



National planning tool for the implementation of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands

(And the approved format for National Reports to be submitted for the 8th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties, Spain, 2002)

file 1

Institutional information

Contracting Party: **EGPYT**

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Note – Not all actions from the Convention Work Plan 2000-2002 are included here, as some apply only to the Bureau or Conferences of the Contracting Parties. As a result, the numbering system that follows contains some gaps corresponding to those actions that have been omitted.

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GENERAL OBJECTIVE 1

TO PROGRESS TOWARDS UNIVERSAL MEMBERSHIP OF THE CONVENTION

Operational Objective 1.1: To endeavour to secure at least 150 Contracting Parties to the Convention by 2002.

Actions – Global Targets

1.1.1 Recruit new Contracting Parties, especially in the less well represented regions and among states with significant and/or transboundary wetland resources (including shared species), [CPs, SC regional representatives, Bureau, Partners]

The gaps remain in Africa, central Asia, the Middle East and the Small Island Developing States. Refer to Recommendation 7.2 relating to Small Island Developing States.

Global Target - 150 CPs by COP8

These are the countries which at present are not CPs of the Convention:

Afghanistan, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Barbados, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Cook Islands, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Holy See, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Republic, Lesotho, Liberia,

<p>Maldives, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Federated States of Micronesia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nauru, Nigeria, Niue, Oman, Palau, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, St Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Sudan, Swaziland, Tajikistan, Tonga, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Yemen, Zimbabwe.</p>
<p>Is your country a neighbor of, or does it have regular dealings or diplomatic-level dialogue with, one or more of the non-Contracting Parties listed above? (This list was correct as of January 2000. However, accessions to the Convention occur on a regular basis and you may wish to check with the Ramsar Bureau for the latest list of non-CPs.) Yes If No, go to Action 1.1.2.</p>
<p>If Yes, have actions been taken to encourage these non-CPs to join the Convention? No</p>
<p>If Yes, have these actions been successful? -----</p>
<p>If No, what has prevented such action being taken? Egypt's priority has been to enhance implementation of the RAMSAR Convention within its own boundaries.</p>
<p>Proposed national actions and targets: During the next four years while participating in regional meetings and forums, Egypt will take an active role in promoting the convention and encouraging Middle Eastern countries not currently Contracting Parties to join the agreement.</p>
<p>Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Nature Conservation Sector, EEAA</p>

<p>1.1.2 Promote membership of Ramsar through regional meetings and activities, and through partners' regional offices. [SC regional representatives, Bureau, Partners]</p> <p>These efforts are to continue and to focus on the above priority regions and the Small Island Developing States.</p> <p>The current member and permanent observer States of the Standing Committee are Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Costa Rica, France, India, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Slovak Republic, Spain, Switzerland, Togo, Trinidad & Tobago, and Uganda</p>
<p>Is your country a member of the Standing Committee? No If No, go to Action 2.1.1.</p>
<p>If Yes, have actions been taken to encourage the non-CPs from your region or subregion to join the Convention? No Reply</p>
<p>If Yes, have these actions been successful? -----</p>
<p>If No, what has prevented such action being taken? -----</p>
<p>Proposed national actions and targets: -----</p>
<p>Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: -----</p>

**GENERAL OBJECTIVE 2
TO ACHIEVE THE WISE USE OF WETLANDS BY IMPLEMENTING AND
FURTHER DEVELOPING THE RAMSAR WISE USE GUIDELINES**

Operational Objective 2.1: To review and, if necessary, amend national or supra-national (e.g., European Community) legislation, institutions and practices in all Contracting Parties, to ensure that the Wise Use Guidelines are applied.

Actions - Global and National Targets
2.1.1 Carry out a review of legislation and practices, and indicate in National Reports to the COP how the Wise Use Guidelines are applied. [CPs]
This remains a high priority for the next triennium. The <i>Guidelines for reviewing laws and institutions</i> (Resolution VII.7) will assist these efforts.
Global Target – For at least 100 CPs to have comprehensively reviewed their laws and institutions relating to wetlands by COP8.
Has your country completed a review of its laws and institutions relating to wetlands? No
If No , what are the impediments to this being done? see below
If a review is planned , what is the expected timeframe for this being done? It is expected that this review will be completed within the next three years.
If the review has been completed , did the review result in amendments to laws or institutional arrangements to support implementation of the Ramsar Convention? No Reply
If No , what are the impediments to these amendments being completed? -----
If Yes , and changes to laws and institutional arrangements were made, please describe these briefly. -----
Proposed national actions and targets: A review of laws and institutions relating to wetlands will be conducted using Ramsar Wise Use Guidelines as part of the development of the National Wetland Strategy (see 2.1.2). As a contribution toward this initiative, laws and institutions relating to wetlands will be reviewed at the Medwet project sites.
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: National Wetland Committee

2.1.2 Promote much greater efforts to develop national wetland policies, either separately or as a clearly identifiable component of other national conservation planning initiatives, such as National Environment Action Plans, National Biodiversity Strategies, or National Conservation Strategies. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]
The development and implementation of National Wetland Policies continues to be one of the highest priorities of the Convention, as does the integration of wetland conservation and wise use into broader national environment and water policies.

The Guidelines for developing and implementing National Wetland Policies (Resolution VII.6) will assist these efforts.

Global Target - By COP8, at least 100 CPs with National Wetland Policies or, where appropriate, a recognized document that harmonizes all wetland-related policies/strategies and plans, and all CPs to have wetlands considered in national environmental and water policies and plans. The Guidelines for integrating wetland conservation and wise use into river basin management (Resolution VII.18) will assist these efforts.

Does your country have **in place** a National Wetland Policy (or similar instrument) which is a comprehensive statement of the Government's intention to implement the provisions of the Ramsar Convention? **No**

If **No**, what are the impediments to this being put in place? **see below**

If the development of such a Policy is **planned**, what is the expected timeframe for this being done? **It is planned through the Medwet project to devise a National Wetland Strategy/Policy within the next three years using Ramsar Guidelines.**

Has your country taken its obligations with respect to the Ramsar Convention into consideration in related policy instruments such as National Biodiversity Strategies, National Environmental Action Plans, Water Policies, river basin management plans, or similar instruments? **Yes**

If **No**, what are the impediments to doing so? **-----**

If **Yes**, please provide brief details. **Obligations to the RAMSAR Convention have been integrated into documents produced by the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency, such as the National Biodiversity Strategy and National Environmental Action Plans.**

Has your government reviewed and modified, as appropriate, its policies that adversely affect intertidal wetlands (COP7 Resolution VII.21)? **No**

If **No**, what has prevented this from happening? **This review will be undertaken as part of the development of the National Wetland Strategy.**

If **Yes**, what were the conclusions of this review? and what actions have been taken subsequently? **-----**

Proposed national actions and targets: **In the next four years Egypt will formulate an National Wetland Strategy/Policy, based on Ramsar guidelines and the priorities in the National Biodiversity Strategy, to be endorsed by the National Wetland Committee. Through the National Wetland Strategy and National Wetland Committee key online Ministries will be encouraged to integrate obligations to the Ramsar Convention into their policies, plans and programs. The Strategy will review policies impacting river basins and intertidal wetlands and recommend measures to enhance their management in accordance with the guidelines.**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **National Wetland Committee**

Operational Objective 2.2: To integrate conservation and wise use of wetlands in all Contracting Parties into national, provincial and local planning and decision-making on land use, groundwater management, catchment/river basin and coastal zone planning, and all other environmental planning and management.

Actions - Global and National Targets
<p>2.2.2 Promote the inclusion of wetlands in national, provincial and local land use planning documents and activities, and in all relevant sectoral and budgetary provisions. [CPs]</p> <p>Achieving integrated and cross-sectoral approaches to managing wetlands within the broader landscape and within river basin/coastal zone plans is another of the Convention's highest priorities in the next triennium.</p> <p>Global Target - By COP8, all CPs to be promoting, and actively implementing, the management of wetlands as integrated elements of river basins and coastal zones, and to provide detailed information on the outcomes of these actions in the National Reports for COP8.</p>
<p>Is your country implementing integrated river basin and coastal zone management approaches? Yes</p>
<p>If No, what are the impediments to this being done? -----</p>
<p>If integrated management approaches are being applied in part of the country, indicate the approximate percentage of the country's surface area where this is occurring and to which river basins and coastal areas this applies. Intergrated coastal zone management is being applied to all coastlines in Egypt, including the Mediterranean coastal lagoons and Red Sea islands. Egypt is one of the nations participating in the GEF-World Bank Nile Basin Initiative which aims to enhance river basin management along the Nile utilizing integrated approaches.</p>
<p>If Yes, are wetlands being given special consideration in such integrated management approaches? Yes</p>
<p>If No, what are the impediments to this being done? -----</p>
<p>Has your country undertaken any specific pilot projects to implement the <i>Guidelines for integrating wetland conservation and wise use into river basin management</i> (COP7 Resolution VII.18)? No</p>
<p>If Yes, please describe them briefly. -----</p>
<p>Proposed national actions and targets: Promote and strengthen integrated coastal zone management along the Mediterranean and Red Sea coasts, insuring adequate consideration to wetland conservation issues. Through the GEF-World Bank Nile Basin Initiative enhance river basin management in Egypt and implement integrated management pilot programs based on Ramsar guidelines.</p>
<p>Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Coastal Zone Management - Coastal Management Department, Egyptian Environmental Affairs</p>

Agency

River Basin Management - Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation

Operational Objective 2.3: To expand the Guidelines and Additional Guidance on Wise Use to provide advice to Contracting Parties on specific issues not hitherto covered, and examples of best current practice.

Actions - Global and National Targets

2.3.1 Expand the Additional Guidance on Wise Use to address specific issues such as oil spill prevention and clean-up, agricultural runoff, and urban/industrial discharges in cooperation with other bodies. [CPs, STRP, Bureau, Partners]

Global Target - Following COP7, the Bureau, with other appropriate collaborators, will produce a series of Wise Use handbooks, based on the outcomes of Technical Sessions at COP7.

(added by the Ramsar Bureau pursuant to Resolution VII.14 *Invasive Species and wetlands*) CPs are requested “to provide the Ramsar Bureau with information on databases which exist for invasive species, information on invasive species which pose a threat to wetlands and wetland species, and information on the control and eradication of invasive wetland species.”

Does your country **have** resource information on the management of wetlands in relation to the following which could be useful in assisting the Convention to develop further guidance to assist other CPs :

oil spill prevention and clean-up? **Yes**

agricultural runoff? **Yes**

urban/industrial discharges? **Yes**

invasive species? **Yes**

other relevant aspects such as highway designs, aquaculture, etc.? **Yes – aquaculture and fisheries management**

In each case, if the answer was **Yes**, has this information been forwarded to the Ramsar Bureau for possible inclusion in the Wise Use Resource Centre (see 2.3.2 below)? **No Many documents are only in Arabic and unavailable for public dissemination.**

Proposed national actions and targets: **Egypt will compile and review information with regard to oil spill prevention and clean-up, agricultural runoff, urban/industrial discharge, invasive species and other relevant fields. Documents available for public dissemination will be provided to the Wise Use Resource Centre.**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Nature Conservation Sector, EEAA**

2.3.2. Publicize examples of effective application of existing Guidelines and Additional Guidance on Wise Use. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

Promoting and improving the availability of such resource materials is a priority under the *Convention's Outreach Programme* (Resolution VII.9)

Global Target - By COP8, to have included in the Wise Use Resource Centre 500 appropriate references and publications as provided to the Bureau by CPs and other organizations.

Further to 2.31. above, has your country, as urged by the Outreach Programme of the Convention adopted at COP7 (Resolution VII. 9), **reviewed** its resource materials relating to wetland management policies and practices? **No**

If **No**, what has prevented this being done? **There has not been a comprehensive review of materials relating to wetland management policies and practices, but such information is being collected for the Medwet project sites.**

If **Yes**, have copies of this information been forwarded to the Ramsar Bureau? **Yes**

If **No**, what has prevented this being done? **-----**

Proposed national actions and targets: **During the development of the National Wetland Strategy (see 2.1.2), Egypt will compile and review resource materials related to wetland management polices and practices. As appropriate, these materials will be forwarded to the Ramsar Bureau.**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Nature Conservation Sector, EEA**

Operational Objective 2.4: To provide economic evaluations of the benefits and functions of wetlands for environmental planning purposes.

