

Diplomatic Note 2018/5

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

The Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands presents its compliments to the Permanent Mission of [...] and has the honour to transmit information regarding the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Wetlands (COP13), which will take place in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, from 21 to 29 October 2018.

The Opening Ceremony of COP13 will be held on the afternoon of 22 October 2018. COP13 will be preceded by the 55th meeting of the Standing Committee of the Convention, which will take place on 21 October. The 56th Meeting of the Standing Committee will be held on 29 October. Regional meetings are scheduled to take place on 21 October, 22 October and 24 October.

Documentation for COP13, as well as links to other practical information on visas, hotels and the conference venue will be available on the Ramsar Convention Website at: https://www.ramsar.org/event/13th-meeting-of-the-conference-of-the-parties.

Preregistration for COP13

The online preregistration for COP13 is open from 15 July 2018. **Personalized** links will be sent to Contracting Parties.

Once delegates have successfully completed the online process, they will receive an automated summary of the preregistration and an email confirming that their data have been transmitted.

After review by the Secretariat, they will receive a confirmation email with further information. This email can be used as a letter of invitation to obtain a visa at a United Arab Emirates consulate or embassy.

Contracting Parties that have been invited to apply for financial support for a nominated sponsored delegate should note that such delegates will be preregistered separately by the Secretariat once all the necessary documentation has been provided.

Delegations to COP13

Concerning the composition of each Contracting Party delegation to Ramsar COP13, the Ramsar Secretariat respectfully requests that Parties register their delegations as early as possible, and note

the information regarding visas on the COP13 website. The Head of Delegation should be indicated in the registration form.

Also enclosed with the present note are the provisions regarding credentials of the Rules of Procedure adopted at the 12th meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties (Punta del Este, the Oriental Republic of Uruguay, 2015).

The Secretariat of the Convention on Wetlands avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Mission of [...] the assurance of its highest consideration.

Gland, 13 July 2018

