

The Final Act of the Conference to Conclude a Protocol to the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat

adopted at the Extraordinary Conference of the Contracting Parties, Paris, France, 2-3 December 1982

The Representatives of the Governments at the Extraordinary Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar, 1971) met at Paris, from 2 to 3 December 1982, with a view to adopting a protocol concerning an amendment procedure and additional authentic language versions of the text of the Convention. The Conference met pursuant to Recommendation 1.7 of the First Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Convention (Cagliari, Italy, November 1980).

Governments of the following Contracting Parties to the Convention were represented at the Conference: Australia, Chile, Denmark, Finland, Federal Republic of Germany, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Yugoslavia.

The Governments of Canada, France, Ivory Coast, Mexico, Oman, and Uruguay were represented by Observers.

The following international organizations were represented by Observers: Council of Europe, International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN), International Waterfowl Research Bureau (IWRB).

The Conference elected as Chairman Mr. Nalni D. Jayal of India, and as Vice-Chairmen Mrs. J. H. M. Goedkoop-van Opijnen (Netherlands) and Mr. Bogoljub Kustrin (Yugoslavia).

The Secretary-General of the Conference was Mrs. Françoise Burhenne-Guilmin, the Assistant Secretary-General was Mr. Daniel Navid, of the IUCN Secretariat. The Conference established a Credentials Committee composed of the representatives of Australia, Chile and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (Committee Chairman).

The Conference convened in three plenary sessions.

Following its deliberations, the Conference adopted by consensus the text of a protocol to the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat. The Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Depositary of the Convention, accepted to act as Depositary for the Protocol.

The Protocol has been opened for signature in Paris at Unesco headquarters from 3 December 1982.

The Depositary shall endeavour to present to the next meeting of the Contracting Parties official versions of this Protocol in the Arabic, Chinese, German, Russian and Spanish languages, prepared in consultation with interested Governments and with the assistance of the Bureau. In this regard, the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany accepted to put at the disposal of the Depositary a text of the Protocol in the German language.

The Depositary shall also endeavour to present to the next meeting of the Contracting Parties official versions of the Convention in the Arabic, Chinese and Spanish languages, prepared in consultation with interested Governments and with the assistance of the Bureau.

The original of this Final Act, the English and French versions of which are equally authentic, shall be deposited with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization which shall transmit certified copies thereof to all States which participated in this Conference.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the Representatives have signed this Final Act.

DONE in Paris, on the Third day of December in the year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-two.

In the name of the delegations of

FOR:

Australia
Chile
Denmark
Finland
The Federal Republic of Germany
Hungary
India
Italy
Japan
Jordan
The Netherlands
Norway
Pakistan
South Africa
Spain
Sweden
The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Yugoslavia