Actions - Global and National Targets

2.4.1 Promote the development, wide dissemination, and application of documents and methodologies which give economic evaluations of the benefits and functions of wetlands. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

Given the guidelines available for this activity (see below: *Economic Valuation of Wetlands* handbook), this will be an area of higher priority in the next triennium.

Global Target - By COP8, all CPs to be incorporating economic valuation of wetland services, functions and benefits into impact assessment and decision-making processes related to wetlands.

Does your government **require** that economic valuations of the full range of services, benefits and functions of wetlands be prepared as part of impact assessments and to support planning decisions that may impact on wetlands? **In some cases.**

If **No**, what are the impediments to this being done? **Egypt lacks sufficient qualified economists and environmental experts who can undertake economic evaluations of wetlands.**

<p>If this applies in some, but not all cases, what is the expected timeframe for this to be required in all cases? Until Egypt has sufficient national expertise in this field, it will be unable to require economic valuations of wetlands in all cases.</p>
<p>If Yes, has the inclusion of economic valuation into impact assessment resulted in wetlands being given special consideration or protection. In some cases. Economic valuations of coral reefs, sea grass beds and mangroves has played a significant role in encouraging the adoption of policies and measures to conserve these habitats.</p>
<p>Proposed national actions and targets: Efforts will be made to include economic valuation of wetlands based on the Ramsar guidelines as a component of relevant donor supported projects. During the next four years Egypt will seek to mobilise the necessary resources and opportunities to develop national capacity in economic valuation of wetlands. Studies of the economic valuation of wetlands will be undertaken at the Medwet project sites as a step toward developing national capacity in this field.</p>
<p>Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Nature Conservation Sector, EEA</p>

Operational Objective 2.5: To carry out environmental impact assessments (EIAs) at wetlands, particularly of proposed developments or changes in land/water use which have potential to affect them, notably at Ramsar sites, whose ecological character “is likely to change as the result of technological developments, pollution or other human interference” (Article 3.2 of the Convention).

<p>Actions - Global and National Targets</p>
<p>2.5.2 Ensure that, at Ramsar sites where change in ecological character is likely as a result of proposed developments or changes in land/water use which have potential to affect them, EIAs are carried out (with due consideration of economic valuations of wetland benefits and functions), and that the resulting conclusions are communicated to the Ramsar Bureau and fully taken into account by the authorities concerned. [CPs]</p>
<p>Global Target - In the next triennium, CPs will ensure that EIAs are applied to any such situation and keep the Bureau advised of the issues and the outcomes of these EIAs.</p>
<p>Has an EIA been carried out in all cases where a change in the ecological character of a Ramsar site within your country was likely (or possible) as a result of proposed developments or changes in land/water use? Yes/No</p>
<p>If No, what has prevented this from occurring? While Law 4/1994 for the Environment requires EIAs for all new development projects, the EIA process has not been totally effective. Projects undertaken prior to 1994 were not required to have an EIA and there was a grace period after 1994. Since then, some projects have failed to comply due to gaps in the legislation. Other deficiencies noted have been poor quality EIAs and weak monitoring and enforcement. This is due to a number of factors including insufficient capacity, low awareness and overlapping responsibilities between the different national and local authorities responsible for reviewing and following up on EIAs.</p>

<p>If Yes, has this EIA, or have these EIAs, given due consideration to the full range of environmental, social and economic values of the wetland? (See also 2.4.1 above)</p> <p>In some cases.</p>
<p>AND: Have the results of the EIA been transmitted to the Ramsar Bureau? No</p>
<p>If No, what has prevented this from occurring? Most EIAs are unavailable for public dissemination.</p>
<p>Proposed national actions and targets: Review the EIA process at Ramsar sites and identify gaps and needs in the system insuring adequate consideration to the environmental, social and economic values of wetlands. Build capacity and raise awareness amongst national and local bodies responsible for EIAs at Ramsar sites. Review EIAs at Ramsar sites taking action as needed to prevent or mitigate negative impacts. The Ramsar Bureau will be notified accordingly and provided EIAs available for public dissemination.</p>
<p>Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Nature Conservation Sector, EEAA</p>

<p>2.5.3 Carry out EIAs at other important sites, particularly where adverse impact on wetland resources is likely, due to a development proposal or change in land/water use. [CPs]</p> <p>Global Target - By COP8, all CPs to require EIAs under legislation for any actions which can potentially impact on wetlands and to provide detailed reports on advances in this area in their National Reports for COP8.</p>
<p>Are EIAs required in your country for all cases where a wetland area (whether a Ramsar site or not) may be adversely impacted due to a development proposal or change in land/water use? No</p>
<p>If No, what are the impediments to this occurring? see 2.5.2</p>
<p>If Yes, are such EIAs required to give due consideration to the full range of environmental, social and economic values of the wetland? (See COP7 Resolution VII.16, also 2.4.1 & 2.5.2 above.) Yes</p>
<p>Are EIAs “undertaken in a transparent and participatory manner which includes local stakeholders” (COP7 Resolution VII.16)? Yes</p>
<p>If No, what are the impediments to this occurring? -----</p>
<p>Proposed national actions and targets: Through the National Wetland Strategy (see 2.1.2), it is intended to recommend that environmental impact assessments be undertaken for all projects impacting wetlands and adequate consideration given to the environmental, social and economic values of wetlands. Continue to develop national capacity in EIAs and strengthen the EIA process, promoting greater transparency and local stakeholder involvement.</p>

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **National Wetland Committee**

2.5.4 Take account of Integrated Environmental Management and Strategic Environmental Assessment (at local, provincial and catchment/river basin or coastal zone levels) when assessing impacts of development proposals or changes in land/water use. [CPs]

(Refer to 2.5.3 above) In addition to the assessment of the potential impact of specific projects on wetlands, has your country **undertaken** a review of all government plans, programmes and policies which may impact negatively on wetlands? **No**

If **No**, what has prevented this from occurring?

Insufficient resources and coordination mechanisms.

If **Yes**, has this review been undertaken as part of preparing a National Wetland Policy or similar instrument? (refer 2.12 above) **No**

Or as part of other national policy or planning activities? **No** – **-----**

Proposed national actions and targets: **It is expected through the recently established National Wetland Committee to enhance communication, coordination and information exchange between the relevant government bodies. A comprehensive, nationwide review of government plans, programmes and policies impacting Egyptian wetland will be included as a recommendation of the National Wetland Strategy (see 2.1.2) as part of the National Wetland Inventory (see 6.1.2). Such a review will be undertaken at Ramsar sites by the Medwet project.**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **National Wetland Committee**

Operational Objective 2.6: To identify wetlands in need of restoration and rehabilitation, and to implement the necessary measures.

Actions - Global and National Targets

2.6.1 Use regional or national scientific inventories of wetlands (Recommendation 4.6), or monitoring processes, to identify wetlands in need of restoration or rehabilitation. [CPs, Partners]

The completion of such inventories is a continuing area of priority for the Convention.

Global Target - Restoration/rehabilitation inventories to be completed by at least 50 CPs by COP8.

Has your country **completed** an assessment to identify its priority wetlands for restoration or rehabilitation? (COP7 Resolution VII.17) **For some places.**

If **No**, what has prevented this from being done? **While Egypt has given high priority to wetland restoration and rehabilitation, the responsible bodies do not have adequate financial, technical or manpower resources to conduct a comprehensive assessment of all inland and coastal wetlands.**

If this has been done for only part of the country, please indicate for which areas or river basins. **Nile River, Lake Burullus, the eastern part of Lake Bardawil, Lake Manzalla, Lake Maryut, Meditterinian coast of the El Omayed Biosphere Reserve, coral reefs along the Gulf of Aqaba and Red Sea coasts, mangroves along the Red Sea**

If **Yes** (that is, an assessment has been **completed**), have actions been taken to undertake the restoration or rehabilitation of these priority sites? **Yes/No**

If **No**, what has prevented this from being done? **A number of the aforementioned assessments are still in process or just starting, such as those at the Medwet project sites. In general, the main constraint has been insufficient resources, capacity and technical expertise.**

If **Yes**, please provide details. **There is a multitude of projects to abate pollution and improve water quality of the Nile, including treatment of industrial, domestic and agricultural wastewater. Likewise, projects have been undertaken to improve water quality at Lake Manzalla, including the establishment of an artificial wetland and construction of sewage treatment works. A project was also implemented to enhance environmental quality at Lake Maryut. In addition, there are projects to restore and rehabilitate coral reefs, mangroves and seagrass beds along the Gulf of Aqaba and Red Sea coasts.**

Proposed national actions and targets: **The National Wetland Strategy (see 2.1.2) will recommend as part of the National Wetland Inventory (see 6.1.2) that priority areas for wetland restoration and rehabilitation be identified along with potential actions. Continue to develop national capacity in wetland rehabilitation and restoration and facilitate the transfer of technical expertise from Developing countries. Through the Medwet project and other donor funded initiatives implement actions to restore and rehabilitate wetlands. Mobilise additional resources to address wetland restoration and rehabilitation at other priority sites.**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Nature Conservation Sector, EEAA**

2.6.2 Provide and implement methodologies for restoration and rehabilitation of lost or degraded wetlands. [CPs, STRP, Bureau, Partners]

There is considerable information resource on this subject, although it is not as readily accessed as desirable.

Global Target - The addition of appropriate case studies and information on methodologies, etc., to the Convention's Wise Use Resource Centre (refer to 2.3.2 above also) will be a priority in the next triennium.

Refer to 2.3.1 and 2.3.2. Does your country **have** resource information on the restoration or

rehabilitation of wetlands? Yes
If Yes , has this been forwarded to the Ramsar Bureau for possible inclusion in the Wise Use Resource Centre and for consideration by the STRP Expert Working Group on Restoration? No
If this material has not been forwarded to the Bureau, what has prevented this from occurring? It was not known that such information was needed.
Proposed national actions and targets: Compile and review information on restoration and rehabilitation of wetlands in Egypt and supply this information as available to the Ramsar Bureau.
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Nature Conservation Sector, EEAA

<p>2.6.3 Establish wetland restoration / rehabilitation programmes at destroyed or degraded wetlands, especially in association with major river systems or areas of high nature conservation value (Recommendation 4.1). [CPs]</p> <p>The Convention will continue to promote the restoration and rehabilitation of wetlands, particularly in situations where such actions will help promote or retain the ‘health’ and productivity of waterways and coastal environments.</p> <p>Global Target - By COP8, all CPs to have identified their priority sites for restoration or rehabilitation and for projects to be under way in at least 100 CPs.</p>
Refer to 2.6.1 above.

Operational Objective 2.7: To encourage active and informed participation of local communities, including indigenous people, and in particular women, in the conservation and wise use of wetlands.

