



**Ramsar Pre-COP13 Asia Regional Meeting
Chilaw, Sri Lanka, 26 February – 2 March 2018**

PROGRAMME

Day 1 (26 February)	
08:00 – 10:30 (150 mins)	<p>Opening</p> <p>08:00-09:00 Registration</p> <p>09:00-09:30 Opening ceremony and welcoming remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government of Sri Lanka (<i>Mr. Manjula Amararathna, Director {Operations}, Department of Wildlife</i>) • Voice from the community (<i>M. Edison, Vedithalthive Fishing Community</i>) • Ramsar Secretariat (<i>Lew Young, SRA for Asia-Oceania, Ramsar Secretariat</i>) <p>09:30-09:45 Photograph</p> <p>09:45-10:30 Opening presentations (15 mins each speaker; Chair: Bhutan; Rapporteur: Ramsar Secretariat)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of wetland conservation and wise use in Sri Lanka (<i>Manjula Amararathna</i>) • Update on Implementation of the Ramsar Convention in Asia (<i>Lew Young</i>) • Update on the work of the Ramsar STRP [Doc.SC54-22] and proposed work 2019-2021 [Doc.SC54-23] (<i>Ramsar Secretariat</i>) <p>Discussion</p>
10:30 – 10:45	<i>Break</i>
10:45 – 12:30 (105 mins)	<p>Session 1: DR on “Regional Initiatives 2019-2021 and operational framework” (<i>Ramsar Secretariat</i>) [Doc. SC54-20.2] (15 mins each speaker; Chair: Jonathan Barzdo; Rapporteur: EWS-WWF)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to the DR (<i>Ramsar Secretariat</i>) • EAAFP (<i>Tomoko Ichikawa</i>) • IBRRI (<i>Raphael Glemet</i>) • Ramsar Regional Initiative – Central Asia (<i>Zhanel Karina</i>) • Ramsar Regional Centre – East Asia (<i>Suh Seung Oh</i>) <p>Discussion</p>
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 14:00 (30 mins)	<p>Session 2: Introduction to recent Contracting Parties (15 mins each speaker; Chair: Prof. Kalinga Pathmalal; Rapporteur: RRI-CA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State of Kuwait (<i>Abdullah Al-Zaidan</i>) • DPR Korea (<i>Ri Kyong Sim</i>) <p>Discussion</p>
14:00 – 15:15	<p>Session 3: Updates from the Ramsar International Organization Partners (IOPs)</p>

(75 mins)	<p>(15 mins each speaker; Chair: Prof. Kalinga Pathmalal; Rapporteur: RRI-CA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IUCN (<i>Raphael Glemet</i>) • IWMI (<i>Sanjiv De Silva</i>) • Wetlands International (<i>Ritesh Kumar</i>) • WWF (<i>EWS-WWF</i>) • WWT (<i>Martin Spray</i>) <p>Discussion</p>
15:15 – 15:30	<i>Break</i>
15:30 – 17:30 (120 mins)	<p>Session 4: DRs on financial and administrative issues (40 mins per DR. Chair: Cambodia; Rapporteur: IUCN ARO)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial and budgetary matters, including status of annual contributions [Doc.SC54-7.2] • Introduction to DR on “Enhancing the Effectiveness of the Ramsar Convention” (<i>Ramsar Secretariat</i>) [Doc.SC54-9] • Introduction to the DR on “Improving the efficiency of structures and processes of the Convention” (<i>Switzerland</i>) [Doc.SC54-21.8] <p>Discussion</p>
19:00	<i>Welcome dinner (tbc)</i>

Day 2 (27 February)	
09:00 – 10:30 (90 mins)	<p>Session 5: DR on “Promoting conservation, restoration and sustainable management of coastal blue carbon ecosystems” [Doc.SC54-21.9] (15 mins each speaker; Chair: Pakistan; Rapporteur: EWS-WWF)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to the DR (<i>UAE</i>) • Wetlands and the Paris Agreement (<i>Raphael Glemet</i>) • R.O. Korea (<i>Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries</i>) <p>Discussions</p>
10:30 – 10:50	<i>Break</i>
10:50 – 12:20 (90 mins)	<p>Session 6: DR on “Promoting conservation and wise use of inter-tidal wetlands and ecologically-associated habitats” [Doc.SC54-21.13] (15 mins each speaker; Chair: Jordan; Rapporteur: EAAFP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to the DR (tbc) • China (<i>Prof. Guangchun Lei</i>) • Sri Lanka (<i>Dr. Sevvandi Jayakody, “Lessons from a participatory approach to set aside areas of corals for conservation”</i>) • DPR Korea (<i>RI Kyong Sim</i>) <p>Discussion</p>
12:20 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 15:00 (45 mins)	<p>Session 7: DRs on peatlands (15 ins each speaker; Chair: Nepal; Rapporteur: RRC-EA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to the DR on “Guidance on identifying Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Sites) for global climate change regulation as an additional argument to existing Ramsar criteria” (<i>Ritesh Kumar</i>) [Doc.SC54-24] <p>Discussion</p>
(45 mins)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to the DR “Restoration of degraded peatlands to mitigate and adapt to climate change and enhance biodiversity” (<i>Prof. Guangchun Lei</i>) [Doc.SC54-25] <p>Discussion</p>

