Draft Proposed Agenda for the Ramsar Regional Initiatives Workshop

12 June 2016

08h15  Arrival and registration

09h00  Welcome by the Acting Secretary General

09h05  Election of the Chair for the Working Group on Ramsar Regional Initiatives

09h10  The Chair moves to accept the proposed Workshop Agenda.

09h15  Discussion on the revised Operational Guidelines 2016-2024

10h40  Coffee/tea break

11h00  Continued discussion and agreement on the final version for revised Operational Guidelines to be submitted to SC52 for adoption

12h00  Presentation on the subject of a legal status (or formal recognition) to be provided by the Ramsar Convention to Regional Initiatives: initial discussion and exchange of views, based upon specific proposals made by individual Ramsar Regional Initiatives (available information documents will be circulated by 25 May)

12h30  Light lunch provided in the Ramsar cafeteria

14h00  Continued discussion on the legal status for Ramsar Regional Initiatives

15h30  Agreement on a statement that outlines a proposed way forward and next steps, on how the Convention can provide its Ramsar Regional Initiatives with a legal status

16h00  Coffee/tea break

16h20  Presentation on integrating the work of the Ramsar Regional Initiatives with the Convention’s work on Culture, communications and education (CEPA), and scientific and technical matters (STRP), cf. also SC52 Inf. Docs 04, 05, 06

16h30  Discussion on proposals made and the way forward

17h00  Discussion on the usefulness of the continued existence of the Working Group, and if so, on issues to include in its next work plan for the annual period between SC52 and SC53

17h50  The Chair proposes the adoption of short conclusions of the workshop and possible proposals to be presented by the Working Group to SC52. If an annual work plan for the period SC52-SC53 will be adopted, this will be translated into French and Spanish before submission to SC52.

18h00  Closure of the workshop