Actions - Global and National Targets
<p>2.7.1 Implement Recommendation 6.3 on involving local and indigenous people in the management of wetlands. [CPs, Bureau]</p> <p>Global Target - In the next triennium, the implementation of the Guidelines on local communities’ and indigenous people’s participation (COP7 Resolution VII.8) is to be one of the Convention’s highest priorities. By COP8, all CPs to be promoting local stakeholder management of wetlands.</p>
Is your government actively promoting the involvement of local communities and indigenous people in the management of wetlands? Yes
If No , what are the impediments to this occurring? -----
If Yes , describe what special actions have been taken (See also 2.7.2, 2.7.3 and 2.7.4 below) (COP7 Resolution VII.8). Local communities and indigenous people such as fisherman and bedouins have been involved in wetland inventories, management and monitoring

programs.
Proposed national actions and targets: Continue to involve local communities and indigenous people in the management of wetlands and devise mechanisms to engage their participation in accordance with Ramsar guidelines.
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Nature Conservation Sector, EEAA

<p>2.7.2 Encourage site managers and local communities to work in partnership at all levels to monitor the ecological character of wetlands, thus providing a better understanding of management needs and human impacts. [CPs]</p> <p>The Convention's Outreach Programme (COP7 Resolution VII.9) seeks to give such community participation higher priority as an education and empowerment tool of the Convention.</p>
Does your government actively encourage or support site managers and local communities in monitoring the condition (ecological character) of Ramsar sites and other wetlands? (Also refer to Operational Objective 5.1.) Yes
If No , what prevents this from occurring? -----
If Yes , does this include both site managers and local communities, where they are not the same people? Yes Site managers and local communities are working together to monitor the conditions of Ramsar sites. Information from local communities is also being utilized for monitoring purposes at other wetlands around the country, such as at the Gulf of Aqaba and the Red Sea.
AND, where such monitoring occurs, are the findings being used to guide management practices? Yes
If No , what prevents this from happening? -----
Proposed national actions and targets: Continue to actively encourage and support site managers to work in partnership with local community in monitoring Ramsar sites and other wetlands utilizing this information to guide management practices.
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Nature Conservation Sector, EEAA

<p>2.7.3 Involve local communities in the management of wetlands by establishing wetland management committees, especially at Ramsar sites, on which local stakeholders, landowners, managers, developers and community interest groups, in particular women's groups, are represented. [CPs, Partners]</p> <p>Global Target - Ramsar site management committees operating in at least 100 CPs, and including non-government stakeholder representation.</p>
Are there wetland site management committees in place in your country? Yes

If No , what are the impediments to such being established? -----
If Yes , for how many sites are such committees in place? Three
AND: How many of these are Ramsar sites? Two
AND: Of these committees, how many include representatives of local stakeholders? All three sites
AND: Of these, how many have women's groups represented? Women's groups are represented at one site.
Proposed national actions and targets: Continue support to existing site management committees enhancing representation of local stakeholders, particularly women's groups and establish committees at other wetlands as feasible.
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: National Wetland Committee

2.7.4 Recognize and apply traditional knowledge and management practice of indigenous people and local communities in the conservation and wise use of wetlands. [CPs]
Refer to 2.7.1 above.
Global Target - This will be addressed in the next triennium, possibly in partnership with the Convention on Biological Diversity and Convention to Combat Desertification, which have already initiated work in this area.
Has your government made any special efforts to recognize and see applied traditional knowledge and management practices? Yes
If No , what has prevented this from occurring? -----
If Yes , please provide details of how this traditional knowledge was recognized and then put into practice. Traditional knowledge is being used with regards to fisheries management and monitoring wetland conditions, such as water quality.
Proposed national actions and targets: Continue to explore and promote the recognition and application of traditional knowledge and management practices of local communities and indigenous people in wetland conservation and sustainable use.
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Nature Conservation Sector, EEAA

Operational Objective 2.8: To encourage involvement of the private sector in the conservation and wise use of wetlands.

Actions - Global and National Targets
2.8.1. Encourage the private sector to give increased recognition to wetland attributes,

functions and values when carrying out projects affecting wetlands. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

Global Target - In the next triennium, the efforts to work in partnership with the private sector will be further increased and the Bureau will seek to document and make available case studies on some of the more effective and innovative approaches. By COP8, the target is to have private sector support for wetlands conservation in more than 100 CPs.

Have **special efforts been made** to increase the recognition of wetland attributes, functions and values among the private sector in your country? **Yes**

If **No**, what has prevented this from happening? -----

If **Yes**, describe these special efforts. **Legal measures, including incentives and penalties and education and public awareness campaigns have been effective vehicles to increase private sector recognition of wetland attributes, functions and values.**

AND: Have these efforts been successful? **Yes**

If **No**, why not? -----

If **Yes**, how do you judge this success? Financial support for management or monitoring? Active involvement in management or monitoring? (Refer to 2.8.3 below) Application of Ramsar's Wise Use principles by private sector interests? (Refer to 2.8.2 below)? Other criteria? **Private sector support for and participation in wetland conservation is growing, particularly notable in coral reef conservation. There is enhanced implementation of Law 4/1994 for the Environment, especially provisions relating to EIAs, as well as greater public sector interest in and willingness to adopt policies, measures and programs to conserve wetlands. The private sector is implementing wetland monitoring and management programs, such as establishing infrastructure e.g. waste water treatment facilities and erecting bouys to protect coral reefs. Likewise, the private sector is increasingly sponsoring and undertaking conservation related activities, including public awareness campaigns and wetland clean-ups.**

Proposed national actions and targets: **Continue to increase the private sector's recognition of wetland attributes, functions and values to enhance their support for and participation in conservation efforts. Replicate the successes of private sector involvement at other wetlands, in particular at Ramsar sites.**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Nature Conservation Sector, EEAA**

2.8.2 Encourage the private sector to apply the Wise Use Guidelines when executing development projects affecting wetlands. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

Global Target - In the next triennium the application of this tool for promoting Wise Use will be a priority under the Convention. By COP8, the target is to have more than 50 CPs which have completed reviews of their incentive measures.

Refer to 2.8.1 above. Has your government **completed** a review of its "existing, or evolving,

<p>policy, legal and institutional frameworks to identify and promote those measures which encourage conservation and wise use of wetlands and to identify and remove measures which discourage conservation and wise use” (COP7 Resolution VII.15)? No</p>
<p>If No, what has been the impediment to this being done? It is planned that this review will be undertaken in the course of the formulation of the National Wetland Strategy.</p>
<p>If Yes, what actions have been taken to introduce “incentive measures designed to encourage the wise use of wetlands, and to identify and remove perverse incentives where they exist” (COP7 Resolution VII.15). -----</p>
<p>AND: Have these actions been effective? No Reply</p>
<p>If No, why not? -----</p>
<p>If Yes, please describe how. -----</p>
<p>AND if Yes, COP7 Resolution VII.15 requested Parties to share these “experiences and lessons learned with respect to incentive measures and perverse incentives relating to wetlands, biodiversity conservation, and sustainable use of natural resources generally, by providing these to the Ramsar Bureau for appropriate distribution and to be made available through the Wise Use Resource Centre of the Convention’s Web site”. Has this been done? No Reply</p>
<p>Proposed national actions and targets: Policies, legal and institutional frameworks that encourage and discourage wetland conservation will be reviewed at the Medwet project sites and as part of the development of the National Wetland Strategy (see 2.1.2). Special consideration will be given by Medwet and other donor funded projects to develop incentive measures to encourage the wise use of wetlands in accordance with Ramsar guidelines. Lessons learned and experiences with respect to incentive measures will be shared with the Wise Use Resource Centre.</p>
<p>Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Nature Conservation Sector, EEAA</p>

<p>2.8.3 Encourage the private sector to work in partnership with site managers to monitor the ecological character of wetlands. [CPs]</p> <p>This action will be promoted further in the next triennium.</p>
<p>Refer to 2.7.2 above. In addition, have any special efforts been made to encourage the private sector involvement in monitoring? Yes</p>
<p>If No, what has prevented this from happening? -----</p>
<p>If Yes, describe these special efforts. It is a legal requirement to monitor the impacts of projects in the construction and operation phases after receiving EIA approval. Private sector companies utilizing wetland resources have been requested to sponsor or undertaken monitoring programs to assess the impacts of their activities; examples include, a company collecting sea shells along the Red Sea coast and a company interested in crocodile farming at Lake Nasser. The private sector is actively involved in</p>

monitoring the impacts of tourism and other human activities on coral reefs.

AND: How successful has this been? **Fairly successful, although additional efforts are needed to help the private sector develop effective monitoring programs and build their capacity in this field.**

Proposed national actions and targets: **Continue to encourage private sector participation in and support for wetland monitoring. Through Medwet and other donor supported projects develop initiatives to involve the private sector in monitoring programmes in partnership with site managers building their capacity in the process.**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Nature Conservation Sector, EEAA**

2.8.4 Involve the private sector in the management of wetlands through participation in wetland management committees. [CPs]

Global Target - As indicated under 2.7.2 and 2.7.3 above, the establishment of cross-sectoral and stakeholder management committees for wetlands, and especially Ramsar sites, will be a priority in the next triennium.

Refer to 2.7.3 above

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**GENERAL OBJECTIVE 3
TO RAISE AWARENESS OF WETLAND VALUES AND FUNCTIONS
THROUGHOUT THE WORLD AND AT ALL LEVELS**

Operational Objective 3.1: To support and assist in implementing, in cooperation with partners and other institutions, an international programme of Education and Public Awareness (EPA) on wetlands, their functions and values, designed to promote national EPA programmes.

Actions - Global Targets

3.1.1 Assist in identifying and establishing coordinating mechanisms and structures for the development and implementation of a concerted global programme of EPA on wetlands. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

Refer to Operational Objectives 3.2 and 3.3 below

3.1.2 Participate in the identification of regional EPA needs and in the establishment of priorities for resource development. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

Has your country **taken any action** to help with the identification of regional EPA needs and in the establishment of priorities for information/education resource development? **Yes**

If No , what has prevented this from happening? -----
If Yes , please provide details, and as appropriate, provide samples to the Ramsar Bureau for possible inclusion in the Wise Use Resource Centre's clearing house for Wetland Communications, Public Awareness, and Education (CEPA) (COP7 Resolution VII.9). Egypt is taking part in the GEF-UNDP-Medwet initiative for the Mediteranean Basin, which will help with the idenification of regional EPA needs and priorities for information/education resource development.
Proposed national actions and targets: As the opportunities arise, continue to participate in the indentification of regional needs and priorities in wetland EPA.
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Nature Conservation Sector, EEAA

3.1.3 Assist in the development of international resource materials in support of national EPA programmes [CPs, Bureau, Partners]
Refer to 3.1.2 above also. Has your country taken any action to assist with the development of international wetland CEPA resource materials? No
If Yes , please provide details, and as appropriate, provide samples to the Ramsar Bureau for possible inclusion in the Wise Use Resource Centre's clearing house for Wetland CEPA (COP7 Resolution VII.9). -----
If No , what has prevented this from happening? Egypt has not been informed about or involved in any programs for the development of international wetland CEPA.
Proposed national actions and targets: As the opportunities arise, participate in programs for the development of international wetland CEPA.
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Nature Conservation Sector, EEAA

3.1.4 Support international programmes that encourage transfer of information, knowledge and skills between wetland education centres and educators (e.g., Wetland International's EPA Working Group, Global Rivers Environment Education Network (GREEN), Wetland Link International). [CPs, Bureau, Partners]
Refer to 3.2.4 also. Does your country support any international programmes that encourage transfer of information, knowledge and skills among wetland education centres and educators? Yes
If No , what are the impediments to this occurring? -----
If Yes , please provide details. Egypt is participating in the Medwet project that is contributing toward the transfer of knowledge and skills among wetland centres and educators in the Mediterranean region. Ramsar Partner's are playing an active role in this initiative.

Is your country specifically supporting the Wetlands Link International initiative (COP7 Resolution VII.9)? No
If No , what is preventing this from happening? Egypt is unfamiliar with this program.
If Yes , please provide details. -----
AND indicate which Wetland Centres (refer 3.2.3 below), museums, zoos, botanic gardens, aquaria and educational environment education centres (refer 3.2.4) are now participating as part of Wetlands Link International. -----
Proposed national actions and targets: As the opportunities arise, continue to contribute toward the transfer of knowledge and skills among wetland centres and educators. Encourage in the next four years at least one national body and two local wetland education centres e.g. Protected Area Visitor Centres to join Wetlands Link International
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Nature Conservation Sector, EEAA

Operational Objective 3.2: To develop and encourage national programmes of EPA on wetlands, targeted at a wide range of people, including key decision-makers, people living in and around wetlands, other wetland users and the public at large.

