

**AFRICA REGIONAL MEETING ON THE CONVENTION ON WETLANDS
(Ramsar, Iran, 1971) FOR COP9, Arusha, Tanzania, 4-8 APRIL 2005**

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

SUNDAY, 03 APRIL 2005

10:00 - 17:00 - Participants' Registration at AICC

MONDAY, 04 APRIL 2005

Morning

08:00 - 09:00 - Participants' Registration (C'd)

09:00 - 09:40 - Welcoming session

- Welcome statements (By: Tanzania Ramsar Administrative Authority)
- Presentation of session I objectives (By: Ramsar Secretariat)
- Discussions

09:40 - 10:00 - Tea break

10:00 - 10:10 - Presentation of working groups' terms of reference (By: Ramsar Secretariat)

10:10 - 10:40 - Discussions and room allocations on sub-regional basis

10:40 - 12:30 - Pre-working group sessions (election of chairs, reporters, working method, etc.)

Afternoon

Session I: Working group sessions on problems and challenges that face the implementation of the Convention in the Africa sub-regions.

14:00 - 17:00 - Working group sessions

- West Africa
- Central Africa
- Southern Africa
- Indian Ocean and Small Islands
- Northern Africa
- East and Eastern Africa

TUESDAY, 05 APRIL 2005

FIELD TRIP TO LAKE MANYARA AND TARANGIRE NATIONAL PARKS

09:00 - 09:40 - Visit to TANAPA HQ
 Presentation on Lake Manyara and Tarangire National Parks
 Wetlands (By: Prof. R. B. Mwalyosi, Park Warden for Lake
 Manyara and Tarangire National Parks)

WEDNESDAY, 06 APRIL 2005

Morning

08:30 - 09:40 Opening Ceremony

- Songs on wetlands to be performed by local girls from Malagarasi-Muyovozi Ramsar Site
- Keynote address (Director of Wildlife, Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism-Tanzania)
- Keynote address by Regional Representative in the Standing Committee of the Convention (By: Ghana)
- Welcoming remarks by Permanent Secretary-Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism – Tanzania
- Keynote address (By: Ramsar Secretary General)
- Opening speech (By: Minister of Natural Resources and Tourism – Tanzania)
- Presentation of award

09:40 - 10:00 - Tea break

- 10:00 - 10:10 - Organization of the work of the meeting by Ramsar Secretary General (Chairperson, and Reporters)
- 10:10 - 10:15 - Discussion and adoption of the draft program and agenda of the meeting (Chair)

Session II: Problems and challenges that face the implementation of the Convention in Africa

- 10:15 - 10:30 - Introductory presentation of the problems and challenges that face the implementation of the Convention in the sub-region/region (By: Mr. Abou Bamba, Regional Coordinator for Africa at the Ramsar Bureau and Mr. Yaw Offori Frimpong (Ghana, Africa Representative and member of the Ramsar Standing Committee))
- 10:30 - 11:30 - Sub-regions' presentations (report of day 1 working groups)
- 11:30 - 12:30 - Discussion
- 12:30 - 14:00 - Lunch break

Afternoon

- 14:00 - 15:30 - Short presentation on the national targets and the major achievements concerning the implementation of the Convention's Work Plan 2003-2005 and the Resolutions adopted by Ramsar COP8, followed by a general exchange of experiences (By: Tanzania, Algeria and Madagascar)
- 15:30 - 15:50 - Presentation: "Problems and challenges in implementation of the Convention – The role of CEPA" (By: Ramsar Secretariat)
- 15:50 - 17:20 - Discussions on the way forward and recommendations for sub-regional targets and preparation of the Convention's Work Plan 2005-2008 and Resolutions to be adopted by Ramsar COP9

Evening

18:00 - 20:00 - Cocktail offered by Hon. Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism-Tanzania

Traditional dances and African music

THURSDAY, 07 APRIL 2005

Morning

09:00 - 09:10 - Short summary of the conclusions of the discussions from the previous day

Session III: COP8 resolution on NEPAD and proposed COP9 High Level Ministerial Segment meeting.

