



CONVENTION ON WETLANDS  
CONVENTION SUR LES ZONES HUMIDES  
CONVENCIÓN SOBRE LOS HUMEDALES  
(Ramsar, Iran, 1971)

## Diplomatic Note 2019/5

### Wetland City Accreditation - Call for applications

The Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands presents its compliments to the Permanent Mission of [...] and has the honour to refer to the following:

Following the adoption of Resolution XII.10 on *Wetland City Accreditation of the Ramsar Convention*<sup>1</sup> at the 12th meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Convention (COP12) in June 2015, and Decision SC57-24 of the Ramsar Standing Committee (June 2019), the Secretariat is pleased to launch the call for applications to the second edition (2019-2021 triennium) of the Wetland City Accreditation.

For the first edition (2016-2018 triennium) a total of 18 cities were accredited by COP13<sup>2</sup>.

The accreditation will encourage cities that are close to and dependent on wetlands, primarily Wetlands of International Importance, but also wetlands with other conservation category status, to develop and strengthen a positive relationship with these valuable ecosystems, for example through increased participation and public awareness, as well as a careful consideration of wetlands in municipal planning and decision-making.

The Wetland City Accreditation of the Ramsar Convention aims to further promote the conservation and wise use of urban and peri-urban wetlands, as well as sustainable socio-economic benefits for local populations.

A candidate city for the Wetland City Accreditation will be assessed and recommended as an Accredited Wetland City by an Independent Advisory Committee, after being proposed by the Contracting Party (through its Ramsar National Focal Point or Head of Administrative Authority) on whose territory it stands. Cities complying with each accreditation criterion described within Resolution XII.10 are invited to complete the nomination form<sup>3</sup> and to transmit it to their Ramsar National Focal Point or Head of Administrative Authority.

The deadline for the Head of the Administrative Authority or the National Focal Point to forward the nomination form to the Ramsar Secretariat is **15 March 2020**.

Also published are: guidance on how cities and other human settlements should complete the nomination form, especially regarding the level of detail required and the types of supporting evidence required<sup>4</sup>; a guidance note for Ramsar Administrative Authorities/National Focal Points<sup>5</sup>; and the call for applications, including conditions and deadlines for submission<sup>6</sup>.

The Secretariat of the Convention on Wetlands respectfully requests that the content of the present note be communicated to the competent national authorities and avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Mission of [...] the assurance of its highest consideration.

Gland, 26 July 2019



1. See: <https://www.ramsar.org/document/resolution-xii10-wetland-city-accreditation-of-the-ramsar-convention>.
2. See: <https://www.ramsar.org/activity/wetland-city-accreditation>.
3. See: <https://www.ramsar.org/document/wetland-city-accreditation-of-the-ramsar-convention-nomination-form>
4. See: <https://www.ramsar.org/document/wetland-city-accreditation-of-the-ramsar-convention-guidance-note-for-cities>
5. See: <https://www.ramsar.org/document/wetland-city-accreditation-of-the-ramsar-convention-guidance-note-for-administrative>
6. See: <https://www.ramsar.org/document/wetland-city-accreditation-of-the-ramsar-convention-call-for-applications>