Actions - Global and National Targets
3.2.1 Encourage partnerships between governments, non-governmental organizations and other organizations capable of developing national EPA programmes on wetlands. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]
Global Target - By COP8 to see the global network of proposed CP and non-government focal points for Wetland Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA) in place and functioning effectively in the promotion and execution of the national Outreach Programmes in all CPs. To secure the resources to increase the Bureau’s capacity for implementing the Outreach Programme.
Did your Government inform the Ramsar Bureau by 31 December 1999 of the identity of its Government and Non-Government Focal Points for wetland CEPA (COP7 Resolution VII.9)? No
If No , what has prevented this from occurring? Egypt was unaware of this obligation.
Has your country established an “appropriately constituted Task Forces, where no mechanism exists for this purpose (e.g., National Ramsar Committees), to undertake a review of national needs, capacities and opportunities in the field of wetland CEPA and, based on this, to formulate its National Wetland CEPA Action Plans for priority activities which consider the international, regional, national and local needs” (COP7 Resolution VII.9). No
If No , what has prevented this from occurring? Egypt was unaware of this obligation.

If **Yes**, please provide details of the organizations, ministries, etc., represented on this Task Force. -----

AND: Has a National Wetland CEPA Action Plan been finalized by 31 December 2000?

No

If **No**, what has prevented this from occurring? **The responsible bodies have insufficient resources and manpower to formulate a National Wetland CEPA Action Plan. The Nature Conservation Sector is in the process of developing its programs and capacities and is planning to conduct an assessment to identify future needs and priorities, including in the field of education and training.**

If **Yes**, is the Action Plan being implemented effectively? **No Reply**

If **No**, what is preventing this from occurring? -----

If **Yes**, what are the priority target groups of the Action Plan and the major activities being undertaken? -----

AND: Has a copy of this plan been provided to the Ramsar Bureau? **No Reply**

Proposed national actions and targets: **CEPA assessments will be conducted at Medwet project sites as a step toward the development of the National CEPA Action Plan. Egypt in the next year will identify a governmental and a non-governmental organization Focal Point for wetlands CEPA. The National Wetland Strategy will recommend a wetlands CEPA Action Plan as a priority program. The Nature Conservation Sector will identify and build the capacity of a person to be responsible for following-up on the Action Plan, and try in the next four years to mobilise the necessary resources to carry it out. Once resources have been raised, a task force will be formed to oversee the formulation of the plan. After completion, a copy of the CEPA Action Plan will be provided to the Ramsar Bureau for its Outreach Programme.**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Nature Conservation Sector, EEAA**

3.2.2 On the basis of identified needs and target groups, support national programmes and campaigns to generate a positive vision of wetlands and create awareness at all levels of their values and functions. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

Global Target - see 3.2.1 above.

3.2.3 Encourage the development of educational centres at wetland sites. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

Global Target - The Convention will aim to have more than 150 active education centres (and similar venues - see 3.2.4 below) promoting the principles of the Convention by COP8 and to ensure that all CPs have at least one such centre.

Has your country **encouraged** the establishment of educational centres at wetland sites? **Yes**

If No , what has been the impediment to such action being taken? -----
If Yes , how successful has this been? This has been very successful at the sites where the centres have been operating.
AND: How many such centres are in place? and at what sites? 11 centres, Zaranik Protected Area-North Sinai (Lake Bardawil, Ramsar site); Wadi El Rayan Protected Area-El Fayoum; Lake Qarun Protected Area-El Fayoum; Ashtum El Gamil-Lake Manzalla, Port Said; El Omayed Biosphere Reserve-Matruh; National Training Center for the Conservation and Management of Protected Areas-South Sinai; Ras Mohammed National Park-South Sinai; Nabaq Protected Area-South Sinai; Abu Galum Protected Area - South Sinai; First Cataract Protected Area-Aswan; Wadi Allaqi Biosphere Reserve-Aswan.
How many centres are being established? and at what sites? One, Lake Burullus, a Ramsar site
How many centres are being planned? and at what sites? -----
Of the sites in place, how many are participating as part of Wetlands Link International (Refer 3.1.4 above)? and at which sites are they? see Section 3.1.4
Proposed national actions and targets: Enhance wetland education and public awareness programs at least three existing centres and establish at least one new centre at a new site in the next four years. Encourage at least two centres to join Wetlands Link International (see Section 3.1.4)
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Nature Conservation Sector, EEAA

3.2.4 Work with museums, zoos, botanic gardens, aquaria and environment education centres to encourage the development of exhibits and programmes that support non-formal EPA on wetlands. [CPS, Bureau, Partners]
Global Target - see 3.2.3 above
Do all museums, zoos, botanical gardens and similar facilities in your country have exhibits and/or programmes that support non-formal wetland CEPA? No
If No , what are the impediments to this occurring? The absence of a national Wetland CEPA with a inventory and needs assessment for non-formal EPA on wetlands. Additional training and resourses are needed to develop programs and exhibits supporting non-formal EPA on wetlands.
If such exhibits or programmes are in place for some facilities, how many and what types of facilities are they? At least six sites, Protected Area Visitor Centres
If Yes , how many facilities does this apply to and how many of these are participating as part of Wetlands Link International (Refer 3.1.4 above)? and which facilities are they? see Section 3.1.4

Proposed national actions and targets: **Non-formal education needs will be assessed as part of the National Wetland CPEA Action Plan (see 3.2.1). In the interim, non-formal education will be assessed, capacity built and programs developed at the Medwet project sites that can be replicated at other locations around the country.**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Nature Conservation Sector, EEAA**

3.2.5 Encourage the inclusion of modules related to wetlands in the curricula at all levels of education, including tertiary courses and specialized training courses. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

Global Target - By COP8, to see wetland issues incorporated into curricula in over 100 CPs.

In your country are there modules related to wetlands in the curricula at all levels of education, including tertiary courses and specialized training courses? **Only in some institutions**

If **No**, what is preventing this from occurring? **A National Wetland CEPA Action Plan needs to be conducted to identify and assess the gaps. There needs to be more national capacity developed in this field and more materials produced in Arabic on wetlands, particularly related to the Egyptian situation.**

If this is the case for some levels of education, or some parts of the country, please provide details. **There are no specialized modules on wetlands in primary and secondary schools in Egypt. This topic is covered in various courses, such as in subjects related to science, geography and environment. At the university level, wetlands are covered in general courses e.g. science and environmental management and in specialized courses, such as hydrology, wetland ecology, marine biology, coastal zone management and fisheries.**

If **Yes**, have samples of this curriculum material been provided to the Ramsar Bureau for possible inclusion in the Wise Use Resource Centre? **No**

Proposed national actions and targets: **Through the National CEPA Action Plan (see 3.2.1) identify wetland education needs in the school curriculum at all levels, including tertiary courses and specialized training. As funding permits, develop and test pilot wetland education modules and other resource material. Continue to build national capacity in wetland education.**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Nature Conservation Sector, EEAA**

Operational Objective 3.3: To improve the Ramsar Bureau's communications activities and to develop a Convention Communications Strategy, capable of further promoting the Convention and its wider application, and of raising awareness of wetland values and functions.

Actions - Global and National Targets
3.3.1 Review the Bureau's communications activities, especially those related to the creation and functioning of regional and national communication networks; develop new material and use of technology, and improve existing material. [Bureau]
Refer to 3.2.1 "To secure the resources to increase the Bureau's capacity for implementing the Outreach Programme.". Has your government provided any voluntary contributions to increase the Bureau's capacity for implementing the Outreach Programme? Yes
If Yes, please provide details. Egypt is participating in the Medwet regional project under the Ramsar Convention and through this initiative is helping to expand the Bureau's Outreach Programmes.
Proposed national actions and targets: As opportunities arise, increase Egypt's participation in regional and national communication networks and in the development of new materials, enhancement of existing materials and use of technology.
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Nature Conservation Sector, EEAA

3.3.4 Seek the support of an electronic communications carrier to provide and maintain an electronic mail network and electronic bulletin board/ mailing lists linking the Contracting Parties, Standing Committee members, the STRP, the Bureau, and partner organizations. [All]
Global Target - By COP8, to gain a sponsor(s) for the Convention's Web site, to ensure that all CPs have Internet access, to increase the use of French and Spanish in the Ramsar Web site, and to see over 300 Ramsar site managers also communicating with the Bureau, and each other, via the Internet.
The Standing Committee and Bureau will consider the issue of a sponsor for the Convention's Web site, and increased presence of French and Spanish materials on the Web site. With respect to Ramsar site managers, has your government taken steps to provide for Internet links for these people? No
If No, what are the impediments to this action being taken? There are difficulties with the availability of phone lines and Internet service providers at the sites.
If Yes, how many Ramsar site managers have Internet access? -----
AND: Which Ramsar sites have this facility? -----
Proposed national actions and targets: It is planned next year that the site managers at both Ramsar sites will have access to the Internet.
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Nature Conservation Sector, EEAA

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Please go to file 2.



National planning tool for the implementation of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands

(And the approved format for National Reports to be submitted for the 8th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties, Spain, 2002)

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file 2

GENERAL OBJECTIVE 4 TO REINFORCE THE CAPACITY OF INSTITUTIONS IN EACH CONTRACTING PARTY TO ACHIEVE CONSERVATION AND WISE USE OF WETLANDS

Operational Objective 4.1: To develop the capacity of institutions in Contracting Parties, particularly in developing countries, to achieve conservation and wise use of wetlands.

Actions - Global and National Targets

4.1.1 Review existing national institutions responsible for the conservation and wise use of wetlands. [CPs]

Has your country reviewed the national institutions responsible for wetland conservation and wise use and the “designated national Administrative Authority for the Convention to ensure [that] these have the necessary resources to support the increasing demands being placed upon them by the growing expectations of the Convention” (COP7 Resolution VII.27)? **No**

If **No**, what is the impediment to this being done? **see below**

If **Yes**, what were the conclusions and outcomes of the review? (Refer to 4.1.2 also). **-----**

Proposed national actions and targets: **It is planned to undertake a review of national institutions responsible for wetland conservation and wise use as part of the National Wetland Strategy (see Section 2.1.2). During this exercise, it will be assessed if these organizations have the necessary resources to meet the Convention's requirements identifying potential gaps and needs.**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **National Wetland Committee**

4.1.2 On the basis of such a review, identify and implement measures to:

- **increase cooperation and synergy between institutions;**
- **promote the continued operation of these institutions;**
- **provide appropriately trained staff, in adequate numbers, for these institutions.**

<p>[CPs]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Target - By COP8, to see coordinating mechanisms in place in all CPs, and more particularly to see National Ramsar Committees including government and non-government stakeholder representatives, in place in more than 100 CPs. In addition, by COP8, all CPs that have reported the existence of NRCs at COP7 to have evaluated their effectiveness (COP7 Resolution VII.27).
<p>Refer also to 8.1.9. Does your country have a National Ramsar Committee or similar body? Yes</p>
<p>If No, what has prevented the establishment of such a committee? -----</p>
<p>If Yes, is the committee cross-sectoral, including representatives of appropriate government ministries and non-government expert and stakeholder groups? Yes</p>
<p>What is the composition of this Committee? A National Wetland Committee has been formed as part of the Medwet project. Committee members currently include key online Ministries e.g. Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation, Agriculture, Environmental Affairs and representatives from local organizations in the regions where the Medwet project is operating, such as Governorate officials, Protected Area Managers and NGOs.</p>
<p>Has there been an evaluation of the effectiveness of the Committee? No</p>
<p>If No, what has prevented this from happening? The Committee has only been formed and operating since 2000, so it is too soon to conduct an evaluation.</p>
<p>If Yes, did the review show the Committee was proving to be effective? No Reply</p>
<p>If No, why not? -----</p>
<p>Refer also to 7.2.1 with reference to coordinating the implementation of international conventions.</p>
<p>Proposed national actions and targets: An evaluation of the Committee's effectiveness will be conducted during the next four years and the results submitted to the RAMSAR Convention. Based on the recommendations of this evaluation, it is expected that the committee will evolve into the national coordinating body for wetland issues. The composition of committee's membership will be revised to make the body more representative on a national basis, with adequate consideration given to NGO representation.</p>
<p>Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: National Wetland Committee</p>

Operational Objective 4.2: To identify the training needs of institutions and individuals concerned with the conservation and wise use of wetlands, particularly in developing countries, and to implement follow-up actions.