09:10 - 09:50 - Series of presentations on NEPAD and Wetlands and assessment of the implementation of COP8 resolution on **NEPAD:**

- Presentation: “NEPAD Collaboration with IUCN-ROSA on Conserving Africa's Wetlands.” (By: IUCN-ROSA)
- Presentation: “Recommendations relating to financing estimates necessary for protected areas in Africa: the context of wetlands.” (By: Birdlife International, to be confirmed)
- Presentation: “Nepad and Ramsar - State of implementation since COP8” (By: Anderson Koyo)

09:50 - 10:05 - Presentation of a draft memorandum of collaboration between Ramsar and NEPAD – Environmental Secretariat (By: to be confirmed)

10:05 - 10:20 - Tea break

10:20 - 11:00 - Discussions and recommendations

11:00 - 11:15 - Presentation: “State of readiness for COP9 and the strategy for Africa participation in the COP” (By: Paul Mafabi)

- 11:15 - 11:30 - Introduction to the High Level Ministerial meeting following Ramsar COP9 (By: Ramsar Secretary General)
- 11:30 - 12:30 - Discussions and recommendations
- 12:30 - 14:00 - Lunch break

Afternoon

Analysis of the proposed Technical Session at Ramsar COP9 (8-15 November 2005)

Session IV: The role of wisely managed wetlands in alleviating poverty and promoting human well-being

- 14:00 - 14:20 - Introduction to COP9 Technical Session: **The role of wisely managed wetlands in alleviating poverty and promoting human well-being** (By: Wetlands International)
- 14:20 - 14:40 - Presentation: “The role of wisely managed wetlands in alleviating poverty and promoting human well-being in the context of Tanzanian experience” (By: Ministries of Water and Livestock Development and Agriculture and Food Security-Tanzania)
- 14:40 - 15:00 - Presentation: “The role of wisely managed wetlands in alleviating poverty and promoting human well-being in the Kafue Flats” (By: WWF Zambia)
- 15:00 - 15.15 - Tea break
- 15:15 - 15:30 - Presentation: “Poverty alleviation and support for wetland Important Bird Areas – case examples of Birdlife International’s community-based projects.” (By: Birdlife International, to be confirmed)
- 15:30 - 15:45 - Presentation: “The role of wisely managed wetlands in alleviating poverty and promoting human well-being: IUCN's experiences” (By: IUCN EARO)
- 15:45 – 17:30 - Discussions and recommendations

FRIDAY, 08 APRIL 2005

Morning

09:00 - 09:10 - Short summary of the conclusions of discussions from the previous day

Session IV: The role of wisely managed wetlands in alleviating poverty and promoting human well-being at the river basin level (C'd):

Sub-regional and regional cooperation and exchange of experiences in African Rivers and Lake Basins:

- 09:10 - 09:25 - Presentation: "The role of wisely managed wetlands in alleviating poverty and promoting human well-being: the Okavango Delta Management Plan" (By: Botswana and IUCN-ROSA)
- 09:25 - 09:40 - Presentation: "OKACOM and the role it can play in alleviating poverty and promoting human well-being in Africa" (By: OKACOM, to be confirmed)
- 09:40 - 09:55 - Presentation: "The role of wisely managed wetlands in alleviating poverty and promoting human well-being at the river basin level, the case of Lake Chad." (By: Lake Chad Basin Commission)
- 09:55 - 10:10 - Presentation: "The Zambezi Commission and its role in poverty alleviation and promotion of human well-being in African wetlands." (By: Zambezi Commission, to be confirmed)
- 10:10 - 10:25 - Presentation: "The Niger Basin Authority and its role in poverty alleviation and promotion of human well-being in the context of African wetlands." (By: Niger Basin Authority)
- 10:25 - 10:40 - Presentation: "The role of the Okavango Delta in alleviating poverty and promoting well-being: a community perspective" (By: "Every River has its People" programme)
- 10:40- 10:55 - Presentation: "TBC" (By: Nile Basin Initiative)

- 11:00 - 11:15 - Tea break
- 11:15 - 12:30 - Discussions and recommendations
- 12:30 - 13:30 - Adoption of the conclusions and recommendations of the regional meeting

CLOSING SESSION

SATURDAY, 09 APRIL 2005

Morning

- 09:00 - 09:30 - Sustainable Management of Mangrove Ecosystems: Experience of Tanzania (By: Forestry and Beekeeping Division-Tanzania)
- 09:30 - 10:30 - Joint World Bank/Ramsar session on the “Principles for a Draft Code of Conduct for the Sustainable Management of Mangrove Ecosystems”. (By: World Bank)
- 10:30 - 11:00 - Tea-break
- 11:00 - 12:30 - Discussions
- 12:30 - 13:30 - Recommendations and conclusions