

DOC. SC42-17

Regular update on the status of Ramsar Sites



42nd Meeting of the Standing Committee
Gland, Switzerland, 16-20 May 2011

maintaining the ecological character of Ramsar Sites

- **Article 3.2 says:** Administrative Authorities **are informed** on ecological changes at Ramsar Sites -
and **they inform** the Secretariat about such changes -
without delay
- **Parties** report change and maintain or restore the ecological character of Ramsar Sites.
- **Standing Committee** started to regularly monitor this commitment in 2005.

current status (Article 3.2)

1929 Ramsar Sites in the world

target for 2012: 2500

- > *files **closed** since March 2010:*
no ecological change occurring (or likely to occur) any longer at
15 Sites (0.8%) listed in the SC42 document
- > SC42 document lists **96 Sites (5%)** 2010: 111 Sites (7%)
with «Article 3.2 files» currently **open**

SC members are invited

to update the Secretariat on latest developments (in written/bilaterally),
to advise on activities to be undertaken,
to contact Parties concerned directly,
and to instruct SC on specific measures to be undertaken.

the “Montreux Record”

- the aim is to **attract attention** on Ramsar Sites with a change in ecological character (either real or possible) because of human interference (technological developments, pollution, etc.)...
- in order to **facilitate** the identification and implementation of lasting **solutions**
- the Secretariat provides **advice** and possible **Ramsar Advisory Missions** (monitoring procedure)

an illustration of a:

recent Ramsar Advisory Mission



joint mission with **UNESCO World Heritage Centre & IUCN**
to **Doñana** Ramsar Site, 19-22 January 2011, Andalucía, Spain



current status (Montreux Record)

- since 2010, **no** Site was removed from the Montreux Record because of the **solution** of the ecological problem

2009-10: 6 Sites removed

- **1** new **Site** was included in the Record (by the I.R. of Iraq)

2009-10: no new Site included

table on page 6:

51 Sites currently **remain** on the Record:

2010: 50 Sites

for **6** the removal process is ongoing

2010: 3 Sites

for **10** the problem is actively addressed

2010: 4 Sites

for **35** the Secretariat has no news?

2010: 43 Sites

updating of Ramsar Site information



increasing number of listed Ramsar Sites and limited capacities of Parties and Secretariat:

- > updates to be done on a “**rolling**” basis, Site-by-Site whenever a need arises to update specific information in the RIS or map
- > providing **updates individually** for each Site by e-mail, at intervals no longer than six years (*cf. Annotated List*)

COP10 (2008): **123 Parties** (77% of all Parties) in arrear with updates

since COP10 updates received from: **Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Bahamas, Chile, Cuba, Ecuador, Denmark, Estonia, France, Honduras, Hungary, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Italy, Lithuania, Malaysia, Namibia, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Russian Federation, Ukraine, USA**

despite this - at SC42 (2011): **125 Parties** are still in arrear (**78%**)