Actions - Global and National Targets
4.2.1 Identify at national, provincial and local level the needs and target audiences for training in implementation of the Wise Use Guidelines. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Target - By COP8, to have training needs analyses completed in more than 75 CPs.
Has a training needs analysis been completed? No
If No , what has prevented this from happening? There is insufficient resources and capacity to conduct such an analysis. The Nature Conservation Sector is in the process of developing its programs and capacities and is planning to conduct an assessment to identify future needs and priorities, including in the field of education and training.
If Yes , have the results of this analysis been used to provide direction for training priorities in the future? No Reply
If No , why not? -----
If Yes , how has this been done? -----
AND: What impact has this had on the national training effort? -----
Proposed national actions and targets: The National Wetland Strategy (see 2.1.2) will recommend a National Wetlands Training Needs Assessment as a priority program that will identify training needs at the national, provincial and local levels along with target audiences. The Nature Conservation Sector will identify an appropriate person to be responsible for wetland training and build their capacities in this field. This individual will be expected to mobilise the necessary funding and coordinate the assessment. During the next two years training needs analyses will be conducted at the Medwet project sites as a pilot initiative toward the development of a National Wetlands Training Needs Assessment and build capacity in utilizing the Wise Use Guidelines as a training tool.
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Nature Conservation Sector, EEAA

4.2.2 Identify current training opportunities in disciplines essential for the conservation and wise use of wetlands. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Target - By COP8, to have reviews of training opportunities completed in more than 75 CPs.
Has your country completed a review of the training opportunities which exist therein? No
If No , what are the impediments to this being done? Egypt has yet to conduct a national training needs assessment (see 4.2.1).
If Yes , have the results of this review been used to provide direction for training priorities in the future? No Reply

If No , why not? -----
If Yes , how has this been done? -----
AND: What impact has this had on the national training effort? -----
Has this information on training opportunities been provided to the Ramsar Bureau for inclusion in the Directory of Wetland Manager Training Opportunities? (Refer to 4.2.3 below also) No Reply
Proposed national actions and targets: During the next two years training opportunities will be identified as part of the training needs assessments conducted at the Medwet project sites (see 4.2.1). The National Training Needs Assessment will identify training opportunities in disciplines essential for the conservation and wise use of wetlands.
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Nature Conservation Sector, EEAA

4.2.3 Develop new training activities and general training modules, for application in all regions, concerning implementation of the Wise Use Guidelines, with specialized modules covering [CPs, Bureau, Partners]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Target - To launch a major wetland manager training initiative under the Convention, possibly in partnership with one or more of the Convention's International Organization Partners, which can promote and take advantage of these new training tools. Refer also to 4.2.4 below regarding the <i>Wetlands for the Future Initiative</i>.
Following its review of training needs and opportunities, has your country developed any new training activities, or training modules? Yes
If Yes , please provide details. As part of the Medwet project, training programs/modules are being prepared and conducted in a variety of fields, including education and public awareness, hydrology, social-economic value of wetlands, management planning, monitoring, GIS and database management.
Training programs/modules have been developed at the National Training Centre at Sharm El Sheikh with EU support covering intertidal wetlands, coral reefs, mangroves, sea grass beds, coastal zone management, marine park management and EIAs.
Training programs/modules in areas related to marine park management and monitoring are being developed through the USAID supported Red Sea Project.
Training programs/modules, including wetland management and monitoring are being developed as part of the Italian support program to the Wadi El Rayan Protected Area.
AND: Has information on these training activities and modules been provided to the Ramsar Bureau for inclusion in the Directory of Wetland Manager Training Opportunities and the Wise Use Resource Centre? (Refer to 4.2.2 above also) No

Proposed national actions and targets: **Continue to build national capacity in training through the development and implementation of training programs/moduales related to wetland conservation and wise use. As appropriate, supply information on such programs to the Ramsar Bureau.**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Nature Conservation Sector, EEAA**

4.2.4 Provide opportunities for manager training by: personnel exchanges for on-the-job training; holding pilot training courses at specific Ramsar sites; siting wetland manager training facilities at Ramsar sites; obtaining and disseminating information about training courses for wetland managers around the world. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

- **Global Target - Refer to 4.2.3 above. Also to seek the resources from donors or interested CPs to establish *Wetlands for the Future Initiatives* for the Asia-Pacific, Eastern European, and African regions.**

Refer to 4.2.1, 4.2.2, and 4.2.3 above. Has training been provided for wetland managers:

- Through personnel exchanges for on-the-job training? **Yes, Site managers have attended training programs in Tunisia, Holland, France, Australia, United States and South Africa.**
- Holding pilot training courses at specific Ramsar sites? **Yes, Pilot training courses for wetland managers are being conducted at Ramsar sites as part of the Medwet project.**
- Siting wetland manager training facilities at Ramsar sites? **Yes, An education/training centre has been established at the Zaranik Protected Area, North Sinai and another one recently opened at Lake Burullus.**
- Obtaining and disseminating information about training courses for wetland managers? **Yes, Information on training courses is regularly obtained and disseminated to wetland managers.**

Has your country provided resources to support the establishment of *Wetlands for the Future* style programmes in any part of the world? (COP7 Recommendation 7.4) **No**

If Yes, please provide details. **-----**

Proposed national actions and targets: **In the next four years train in-country and abroad at least ten wetland managers, with the highest priority to training managers at Ramsar Sites.**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Nature Conservation Sector, EEAA**

4.2.6 Exchange information, technical assistance and advice, and expertise about the conservation and wise use of wetlands, also with regard to South-South cooperation. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

Refer to 2.3.1, 2.3.2, 4.2.1-4 above. Has your country specifically undertaken activities as indicated here which could be deemed to be South-South cooperation? Yes
If No , what has prevented this from happening? -----
If Yes , please provide details. Regional exchange of information and expertise is an important component of the GEF Medwet Initiative in which Egypt is one of five countries participating along with the Palestinian Authority. Egypt is also an involved in other initiatives fostering the South-South exchange of information and expertise, including the Nile Basin Initiative, Mediterranean Action Plan and Organization for the Protection of the Environment in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden.
Proposed national actions and targets: Egypt will continue to promote South-South exchange of information, technical assistance, advice and expertise about the conservation and wise use of wetlands during relevant regional and international forums organized in Egypt and abroad.
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Nature Conservation Sector, EEAA

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GENERAL OBJECTIVE 5**TO ENSURE THE CONSERVATION OF ALL SITES INCLUDED IN THE LIST OF WETLANDS OF INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE (RAMSAR LIST)****Operational Objective 5.1: To maintain the ecological character of Ramsar sites.**

Actions - Global and National Targets
5.1.1 Define and apply the precise measures required to maintain the ecological character of each listed site, in the light of the working definitions of ecological character adopted at the 6th COP (1996) and amended by Resolution VII.10 of COP7. [CPs]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Target - By COP8, each CP will seek to ensure that the measures required to maintain the ecological character of at least half of the Ramsar sites have been documented.
Have the measures required to maintain the ecological character of Ramsar sites in your country been documented? Yes
If No , what has prevented this being done? -----
If Yes , has this documentation been developed as part of management planning and associated action at the sites? Yes
AND: Has a copy been provided to the Ramsar Bureau? No
Proposed national actions and targets: The site inventories, analysis and management plans for Egypt's Ramsar sites are being prepared by the Medwet project and will be

provided to the Ramsar Bureau once they are completed. As part of the management plans, recommendations will be made about the necessary actions to maintain the ecological characteristics of the sites. Afterwards, depending upon the availability of resources, actions will be taken to materialize the recommendations of the management plans.

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Nature Conservation Sector, EEAA**

5.1.2 Conduct regular internal reviews to identify potential changes in ecological character, with input from local communities and other stakeholders; take remedial action and/or nominate the site for the Montreux Record. [CPs]

- **Refer to 2.5.2 - In the COP7 National Reports, 35 CPs reported Ramsar sites where some change in ecological character had occurred or was likely to occur in the near future. This was true for 115 sites in 33 CPs, and two other CPs stated that changes had occurred to all or some of their sites. In COP7 Resolution VII.12, these CPs were urged to consider nominating these sites to the Montreux Record.**
- **Global Target – In the period up to COP8, promote the application and benefits of the Montreux Record as a tool of the Convention through disseminating reports and publications on the positive outcomes achieved by a number of countries which have now removed sites from the Record.**

Refer to 2.7.2 and 2.8.3 also. Are regular internal reviews undertaken to identify factors potentially altering the ecological character of Ramsar sites? **Yes**

If **No**, what are the impediments to this occurring? -----

If **Yes**, have these reviews detected situations where changes in ecological character have occurred or may occur? **Yes**

If **Yes**, for how many sites was this case, which sites were they, and what actions were taken to address these threats? **Lake Burullus and the eastern part of Lake Bardawil. The recently completed Medwet site diagnosis identified and assessed existing and potential threats at Ramsar sites. The project is in the process of setting up monitoring programs to identify and assess ecological changes at the sites on a regular basis.**

AND: Were these sites where change in ecological character was detected, or may occur, added to the Montreux Record? **No**

If **No**, why not? **Both of Egypt's wetlands are already listed on the Montreux Record.**

Proposed national actions and targets: **Through the Medwet project produce management plans (see 5.2.3) for Ramsar sites that will address ecological changes recommending potential actions to mitigate and alleviate potential threats at the sites. During the next four years establish monitoring systems that will regularly assess and update ecological changes occurring at Lake Burullus and the eastern part of Lake Bardawil, expanding coverage to the remainder of Lake Bardawil as resources permit. As much as possible, involve local communities and other stakeholders in the monitoring programmes. At**

both Ramsar sites, devise and implement actions to remove or mitigate ecological damage as identified in the management plans; developing and raising funds for new projects as needed.

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Nature Conservation Sector, EEAA

5.1.3 Review and regularly update the Montreux Record (Resolutions 5.4, 5.5, and VI.1). [CPs, STRP, Bureau]

- **Global Target - CPs with Ramsar sites in the Montreux Record, and for which Ramsar Advisory Missions (RAMs) have been completed prior to COP7, are expected to have taken the actions necessary to warrant their removal from the Record before COP8.**

For those CPs with a site, or sites, included in the Montreux Record, and for which RAMs (previously Management Guidance Procedures, MGPs) have been completed, have all actions recommended by the RAM been undertaken for each site? **No**

If **No**, what are the impediments to this occurring? **A Ramsar Advisory Mission was requested in 1997; however, no mission subsequently visited Egypt. The Nature Conservation Sector is in the process of developing its programs and capacities and is planning to conduct an assessment to identify its future needs and priorities, including in the field of wetlands and international conventions.**

If **Yes**, have these actions resulted in a restoration of the ecological character? **No Reply**

AND: If **Yes**, has the site been removed from the Montreux Record following the completion of the necessary questionnaire (COP6 Resolution VI.1)? **No Reply** -----

Proposed national actions and targets: **A qualified person will be either hired and/or trained at the Nature Conservation Sector to be responsible for wetland issues and the Ramsar Convention. It will be requested in the next two years that a Ramsar Advisory Mission come to Egypt to assess the status of Ramsar sites and review the actions taken to date, recommending other remedial measures as needed to remove the sites from the Montreux Record. The utmost consideration will be given to following up on the recommendations of the Advisory Mission.**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Nature Conservation Sector, EEAA**

Operational Objective 5.2: To develop and implement management plans for all Ramsar sites, consistent with the Convention’s Guidelines on Management Planning and emphasizing involvement of local communities and other stakeholders.

