Contracting Party responses to language survey
October 2016

Answered in English: 25 responses	Answered in French: 8 responses	Answered in Spanish: 4 responses
Regions Africa 6 (South Sudan 2) Asia 7 (Oman 2) Europe 9 Latin America and Caribbean 1 North America 1 Oceania 1	*Regions* Africa 5 Europe 2	*Regions* Latin America and Caribbean 4
Roles 80% NFP	*Roles* 75% NFP, 25% AA	*Roles* 50% NFP, 25% AA, 25%other
Official languages English 9 French 1 Arabic 6 Chinese 1 Other 11 responses	*Official languages* French 5 Arabic 3	*Official languages* Spanish 4 1 response including other languages
Other non-official languages 14 positive responses, of which English in 8, Arabic in 2, Russian in 1, French in 1	*Other non-official languages* 6 positive responses, of which English in 1, French in 3, Spanish in 1	*Other non-official languages* No
Impact of current provision No impact 11 Manageable impact 11 Severe impact 1	*Impact of current provision* No impact 4 Manageable impact 3	*Impact of current provision* No impact 1 Manageable impact 2
Short term actions proposed • In the short term the main important documents to be translated into Arabic in order for authorities to work on the basic requirements. • Possibly translation of some selected key documents by translating the distributed documents into other UN official languages • Probably to translate some of the key documents, leaflets etc into Finnish. May not be necessary, but worth thinking	*Short term actions proposed* • Equal translation of communications into the languages of the convention • Would value at least some translation in Arabic of certain documents, decisions, presentations, etc., in order to transmit them to the Media and the Partner Ministries. • Difficulties in translating material for	*Short term actions proposed* • Translation of important elements particuarly web site content • Have a Spanish translation of excellent quality and without errors of all the documents on the work of the Convention that until now are being translated in their entirety.

- We need to translate the documents concerned with Myanmar's ramsar sites to Burmese language and publish them. - English is second language ,so there is no severe impact. - Publications in Hungarian (books, posters, signboards) help convey the message of the Ramsar Convention to the public. The 2015-2021 Strategy) have been summarised and translated into Hungarian for the National Ramsar Committee. English is a convenient working language for us to correspond with the Secretariat etc. - we are doing Translate all documents from English to Arabic from our own Funds - Secretariat may recommend choosing NFP's with suitable level of knowledge of foreign languages (English). - Chinese RAMSAR AA is funding to translate all previous effective resolution of COP into Chinese version to improve the implementation of the Convention in China - Translation of RIS into local language and provide to local site management authority	- raising awareness of the general public could be remedied by using formats that make it possible to change the written parts. - Support to Parties to translate Convention documents into one of the official languages well spoken at the local level but not taken into account by the Convention	
Medium term actions proposed - For the medium term to have 50 – 70% of documents to be in Arabic as well as the RSIS system and the website. - Possibly translation of some selected documents - using live translation in the main COP meetings and plenary - Probably to translate some of the key documents, leaflets etc into Finnish. May not be necessary, but worth thinking - All of the publication documents should be translate to Burmese languages to understand by the local communities. - we can manageable impacts - Some of the most important documents are translated into Hungarian to help outreach. English is convenient as a basis for such translations. - we need the Arabic languages to be one of Ramsar languages . - China will develop stratigic plan to integrate Chinese into the Convention language step by step. - update RIS and make site specific management plan - Translation of key documents into Hebrew	*Medium term actions proposed* - Further use of French - Translation of the main decisions of the COP - Introducing Arabic as an official language could improve the awareness and understanding of decisions.	Medium term actions proposed - Achieve 90% availability of information in Spanish - Have an excellent and error-free translation into Spanish of all documents on the work of the Convention, in particular all news and documents on scientific and technical guidance.
Long term actions proposed - To have all documents and communications in all meetings to be translated into Arabic. - Possibly translation of some selected documents - using all UN official languages all the time in documentation and	*Long term actions proposed* - Translation into local languages - Adopting Arabic as an official language of the Convention - Increasing the official languages of the	*Long term actions proposed* Improve the structure of the Convention website to facilitate access to all available documents and the Spanish search engine, as well as to

