 6.3.1 of the Strategic Plan, which calls for the criteria to be continually reviewed “to ensure that they reflect global wetland conservation priorities and values”;
6. ALSO CONSIDERING that the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP) has referred to the need for an evaluation of the existing Criteria, even though Recommendation 4.2 calls for the

avoidance of further changes to the Criteria as far as possible, in order to facilitate the establishment of a clearly defined basis for the uniform application of the Convention;

7. CONCERNED that the Criteria for identifying Wetlands of International Importance have so far been of an ecological nature only; and
8. ALSO CONCERNED that some wetlands designated to the List of Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar List) do not form part of the territory of the designating country;

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9. RECOMMENDS that sites proposed for inclusion in the Ramsar List should be genuinely recognized at the UN level as part of the territory of the submitting country;
10. REQUESTS that the STRP review the Ramsar Classification System for Wetland Type with a view to including additional aspects and, to facilitate the process, consider creating a section in the Ramsar Information Sheet;
11. REQUESTS that the Scientific and Technical Review Panel, in consultation with experts and competent partner organizations and with the assistance of the Ramsar Secretariat, review the existing Criteria for Identifying Wetlands of International Importance and guidelines, in the light of including criteria other than those based on environmental aspects;
12. REQUESTS that the results of this review be submitted to the Standing Committee for approval; and
13. FURTHER REQUESTS that the Ramsar Secretariat proceed with the removal from the Ramsar List of Sites located in territories not recognized at the UN level as part of the territory of the submitting country.]