15:00 – 15:30	<i>Break</i>
15:30 – 16:45 (75 mins)	<p>Session 8a: DR on “Conservation and Management of Small and Micro Wetlands” [Doc.SC54-21.3]</p> <p>(15 mins each speaker; Chair: Iraq; Rapporteur: EAAFP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to the DR (<i>LU Cai</i>) • Sri Lanka (<i>Mr. Sumudhu Silva, UNDP</i>) • China “Report on small and micro wetlands” (<i>AN Shuqing</i>) <p>Discussion</p>
16:45 – 17:30 (45 mins)	<p>Session 8b: DR on “Agriculture in wetlands” [Doc.SC54-21.5]</p> <p>(Chair: Iraq; Rapporteur: EAAFP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to the DR (<i>Ramsar Secretariat</i>) <p>Discussion</p>
17:30	Introduction to the field trip (Colombo wetlands and Wilpattu Ramsar Wetland Cluster (Ramsar Site))
	<i>End of day</i>

Day 3 (28 February)	
07:00 - tbc	Field Trip
	<i>End of Day</i>

Day 4 (1 March)	
09:00 – 10:30 (90 mins)	<p>Session 9: DR on “Urbanization, climate change and sustainable wetlands” [Doc.SC54-21.12]</p> <p>(10 mins each speaker; Chair: Malaysia; Rapporteur: WI-Japan)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to the DR (UAE) • Introduction to the Wetland City Accreditation scheme and the activities of the Independent Advisory Committee (<i>MOE-K</i>) • China “Introduction to the workshop on Good Practices for Integration of Urban Development and Wetland Conservation” (<i>XIONG Yiyi</i>) • Sri Lanka (<i>Dr. N.S. Wijerathna & Ms. Chethika Gunasiri, Wetland division, Sri Lanka Land Reclamation & Development Board, “Wetlands for sustainable Colombo”</i>) • WWT (<i>Martin Spray</i>) <p>Discussions</p>
10:30 – 10:50	<i>Break</i>
10:50 – 12:20 (90 mins)	<p>Session 10: DR on “The rapid assessment of wetland ecosystem services” [Doc.SC54-21.1]</p> <p>(15 mins each speaker; Chair: Japan; Rapporteur: RRC-EA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to the DR (<i>MOE-ROK</i>) • Details of the rapid assessment technique (<i>Rob McInnes</i>) • India (<i>Ritesh Kumar</i>) • Bhutan (<i>Sonam Choden</i>) <p>Discussion</p>
12:20 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 15:00 (90 mins)	<p>Session 11: Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (R-METT) [Resolution XII.15]</p> <p>(15 mins each speaker; Chair: UAE; Rapporteur: Hanns Seidel Foundation)</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thailand (<i>Wanlop Preechamart</i>) • Bhutan (<i>Sonam Choden</i>) • India (<i>Ritesh Kumar</i>) <p>Discussion</p>
15:00 – 15:30	<i>Break</i>
15:30 – 17:00 (90 mins)	<p>Session 12: Parallel Sessions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area 1: Introduction to the DR on language strategy [Doc. SC54-13] and the DR on Wetlands in the West Asia [Doc.SC54-21.7] (<i>Iraq</i>) • Area 2: Yellow Sea (<i>Raphael Glemet</i>) • Main Hall: Presentations (15mins each speaker; Chair: Vietnam; Rapporteur: FFI) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Asian Wetland Symposium (<i>Reiko Nakamura</i>) - Wetlands and disaster risk reduction (<i>Yoshihiro Natori</i>)
17:00	<i>End of day</i>

Day 5 (2 March)	
09:00 – 10:30 (90 mins)	<p>Session 13: DR on “Scope and modalities for the review of the 4th Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016-2024” [Doc.SC54-8] (15 mins each speaker; Chair: China; Rapporteur: Ramsar Secretariat)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to the DR (<i>Ramsar Secretariat</i>) • Nepal (<i>Maheshwar Dhakal</i>) • Sri Lanka (<i>Dr. Sevvandi Jayakody</i>) <p>Discussion</p>
10:30 – 10:50	<i>Break</i>
10:50 – 12:20 (90 mins)	<p>Session 14: DR on “Cultural values, local communities and climate change mitigation and adaptation in wetlands” [Doc.SC54-21.2] (15 mins each speaker; Chair: Thailand; Rapporteur: Ramsar Secretariat)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to the DR (<i>Ramsar Secretariat</i>) • RRI-Central Asia (<i>Zhanel Karina</i>) • Nepal (<i>Maheshwar Dhakal</i>) • China “Fishpond management agreement project at the Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar Site” (<i>Wing-sun Chow</i>) <p>Discussions</p>
12:20 – 12:30	<i>Close of pre-COP13 meeting</i>
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>