

Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar, Iran, 1971)
4th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties
Montreux, Switzerland
27 June – 4 July 1990

Recommendation 4.5: Education and training

RECALLING Article 4.5 of the Convention text which states “The Contracting Parties shall promote the training of personnel competent in the fields of wetland research, management and wardening”;

EMPHASIZING the crucial role of training courses in mobilizing human resources for the conservation and wise use of wetlands;

NOTING the existence of organizations and institutions involved actively in conservation training and education throughout the world;

CONSIDERING the emphasis placed on partnership in the “Framework for the Implementation of the Ramsar Convention”;

RECOGNISING the importance of a broad interdisciplinary approach to training that takes account of social and cultural requirements in the countries concerned;

ACKNOWLEDGING the need for adequate financial resources for training programmes and, in particular, the importance of directing resources to developing countries;

THE CONFERENCE OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES

RECOMMENDS that Contracting Parties place a high priority on the development and implementation of comprehensive pro-active cross-disciplinary educational strategies which target both the formal school-university systems and non-formal education of youth and adults across the broadest spectrum of the community;

RECOMMENDS that Contracting Parties place high priority on providing educational programmes at key reserves which are accessible to a wide spectrum of the population;

ENCOURAGES Contracting Parties to establish special reserves where education is the main objective;

RECOMMENDS Contracting Parties to provide for adequate training courses at all levels, which, wherever possible, should be established in the country or region concerned;

FURTHER RECOMMENDS that full account should be taken of cultural, social and economic circumstances when developing such training courses;

URGES Contracting Parties and other appropriate authorities and organizations to devote a sufficient part of their budgets for wetland conservation to training matters; and

REQUESTS the Convention Bureau to forge partnerships with relevant bodies to ensure that existing training facilities are used as efficiently as possible.