Actions - Global and National Targets

5.2.3 Ensure that, by the 8th COP (2002), management plans or other mechanisms are in preparation, or in place, for at least half of the Ramsar sites in each Contracting Party,

beginning with pilot programmes at selected sites with input from local communities and other stakeholders. [CPs, Partners]

- **Global Target - By COP8, management plans will be in preparation, or in place, for at least three-quarters of the Ramsar sites in each CP and all CPs will seek to ensure that these are being implemented in full.**

Do all the Ramsar sites in your country have management plans **in place**? **No**

If **No**, how many sites do not have management plans in place and which sites are they? -----

If plans are being prepared for some sites, please indicate which sites these are. **Lake Burullus and the eastern part of Lake Bardawil**

For those sites where management plans are in place, how many of these are being implemented fully, and which sites are they? -----

Where plans are not in place, or not being fully implemented, what has prevented this from being done? -----

Proposed national actions and targets: **Within the next three years through the Medwet project, management plans will be produced for both Egyptian Ramsar sites, Lake Burullus and the eastern part of Lake Bardawil. Actions will be taken as resources permit to implement these plans. Additional resources will be sought to implement the plans and extend coverage to the remainder of Lake Bardawil.**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Nature Conservation Sector, EEEA**

5.2.4 Promote the establishment and implementation of zoning measures related to larger Ramsar sites, wetland reserves and other wetlands (Kushiro Recommendation 5.3). [CPs, Partners]

For those sites where it is warranted, are zoning measures being used to regulate the activities allowed in different parts of the wetlands? **No**

If **No**, what is preventing these from being implemented? **Zoning will be undertaken as part of the management plans for Lake Burullus and the eastern part of Lake Bardawil.**

If **Yes**, for which sites are these in place? -----

AND: Are they proving a successful management tool? -----

Have you provided the Ramsar Bureau with information regarding such cases of zoning for possible inclusion in the Wise Use Resource Centre? **No**

Proposed national actions and targets: **In the next three years, Lake Burullus and the eastern part of Lake Bardawil will be zoned as part of the management planning process. Maps showing the zones will be made available to the Wise Use Resource Centre.**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Nature**

Conservation Sector, EEAA**5.2.5 Promote the establishment and implementation of strict protection measures for certain Ramsar sites and other wetlands of small size and/or particular sensitivity (Recommendation 5.3). [CPs, Partners]**

- **This aspect of Ramsar site management was not considered in the COP7 National Reports and will have to be reviewed in time for COP8.**
- **Global Target - Provide for consideration at COP8 detailed information on the implementation of strict protection measures at small and/or sensitive sites.**

For those sites where it is warranted, are strict protection measures being used to regulate the activities allowed in different parts of the wetlands? **Yes/No**

If **No**, what is preventing these from being implemented? **The management plan and zoning for Lake Burullus is under development.**

If **Yes**, for which sites are these in place? **Zaranik Protected Area at the eastern end of Lake Bardawi**

AND: Is this proving to be a successful management tool? **Strict protection has been the best means to prevent pollution and regulate development and other human activities at Zaranik.**

Have you provided the Ramsar Bureau with information regarding such cases for possible inclusion in the Wise Use Resource Centre? **No**

Proposed national actions and targets: **Strict protection zones will be established at Lake Burullus. There will be a review of zoning at the Zaranik Protected Area and enhanced enforcement of strict protection zones at this site.**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Nature Conservation Sector, EEAA**

Operational Objective 5.3: To obtain regularly updated information on wetlands of international importance, in accordance with the approved standard format.

Actions - Global and National Targets

5.3.1 Ensure that the maps and descriptions of Ramsar sites submitted to the Ramsar Database by the Contracting Parties at the time of designation are complete, in the approved standard format of the Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands, and provide sufficient detail to be used for management planning and monitoring of ecological character. [CPs, Bureau, Wetlands International]

5.3.2 Ensure that missing or incomplete data sheets and/or maps of listed sites are submitted as a matter of priority and in the shortest possible time, as a means to enhance the relevance and use of the Ramsar Database. [CPs]

- **Global Target – By the end of 1999, for there to be no Ramsar sites for which**

appropriate sites descriptions and maps are still required.
If yours is one of the CPs referred to in COP7 Resolution VII.12 as not having provided a Ramsar (Site) Information Sheet in the approved format, with a suitable map, in one of three working languages of the Convention, has this now be rectified? Does Not Apply
If No, what is preventing this from being done? -----

5.3.3 Ensure that data sheets on Ramsar Sites are regularly updated, at least for every second meeting of the COP, so that they can be used for reviewing the achievements of the Convention, for future strategic planning, for promotional purposes, and for site, regional and thematic analysis (Resolution VI.13). [CPs, STRP, Bureau, Wetlands International]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Target - By the end of 1999, for there to be no Ramsar sites designated before 31 December 1990 for which updated site descriptions are still required.
If yours is one of the CPs referred to in COP7 Resolution VII.12 as not having provided an updated Ramsar (Site) Information Sheet for sites designated before 31 December 1990, has this now be rectified? Does Not Apply
If No, what is preventing this from being done? -----
Proposed national actions and targets: Will prepare an updated Ramsar (Site) Information Sheets for the 2006 meeting of Contracting Parties.
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Nature Conservation Sector, EEAA

Operational Objective 5.4: To keep under review the content and structure, as well as the hardware and software, of the Ramsar Database, in order to ensure that it retains its relevance in light of evolving information and communication technology.

Actions - Global and National Targets
5.4.1 Assess data currently available in the database and identify any gaps in the data provided by Contracting Parties. [CPs, STRP, Bureau, Wetlands International]
Refer to 5.2.2, 5.2.3, and 5.2.4 above.
5.4.4 Support the establishment of national wetland databases compatible with the Ramsar Database and develop a common protocol to facilitate exchange and interaction. [CPs, Partners]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Target - By COP8, to have national wetland databases in over 50 CPs which are accessible globally.
Refer also to 6.1.1 and 6.1.2. Does your country have a national wetland database? No
If No, what is preventing such a database being established? The responsible bodies have insufficient resources, manpower and expertise to develop a national database specifically for wetlands. Wetlands are currently covered as part of other databases.

This includes databases established and maintained by the Nature Conservation Sector (e.g. the National Biodiversity Database, the Medwet Database and individual Protected Area Databases); by the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (eg. Information Centre, Water Quality, Oil Spill Contingency Planning); and by online Ministries, such as the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation and Agriculture e.g. fisheries management.
If Yes , is this database generally available for reference and application by all ministries and stakeholders? Yes/No
If No , why not? Some of the databases are accessible to all Ministries and stakeholders, such as the National Biodiversity Database, while others are not.
AND: Is it available through the Internet? (COP7 Resolution VII.20) No
If Yes , please provide details. -----
If No , why not? Although planned, there is insufficient resources and manpower at present to make the National Biodiversity Database available over the Internet.
AND: Is it available on CD-Rom? (COP7 Resolution VII.20) No
If Yes , please provide details. -----
If No , why not? Given limited resources and manpower, the priority is to make the National Biodiversity Database accessible via the Internet.
Proposed national actions and targets: The National Wetland Strategy (see 2.1.2) will recommend as a priority program the development of a National Wetland Database which will be established using information from the National Wetland Inventory (see 6.1.2), have linkages with other databases and be available over the Internet. In the interim, mobilise the necessary resources to make the National Biodiversity Database accessible via the Internet. Continue to upgrade existing databases and develop national capacity in database management.
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Nature Conservation Sector, EEAA

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GENERAL OBJECTIVE 6

TO DESIGNATE FOR THE RAMSAR LIST THOSE WETLANDS WHICH MEET THE CONVENTION'S CRITERIA, ESPECIALLY WETLAND TYPES STILL UNDER-REPRESENTED IN THE LIST AND TRANSFRONTIER WETLANDS

Operational Objective 6.1: To identify those wetlands that meet the Ramsar criteria, and to give due consideration to their designation for the List.

Actions - Global and National Targets

6.1.1 Develop, regularly update -- especially in the case of Africa -- and disseminate

regional wetland directories, which identify potential Ramsar sites. [CPs, Partners]

Refer to 6.1.2 and 6.2.1. Does there exist for your country a directory or similar listing of sites which are potential Ramsar sites? **Yes/No**

If **No**, what are the impediments to such a list of sites being prepared? **Egypt has insufficient resources and qualified manpower to produce a National Wetland Directory. Greater priority has been given to enhancing the management of existing Ramsar Stes.**

If **Yes**, when was it prepared and was it prepared taking into consideration the *Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance* (COP7 Resolution VII.11)? **Priority wetlands for conservation were mentioned in the National Biodiversity Strategy. Wetlands of international importance as habitat for waterbirds were listed in the BirdLife International "Important Bird Area Directory for Egypt" which was included within the BirdLife International "Important Bird Area Directory for Africa". Yes**

AND: How many potential Ramsar sites are identified within the important sites directory for your country? **Wetland protected areas (some 13 sites) as well as the Delta coastal lagoons and Lake Nasser were identified as priority wetlands for conservation action in the National Biodiversity Strategy. In the BirdLife International "Important Bird Area Directory for Egypt" a total of 28 wetlands were listed as habitats of international importance for waterbirds.**

Proposed national actions and targets: **The National Wetland Strategy (see 2.1.2) will recommend as a national program the production of a National Wetland Directory either as a output of the National Wetland Inventory or as an independent activity. As part of this exercise, potential Ramsar Sites will be identified and assessed according the relevant criteria. In the interim, through the National Wetland Strategy identify and prioritise at least five potential new sites to be designated under the Ramsar Convention using Ramsar guidelines, the National Biodiversity Strategy and the BirdLife International "Important Bird Directory" as a reference. The list will be provided as appropriate for inclusion in regional wetland directories.**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Nature Conservation Sector, EEAA**

6.1.2 Establish, update and disseminate national scientific inventories of wetlands which identify potential Ramsar sites and wetlands of provincial or local importance in the territory of each Contracting Party. [CPs, Partners]

- **Global Target - By COP8, to have national wetland inventories completed by over 50 CPs and the information housed in databases (Refer to 5.4.4) which are accessible globally**

Does there exist a comprehensive national inventory (as opposed to a directory of important sites; see 6.1.1 above) for your country? **No**

If **No**, what are the impediments to such an inventory being prepared? **While there is considerable interest in inventorying wetlands, the responsible bodies do not have the**

financial, technical or manpower resources to produce a comprehensive national wetland directory. The Nature Conservation Sector is in the process of developing its programs and capacities and is planning to conduct an assessment to identify its future needs and priorities, including in the field of wetlands and international conventions.

If only some parts of the country have had inventories completed, please indicate which parts these are. **EI Ommayad Biosphere Reserve, eastern Lake Bardawil, Lake Burullus**

AND: What is the likely timeframe for completing the national inventory? **The timeframe for the completion of the National Wetland Inventory depends when the necessary resources can be mobilized.**

If a national inventory has already been completed, when was it finalized? -----

AND: Is the information housed where it is accessible to stakeholders and the international community? (COP7 Resolution VII.20) **No Reply**

If **No**, what are the impediments to this occurring? -----

Has national/subnational inventory information been provided to the Ramsar Bureau (if it is not accessible through the Internet)? **No Reply**

Proposed national actions and targets: **The production of a National Wetland Inventory will be recommended as a priority program in the National Wetland Strategy (see 2.1.2). A qualified person will be either hired and/or trained at the Nature Conservation Sector to be responsible for following-up on this obligation and other provisions under the Ramsar Convention. During the next four years efforts will be made to solicit the necessary resources to conduct this study and build national capacity in this field.**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Nature Conservation Sector, EEAA**

6.1.4 Support the work of Wetlands International and IUCN in updating information on population sizes of waterfowl and other taxa, and utilize these data in identification of potential Ramsar sites. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

Does your country regularly gather waterbird population data? **No**

If **No**, what prevents this from happening? **There is insufficient resources and qualified manpower to conduct annual countrywide waterbird surveys.**

If **Yes**, is this information provided to Wetlands International? **No Reply**

If **No**, why not? -----

Proposed national actions and targets: **The National Wetland Strategy (see 2.1.2) will recommend that annual waterbird surveys be conducted. In the next four years develop national capacity in this field with at least ten individuals trained in waterbird identification and survey techniques. It is aimed that waterbird surveys will be undertaken on an annual basis at all wetland Protected Areas in Egypt, representing at present some ten different inland and coastal wetlands around the country. Information will be compiled according to Wetlands International guidelines and submitted to the**

organization.

