CONVENTION ON WETLANDS (Ramsar, Iran, 1971)

51st Meeting of the Standing Committee

Gland, Switzerland, 23-27 November 2015

**SC51-01 Rev.7**

**51st Meeting of the Standing Committee**

**Final Agenda and Programme**

**Monday 23 November 2015**

**09:00-19:00 Closed meeting of the Transition Committee of the Management Working Group**

**Tuesday 24 November 2015**

**08:00-18:00 Closed meetings**

**18:00-19:00 Plenary Session of the Standing Committee**

1. Opening statements

1. Chair of the Standing Committee, Uruguay
2. IUCN (Director General or someone on her behalf)
3. Statement on behalf of the six International Organization Partners
4. Secretary General, Christopher Briggs

2. Admission of Observers

**Wednesday 25 November 2015**

**08:00-16:00 Closed meetings**

**16:00-18:00 Meeting of the Sub-Group on Finance**

1. Update on payment of contributions (DOC. SC51-19)
2. Report on efforts to raise funds for COP12 delegates as per Resolution XII.1 (DOC. SC51-20)
3. Report and discussion on prioritization of fundraising activities to fund non-core budget activities from all sources, with a view to significantly increasing non-Party contributions (DOC. SC51-21)
4. Report on use of the Small Grants Fund (SGF) (DOC. SC51-22)

**Thursday 26 November 2015**

**10:00-10:30 Plenary Session of the Standing Committee**

3. Adoption of the revised draft agenda (DOC. SC51-01 Rev.5)

**10:30-11:30 Meeting of the Sub-Group on Finance**

1. 2016 budget approval (DOC. SC51-18)
2. Status of core and noncore budget (Review of core and projects income and expenditure, including audited financial statements)
3. Status of the Reserve Fund and proposals for use of remaining surplus funds
4. Overview of the staff and consultancy contracts

**11:30-13:00 Plenary Session of the Standing Committee**

4. Matters arising from Decisions of the 49th and 50th meetings of Standing Committee (DOC. SC51-02)

5. Matters arising from COP12 Decisions (DOCs. SC51-03 and SC51-04)

6. a. Video report of the Chair of STRP and consideration of STRP work programme (DOC. SC51-13)

 b. Report on the submission to IPBES a request for a thematic assessment on the current status and trends of wetlands, including their condition, and explore further how the Convention can contribute to the work of IPBES, including the regional and global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services

7. Establishment of the Standing Committee Sub-Group on COP13

**15:00-16:00 Closed meetings**

**16:00-18:00 Plenary Session of the Standing Committee**

8. Selection of five regional representatives from Standing Committee to attend the cooperation workshop of the biodiversity-related Conventions.

9. Report of the Chair of the Management Working Group

10. Report of the Chair of the Standing Committee

11. Secretariat Work Plans for 2016-2018 triennium and for 2016 (DOCs. SC51-07 and SC51-08)

12. Report of regional initiatives in the framework of the Convention and approval of new regional initiatives for the period 2016-2018 (DOCs. SC51-11 and SC51-12)

13. Progress report on the preparation of the National Report Format for COP13 (DOC. SC51-09)

**Friday 27 November 2015**

**08:15-09:45 Regional meetings**

**12:00-12:30 Plenary Session of the Standing Committee**

7. Establishment of the Standing Committee Sub-Group on COP13 (continued)

**12:30-13:00 Meetings of the Sub-groups on COP13 and on Finance**

**14:00-14:30 Plenary Session of the Standing Committee**

14. Report of the Standing Committee Sub-Group on COP13

**15:00-18:00 Plenary Session of the Standing Committee**

15. Report on implementation of the Wetland City accreditation of the Ramsar Convention, and selection of an Independent Advisory Committee

16. a. Progress on implementing Resolution XI.6 on *Partnership and synergies with Multilateral Environmental Agreements and other institutions* to the Standing Committee and plan on how to increase cooperation with other MEAs (DOC. SC51-10) with updates on formal agreements and joint work plans of the Ramsar Convention and partners (DOC. SC51-23 Rev.2), and on UNEP’s options paper on enhancing synergies between MEAs (SC51 InfDoc.04).

 b. Selection of five regional representatives from Standing Committee to attend the Informal Advisory Group (IAG) to the Biodiversity Liaison Group (BLG).

17. Report on CEPA Oversight Panel composition and CEPA Action Plan (DOC. SC51-14)

18. Report on preparations for World Wetlands Day 2016 and World Wetlands Themes for 2017 and 2018 (DOC. SC51-15)

19. Report of the Sub-Group on Finance (DOCs. SC51-18, SC51-19, SC51-20, SC51-21 and SC51-22)

20. Report back on Ramsar representation to attend the IAG of the BLG

**Other matters:**

21. Date and venue of the 52nd Meeting of the Standing Committee

22. Adoption of the report of the meeting

23. Any other business

24. Closing remarks