when ever it needed in side meetings. • Probably to translate some of the key documents, leaflets etc into Finnish. May not be necessary, but worth thinking • we can manageable impacts /translating to official language • Some of the most important documents are translated into Hungarian to help outreach. English is convenient as a basis for such translations. • It would be better if we could have one language only, (preferable English), then more funds would go directly to wetlands instead of using funds for paying translators. • we need the Arabic languages to be one of Ramsar languages . • Scientific documents should be published only in English because nowadays English is the language of science. 2. Documents and guidances related to particular type of wetlands / particular problem may be published in English and in the most popular language in region. • Chinese language is one of working language of the Convention. • Long term strategic plan of each ramsar site • Use by Ramsar web site of intelligent electronic translations to allow public to view documents and web pages automatically in native language. need service that is better and more professional than Google translate or Tradukka.	Convention	make available to the parties proposed key information brochures that are recommended to be translated into local languages and only used in Countries to improve dissemination. In any case the contracting party could take over the translation.
Prioritization of items for translation (11 answered, 14 skipped) First 4: Ramsar website pages; RSIS / Ramsar Site information; COP Resolutions; Scientific and Technical guidance docs. Then: COP input docs; STRP docs; Ramsar website news; COP interpretation; SC interpretation; SC docs; STRP interpretation.	*Prioritization of items for translation (xx answered, xx skipped)* First 5: Ramsar website pages; COP input docs; Ramsar website news; RSIS / Ramsar Site information; COP Resolutions. Then: SC docs; Official messages; COP proceedings; Ramsar Forum, social media.	*Prioritization of items for translation (2 answered, 2 skipped)* First 3: Ramsar website pages; Scientific and Technical guidance docs; RSIS / Ramsar Site information. Then: Official messages; COP Resolutions; Ramsar website news; Ramsar Forum, social media.
Would your Contracting Party be willing to increase its annual contribution to enable greater implementation of the Convention through further language integration? Yes 1 Yes, depends on amount 5 No 20	*Would your Contracting Party be willing to increase its annual contribution to enable greater implementation of the Convention through further language integration?* Yes, depends on amount 4	*Would your Contracting Party be willing to increase its annual contribution to enable greater implementation of the Convention through further language integration?* Yes, depends on amount 1 No 2

	No 2	
Would your Contracting Party be willing to provide a voluntary contribution to enable greater implementation of the Convention through further language integration? Yes, in my country 7 Yes, in other countries 0 No 13	*Would your Contracting Party be willing to provide a voluntary contribution to enable greater implementation of the Convention through further language integration?* Yes, in my country 2 Yes, in other countries 1 No 3	*Would your Contracting Party be willing to provide a voluntary contribution to enable greater implementation of the Convention through further language integration?* No 3
From what other sources do you think the Convention can raise funds for better integration of UN languages into the work of the Convention (actions identified in section B)? - No idea. Integration of other UN languages into Ramsar is not necessary, it is waste of money that we can use for real wetland conservation. - from the party contribution to UN - Develop investment activities - Other relevant organizations (CBD, climate change) - could be in-kind support from contracting parties vs financial support. For example, perhaps contracting parties could do some translating for the convention, as appropriate - Increase in annual contributions - Developing Parners such as the UNEP, GEF..etc - have no idea - No. We prefer that funds are raised for other issues and projects. - contribution from arabic country . - Funding in form of menpower - Microsoft company has a division to study electronic means to increase ecological conservation. Also Bill Gates Foundation.	*From what other sources do you think the Convention can raise funds for better integration of UN languages into the work of the Convention (actions identified in section B)?* - Targeted partners - Making a plan - Developing partnerships with IOPs - Funding from rich Arab states.	*From what other sources do you think the Convention can raise funds for better integration of UN languages into the work of the Convention (actions identified in section B)?* - A campaign could be developed in social networks for communication equity. - Private sources from countries interested in the integration of the languages of the United Nations.
Do you have any other comments on how to better integrate UN languages into the work of the Convention? - Three official languages of the convention are more than sufficient from both technical and financial point of view. - COUNTRIES REQUIRING ADDITIONAL LANGUAGES INCLUSION OTHER THAN THE CURRENT 3 MAY VOLUNTEER LANGUAGE PERSONNEL TO THE SECRETARIAT. 1- co-operating among UN bodies. 2- reduce the party	*Do you have any other comments on how to better integrate UN languages into the work of the Convention?* Integration of Arabic is important for improving the implementation of the Convention. Party would potentially cotribute but not under current conditions.	*Do you have any other comments on how to better integrate UN languages into the work of the Convention?* It is a priority to improve the quality and speed of translation to the languages that have already existed. The adoption of partially translated resolutions at COP12 reflects the difficulty of having a translation in time

contribution to translation. • No • No • Assistance from the Countries that need the language integration not only financial resources but expertise from within countries that can contribute to the integration. • No • Through films and video shows • no • No. • i thing let first 3 year contribution from Arabic country and after that Ramsar convention Budget . • Promotion and education people in English • Native language country should support • Need to use more automated and hi tech translation systems and increase IP capacity in other parties		and form of the three languages that the Convention has so far handled.