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Nature Conservation Sector, ECAA**

Operational Objective 6.2: To increase the area of wetland designated for the List of Wetlands of International Importance, particularly for wetland types that are under-represented either at global or national level.

Actions - Global and National Targets

6.2.1 Promote the designation for the Ramsar List of an increased area of wetland, through listing by new Contracting Parties, and through further designations by current Contracting Parties, in particular developing countries, in order to ensure the listing of a representative range of wetland types in the territory of each Contracting Party and in each Ramsar region. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

- **Global Target - As proposed in the Strategic Framework, the short-term target of the Ramsar List should be to achieve the designation of 2000 sites, in accordance with the systematic approach advocated therein, by the time of COP9 in the year 2005. In addition, by COP8 the target is to have at least 20 CPs that are applying a systematic approach to site selection nationally.**

Refer also to 6.1.1, 6.1.2, and 6.2.3. Has your country taken a systematic approach to identifying its future Ramsar sites (as promoted in the *Strategic Framework for the List – COP7 Resolution VII.11*)? **No**

If **No**, what are the impediments to this being done? **There has yet to be the production of a comprehensive National Wetland Inventory due to insufficient resources, technical expertise and qualified manpower.**

If **Yes**, has this included considerations to ensure the designation of a representative range of wetland types? **No Reply**

If **No**, why not? **-----**

If **Yes**, has this resulted in the designation of a representative range of wetland types? **No Reply**

Proposed national actions and targets: **Nomination of new RAMSAR sites will be considered as part of the National Wetland Strategy (see 2.1.2), with at least five new RAMSAR sites identified and prioritized for potential nomination under the Convention. Efforts will be made prior to designation of new Ramsar sites to insure there is sufficient resources and capacity to guarantee adequate conservation and management of these areas in accordance with the Convention's provisions.**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **National Wetland Committee**

6.2.3 Give priority attention to the designation of new sites from wetland types currently

under-represented on the Ramsar List, and in particular, when appropriate, coral reefs, mangroves, sea-grass beds and peatlands. [CPs]

- **Global Targets - The long-term targets are set by the *Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance* (COP7 Resolution VII.11). Based on this, short-term targets for each wetland type will be derived [by the STRP].**

Further to 6.2.1 above: If your territory includes under-represented wetland types, has special attention been given to identifying suitable sites for designation? **No**

If **No**, what has prevented this from occurring? **Egypt's national priority has been to enhance the management of existing RAMSAR sites and undertake the necessary measures to remove these sites from the Montreux Record. A comprehensive wetland inventory has yet to be produced or an exercise conducted to identify, assess and prioritise potential new Ramsar sites.**

If **Yes**, has this included designations of wetlands including:

- coral reefs? **No Reply**
- mangroves? **No Reply**
- seagrass beds? **No Reply**
- peatlands? **No Reply**
- intertidal wetlands? (COP7 Resolution VII.21) **No Reply**

Proposed national actions and targets: **Coral reefs, mangroves, seagrass beds and intertidal wetlands will be included in the assessment of potential sites for inclusion under the Ramsar Convention, with the utmost consideration given to the nomination of such wetland types.**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **National Wetland Committee**

6.2.4 Pay particular attention to the designation of new sites currently enjoying no special conservation status at national level, as a first step towards developing measures for their conservation and wise use. [CPs]

- **This question was not considered in the National Reports for COP7. It will be included for consideration in the NRs for COP8.**
- **Global Target - All CPs to consider this approach to ensuring the long-term conservation and wise use of wetlands that are subject to intense human use.**

Has your country designated wetland sites for the Ramsar List which previously had no special conservation status? **Yes**

If **No**, what has prevented this from happening? **-----**

If **Yes**, please provide details. **Both RAMSAR sites in Egypt did not have any formal protection prior to their designation. Lake Bardawil was only partially protected.**

AND: Are there plans for further such designations? **No**

If No, why not? Within the national context, experience has shown that it is better for Ramsar sites to have legal protection as protected areas to facilitate their conservation and management.
If Yes, please elaborate. -----
Proposed national actions and targets: Wetlands with "no special conservation status" will be considered for potential nomination as new RAMSAR sites as part of the assesement undertaken by the National Wetland Strategy (see 2.1.2).
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: National Wetlands Committee

6.2.5 Consider as a matter of priority the designation of transfrontier wetland sites. [CPs]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The issue of transfrontier or shared wetlands is addressed in the <i>Guidelines for international cooperation under the Ramsar Convention (COP7 Resolution VII.19)</i> and the <i>Guidelines for integrating wetlands into river basin management (COP7 Resolution VII.18)</i>. Global Target - By COP8, for there to be over 50 transfrontier wetland sites designated under the Convention.
For those CPs which 'share' wetlands with other CPs, have all suitable sites been designated under the Convention? No
If No, what has prevented this action being taken? Egypt has yet to produce a comprehensive inventory of its wetlands and prioritisation of potential new Ramsar sites. Given the complexities and difficulties of multi-nation management, serious consideration has not been given to the designation of transfrontier Ramsar sites in Egypt.
If Yes, are there arrangements in place between the CPs sharing the wetland for the cooperative management of the site? No Reply
If No, what has prevented such arrangements from being introduced? -----
Proposed national actions and targets: Transfrontier Ramsar sites will be considered as part of the assessment of potential new Ramsar sites to be undertaken as part of the National Wetland Strategy (see 2.1.2).
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: National Wetland Committee

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**GENERAL OBJECTIVE 7
TO PROMOTE INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND MOBILIZE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR WETLAND CONSERVATION AND WISE USE IN**

COLLABORATION WITH OTHER CONVENTIONS AND AGENCIES, BOTH GOVERNMENTAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL

Operational Objective 7.1: To identify international and/or regional needs for managing shared wetlands and shared catchments, and develop and implement common approaches.

Actions - Global and National Targets

7.1.1 Identify transfrontier wetlands of international importance (including those within shared catchment/river basins), and encourage preparation and implementation of joint plans for such sites, using a “catchment approach” (Recommendation 5.3). [CPs, Partners]

Refer to 6.2.5 above.

7.1.2 Encourage twinning of transfrontier wetlands, and of other wetlands with similar characteristics, and use successful cases for illustrating the benefits of international cooperation. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

- **Both the *Guidelines for international cooperation under the Ramsar Convention* (COP7 Resolution VII.19) and the *Convention’s Outreach Programme* (COP7 Resolution VII.9) promote site twinning as a mechanism for accelerating the flow of knowledge and assistance and promoting training opportunities.**
- **Global Target - By COP8 to have in place over 100 Ramsar site twinning arrangements. The Bureau will keep a record of which sites are twinned and make this available through the Convention’s Web site.**

Does your country have Ramsar sites twinned with those in other CPs? **Yes/No**

If **No**, what has prevented this from happening? **This is not considered a priority action.**

If **Yes**, please note how many such twinning arrangements are in place and indicate which sites are involved. **While there has not been any formal twinning arrangements, twinning is a component of the Medwet project. The five participating countries (Egypt, Tunisia, Lebanon, Morocco and Albania) and the Palestinian Authority are taking part in training programs at each other’s sites.**

AND: Do these arrangements involve:

- sharing of information resources? **No Reply**
- transfer of financial resources? **No Reply**
- exchanges of personnel? **No Reply**
- other activities? **-----**

Proposed national actions and targets: **Within the scope of Medwet and other donor funded projects, twinning arrangements will be considered whenever appropriate.**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Nature Conservation Sector, EEA**

Operational Objective 7.2: To strengthen and formalize linkages between Ramsar and other international and/or regional environmental conventions and agencies, so as to advance the achievement of shared goals and objectives relating to wetland species or issues.

Actions - Global and National Targets
7.2.1 Participate in, or initiate, consultations with related conventions to foster information exchange and cooperation, and develop an agenda for potential joint actions. [SC, Bureau]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Target - A Joint Work Plan between the Ramsar Convention and the Convention to Combat Desertification which encourages cooperative implementation of both at the international, national and local levels.
Refer also to 4.2.1. Does there exist a mechanism (such as an inter-ministry committee) at the national level with the charter of coordinating/integrating the implementation of international/regional conventions/treaties to which your country is a signatory? Yes
If No , what are the impediments to such a mechanism being introduced? -----
If Yes , describe the mechanism and the conventions/treaties it is expected to consider. According to Law 4/1994 for the Environment, the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency under the Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs is the responsible body for international conventions for the environment and following-up on the necessary measures to implement the agreements in coordination with the concerned national and international organizations.
AND: Has the mechanism proven to be effective? Yes
If No , why not? -----
If Yes , please elaborate. Since 1994, there has been greater awareness and implementation of international conventions in Egypt. Commitments under the Ramsar Convention are addressed in documents and activities sponsored under the Biodiversity Convention e.g. National Biodiversity Strategy; while provisions of other international agreements, such as Biodiversity, CMS, CITES and AEWA have been integrated into Ramsar sponsored projects e.g. Medwet.
Proposed national actions and targets: Egypt will continue to explore ways to foster and enhance inter-covention cooperation. Specific consideration will be given to developing cooperative mechanisms with the Convention to Combat Desertification at the international, national and local levels.
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Nature Conservation Sector, EEAA

7.2.2 Prepare project proposals together with other conventions and partner

organizations, and submit them jointly to potential funding agencies. [CPs, SC, Bureau, Partners]

For eligible countries, have there been project proposals prepared and submitted to funding agencies which were intended to assist with implementation of the Ramsar Convention? **Yes**

If **No**, what has prevented this from happening? -----

If **Yes**, were such proposals successful in gaining funds? **Yes - The Medwet project under implementation has many components to enhance Ramsar Convention compliance in Egypt, including improving the management of Ramsar Sites; building national capacity in wetland conservation and wise use; and developing a National Wetland Strategy as obligated under the convention. IUCN is a partner in the project to develop the management and infrastructure of the Wadi El Rayan Protected Area in El Fayoum, one of the wetlands to be considered as a potential new Ramsar site. A number of other projects are planned or under formulation that will assist with the implementation of the Ramsar Convention in Egypt and include as co-implementers Ramsar Partners e.g. BirdLife International and Wetlands International.**

Proposed national actions and targets: **During the next four years the utmost consideration will be given to preparing project proposals with other conventions and partner organizations to enhance Ramsar Convention compliance in Egypt.**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Nature Conservation Sector, EEAA**

7.2.3 Strengthen cooperation and synergy with the Convention on Biological Diversity, in particular as regards inclusion of wetland concerns in national biodiversity strategies, and planning and execution of projects affecting wetlands. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

- **Global Target - To see the Joint Work Plan implemented in full and resulting in cooperative implementation of both Conventions at the international, national and local levels.**

Further to 7.2.1 above: Has there been a review **completed** of the Joint Work Plan between Ramsar and Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to establish the areas of priority for cooperative implementation of these Conventions? **Yes**

If **No**, what has prevented such a review being done? -----

If **Yes**, what are the areas established as priorities for national cooperation between Ramsar and CBD implementing agencies/focal points? **National wetland and coastal and marine programs were formulated along with potential projects and included in the National Biodiversity Strategy.**

Proposed national actions and targets: **During the next four years efforts will be made to follow-up on the wetland conservation priorities identified in the National Biodiversity Strategy and undertake other actions to enhance cooperation and synergy with the Convention on Biological Diversity.**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Nature**

Conservation Sector, EEAA

7.2.4 Develop cooperation with the World Heritage Convention and UNESCO's Programme on Man and the Biosphere (MAB), especially as regards wetlands designated as World Heritage sites, Biosphere Reserves and/or Ramsar sites. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

- **Global Target - A Memorandum of Cooperation with the Man and the Biosphere Programme, leading to Joint Work Plans with the MAB Programme and with the World Heritage Convention which encourages cooperative implementation of both at the international, national and local, levels.**

Refer to 7.2.1 above.

7.2.5 Enhance Ramsar's contribution to international cooperation on shared wetland species, notably through cooperative arrangements with the Convention on Migratory Species, flyway agreements, networks and other mechanisms dealing with migratory species (Recommendation 6.4). [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

- ***The Guidelines for international cooperation under the Ramsar Convention propose an increase in the joint efforts between Ramsar and CMS (COP7 Resolution VII.19)***
- **Global Target - A Joint Work Plan between the Conventions which encourages cooperative implementation of both at the international, regional and national and local levels.**

Refer to 7.2.1 above.

7.2.6 Develop Ramsar's contribution to wildlife trade issues affecting wetlands, through increased interaction with CITES. [Bureau]

- ***The Guidelines for international cooperation under the Ramsar Convention propose an increase in the joint efforts between Ramsar and CITES (COP7 Resolution VII.19)***
- **Global Target - A Memorandum of Cooperation with CITES, leading to a Joint Work Plan between the Conventions which sees cooperative implementation of both at the international, national and local levels.**

Refer to 7.2.1 above

7.2.7 Initiate links with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, in view of the potential impacts on wetlands of climate change. [CP, Bureau]

- **Global Target - A Memorandum of Cooperation with UNFCCC, leading to a Joint Work Plan between the Conventions which encourages cooperative implementation of both at the international, national and local levels.**

Refer to 7.2.1 above.

7.2.8 Extend cooperation with conventions and agencies concerned with conservation

and wise use of wetlands at regional level, and in particular: with the European Community, as regards application of its Habitats Directive to wetlands, and adoption and application of measures like the Habitats Directive for wetlands outside the states of the European Union; with the Council of Europe (Bern) Convention on the conservation of European wildlife and natural habitats as regards the Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy; with the Barcelona Convention and Mediterranean Action Plan in relation to the MedWet initiative; with the Western Hemisphere Convention; with UNEP programmes, in particular the Regional Seas Conventions; and with the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP). [CPs, Bureau]

- **Global Target - With the European Commission and SPREP, develop and sign a Memorandum of Cooperation and prepare and implement a Joint Work Plan. For Medwet, secure the long-term funding base for this important initiative and continue to develop new programmes of regional action. For the others referred to, and others which are appropriate, develop an appropriate working relationship.**

Refer to 7.2.1 above.

7.2.9 Develop relationships with other specialized agencies that deal with wetland-related issues, such as the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI) and the World Water Council (COP7 Resolution VI.23). [Bureau]

- **Global Target - To progress to closer working relations with these and other relevant initiatives, as appropriate.**

Refer to 7.2.1 above.

Operational Objective 7.3: To ensure that the development assistance community, and multinational corporations, follow improved wetland practices such as the Wise Use Guidelines in developing countries and countries whose economies are in transition.

Actions - Global and National Targets

7.3.2 Work with multilateral and bilateral development agencies and multinational corporations towards a full recognition of wetland values and functions (Recommendation 4.13), and assist them to improve their practices in favor of wetland conservation and wise use taking account of the *Guidelines for Aid Agencies for Improved Conservation and Sustainable Use of Tropical and Sub-Tropical Wetlands*, published by OECD's Development Assistance Committee (Recommendation 6.16). [Bureau, Partners]

- **Global Target - At the Bureau level, to consider ways and means to increase its ability to work more systematically in this area, so as to increase the level of donor agency support for wetland conservation and wise use activities, and to see an increasing number of multinational corporations adopting voluntary codes of conduct for protecting wetlands.**

While this action is directed at the Bureau principally, CPs also have a role to play in this area; refer to 7.4.2 below with respect to bilateral development agencies. For the multilateral donors: Is your government represented on the governing bodies or scientific advisory bodies

of the multilateral donors, or the GEF? **Yes**

If **Yes**, has this person/agency/ministry been briefed on the obligations of your country under the Ramsar Convention, and the relevant expectations raised of each CP by the Strategic Plan and COP decisions? **Yes**

7.3.3 Interact with multilateral development agencies and through bilateral development programmes, to assist developing countries in meeting their Ramsar obligations, and report on actions taken and results achieved (Recommendation 5.5). [CPs]

Refer to 7.4.2 to 7.4.6 below.

Proposed national actions and targets: **Efforts will continue to inform multilateral development agencies and bilateral development programs about wetland conservation priorities in Egypt and mobilise assistance to help the country meet its obligations under the Ramsar Convention.**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Nature Conservation Sector, EEAA**

Operational Objective 7.4: To obtain funds to fulfil obligations contracted under the Convention, notably for developing countries and countries whose economies are in transition.

Actions - Global and National Targets

7.4.1 Allocate funds for conservation and wise use of wetlands in the budget of each Contracting Party. [CPs]

- **Global Target - By COP8, to see allocations for wetlands made by all CPs and also for specific wetland programmes in more than 40 CPs.**

Does your government allocate funds for wetland conservation and wise use activities? **Yes**

If **No**, what are the impediments to this happening? -----

If **Yes**, is this:

- As a separate allocation to a Wetlands Programme (or similar)? **No**
- As part of a broader allocation for the environment? **Yes**
- As part of the programmes maintained by a range of Ministries? **Yes**

AND: What mechanisms are in place for determining priorities and coordinating the expenditure of these funds? **Environmental Action Plans and Strategies have been produced which have identified national priorities and needs in the field of environment. These documents have been the basis upon which government expenditures and donor assistance has been allocated. Furthermore, each Ministry establishes its own priorities and mobilises the necessary resources to address these needs either from the central budget or international development assistance. The Egyptian Environmental Affairs**

Agency under the Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs is the body that coordinates between the relevant international, national and local bodies on environmental issues. The Ministry of State for Foreign Affairs is the body that oversees donor assistance. There is also the Environment and Social Funds that provide resources for the environment.

Is it linked to a National Wetland Policy, Biodiversity Plan, Catchment Plan or something similar? **Yes** National Biodiversity Strategy

Proposed national actions and targets: **In the next four years strive to mobilise the necessary resources to materialize the priorities in the National Wetland Strategy (see 2.1.2) and the National Biodiversity Strategy, as well as other resources to enhance wetland conservation and wise use in Egypt.**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Nature Conservation Sector, EEAA**

7.4.2 Include projects for conservation and wise use of wetlands in development plans funded by development assistance agencies, and ensure the latter consult the Ramsar administrative authority in each Contracting Party. [CPs]

- **Global Target - To see this trend continue such that all eligible CPs are receiving donor support for a range of major wetland-related projects by the time of COP8. In particular, to see this support being provided, as appropriate, for the priority areas of policy development, legal and institutional reviews, inventory and assessments, the designation and management of Ramsar sites, training and communications.**

If your country has a bilateral development assistance programme, does it allocate funds for wetland-related projects on a regular basis? **Yes**

If **No**, what are the impediments to this occurring? -----

If **Yes**, are these projects subjected to rigorous impact assessment procedures, which take account of the full environmental, social and economic values of wetlands? **No**

If **No**, why not? **Currently, there is no mechanism in place that makes EIAs mandatory for new development projects.**

If **Yes**, is the Ramsar Administrative Authority consulted during the screening and assessment phases of the projects? **No**

If **No**, why not? **There is at present no requirement for this.**

AND: Is there a formal consultative process in place (such as a National Ramsar Committee) which ensures that the development assistance agency is fully aware of the Ramsar Convention obligations of the country with respect to international cooperation? **No**

If No, why not? **The Ministry of State for Foreign Affairs is not currently represented on the National Wetland Committee as it is primarily composed of stakeholders participating in the Medwet project.**

If Yes, please elaborate. -----

Proposed national actions and targets: **Steps will be taken to subject wetland related projects supported through bilateral assistance to an assessment process taking into full consideration of the environmental, social and economic value of wetlands. Consultation will be made with the national Ramsar focal points about such projects to insure adequate adherence to the provisions of the convention. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs will be invited to be a member of the National Wetland Committee when representation on the committee is expanded in the next four years.**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Ministry of State for Foreign Affairs**

7.4.4 Mobilize direct funding support from multilateral and bilateral development assistance agencies to assist developing countries and countries whose economy is in transition, in the conservation and wise use of wetlands and in implementation of the present Strategic Plan. [CPs. Bureau]

- **Global Target - By COP8 for all the bilateral donors from appropriate CPs to have funds earmarked for wetland projects, and for all of these CPs to have in place mechanisms for consultation between the development assistance agency and their Ramsar Administrative Authority.**

Refer to 7.4.2 above

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**GENERAL OBJECTIVE 8
TO PROVIDE THE CONVENTION WITH THE REQUIRED INSTITUTIONAL
MECHANISMS AND RESOURCES**

Operational Objective 8.1: To maximize achievement of Ramsar’s mission and objectives by evaluating and, if necessary, modifying the Convention’s institutions and management structures.

Actions - Global and National Targets

8.1.9 Promote the establishment of National Ramsar Committees to provide the opportunity for input from, and representation of, governmental and non-governmental organizations, key stakeholders, indigenous people, the private sector and interest groups, and land use planning and management authorities (Recommendation 5.13). [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

Refer to 4.1.2.

8.1.10 Review the designated national focal point in each Contracting Party, with a view to increasing involvement in the work of the Convention from all agencies concerned with the conservation and wise use of wetlands. [CPs]

Refer to 4.1.1

Operational Objective 8.2: To provide the financial resources required to carry out Ramsar activities.

Actions - Global and National Targets

8.2.1 Pay invoiced contributions to the Convention's core budget in full, and promptly at the beginning of each calendar year. [CPs]

- **Global Target - During this triennium to achieve full and timely payment of all dues by all CPs. The SC to prepare a proposal on sanctions for non-payment for consideration at COP8 (COP7 Resolution VII.28).**

Is your country completely up to date with its annual contributions to the core budget of the Convention? **Yes**

If **No**, what is the impediment to this being done? **-----**

Proposed national actions and targets: **Continue to be up-to-date with the payment of the annual contributions to the Ramsar Convention.**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Nature Conservation Sector, EEAA**

8.2.4 Give priority to funding for training programmes, education and public awareness work, development of the Ramsar Database, and the Convention's Communications Strategy. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

- **Global Target - To secure the resources needed to establish regional training initiatives (like *Wetlands for the Future*) in other regions, to allow the Bureau to progress the implementation of the Outreach Programme, and to support the proposed developments for the Ramsar Sites Database into a fully online and Web-based promotional and planning tool of the Convention.**

Refer to 3.3.1 (Convention Outreach Programme), 4.2.4 (Wetlands for the Future).

Operational Objective 8.3: To maximize the benefits of working with partner organizations.

Actions - Global and National Targets

8.3.1 Strengthen cooperative planning mechanisms with the partners and improve communications and information exchange, including exchange of staff. [CPs, Bureau,

Partners]
Refer to 3.2.1 and 4.1.2. Does your country include representatives of the Convention's official International Organisation Partners (BirdLife International, IUCN, WWF, Wetlands International) on its National Ramsar Committees or similar bodies, where they exist? No
If No , what prevents this from occurring? Currently, the National Wetland Committee is represented mainly by national and local stakeholders involved in the Medwet project (see 4.1.2).
Proposed national actions and targets: When the National Wetland Committee is expanded to have greater national representation, the utmost consideration will be given to including national representatives of Ramsar Partner's, namely, BirdLife International and IUCN which are the only two organizations currently active in Egypt.
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: National Wetland Committee

Operational Objective 8.4: To secure at least one million US dollars per annum for the Ramsar Small Grants Fund for Wetlands Conservation and Wise Use (Resolutions 5.8 and VI.6) and to allocate these funds effectively.

Actions - Global and National Targets
8.4.1 Develop a strategy for securing at least one million US dollars annually for the Ramsar Small Grants Fund, to be approved by the first full meeting of the Standing Committee after the 6th COP (1996) and proceed immediately to its implementation. [Bureau, SC, CPs, Partners]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Target - To establish a mechanism to ensure one million US dollars annually for the Ramsar Small Grants Fund (COP7 Resolution VII.28).
Refer also to 8.2.4. For developed countries, do you provide additional voluntary contributions to support the Small Grants Fund? No Reply
If No , what prevents this from happening? -----
If Yes , is an irregular or regular voluntary contribution? -----
Proposed national actions and targets: -----
Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: -----