

CONVENTION ON WETLANDS (Ramsar, Iran, 1971)

53rd Meeting of the Standing Committee

Gland, Switzerland, 29 May – 2 June 2017

SC53-17

National targets in line with Resolution XII.2

Actions requested:

- 1) The Standing Committee is invited to take note of the report prepared by the Secretariat on national targets in line with Resolution XII.2.
- 2) Contracting Parties are reminded that the deadline to submit their completed National Reports for COP13 is 21 January 2018.
- 3) Contracting Parties are encouraged to use the Online Reporting System so that the Secretariat can present an evaluation to COP13 regarding the use of the on-line system, according to Decision SC52-07.

Introduction

1. After the approval by the 52nd meeting of the Standing Committee (SC52) of the National Report Format (NRF) for COP13, the Secretariat made it available to Contracting Parties, along with instructions to access the Online Reporting System, through Diplomatic Notification 2016/8 on 31 August 2016.
2. Resolution XII.2 *The Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016-2024* encourages Contracting Parties “to develop and submit to the Secretariat on or before December 2016, and according to their national priorities, capabilities and resources, their own quantifiable and time-bound national and regional targets in line with the targets set in the Strategic Plan”.
3. Section 4 of the NRF is an optional annex which allows any Contracting Party that has developed such national targets to provide information on the targets and actions for their implementation. This enables them to indicate the *national priority* for that area of activity as well as the *level of resourcing available, or that could be made available during the triennium*, for its implementation. In addition, there are specific boxes to indicate the *National Targets* for implementation by 2018 and the *planned national activities* to deliver these targets.
4. Only 11% of Contracting Parties (9 from Africa, 5 from Asia, 3 from Latin America and the Caribbean, 2 from Europe and 1 from Oceania) have submitted their national targets to the Secretariat. Even though the limited number of Parties providing information does not allow for statistical inference, the priorities targets identified by these Parties and the resources available for them are summarized below.
5. Of the four Goals of the Strategic Plan Goals 1 to 3 were the most prioritized. Of the 13 Targets within Goals 1 to 3 of the Strategic Plan, those most prioritized were as follows Target 5 “The ecological character of Ramsar sites is maintained or restored, through effective planning and integrated management” was indicated as the highest priority by 10% of Contracting Parties (17

of the 20 Contracting Parties which submitted national targets); followed by Target 1 “Wetland benefits are featured in national/local policy strategies and plans relating to key sectors such as water, energy, mining, agriculture, tourism, urban development, infrastructure, industry, forestry, aquaculture, fisheries at the national and local level” mentioned by 9% of Contracting Parties (16 respondents); and Target 9 “The wise use of wetlands is strengthened through integrated resource management at the appropriate scale, *inter alia*, within a river basin or along a coastal zone” by 8% of Contracting Parties (14 respondents). The table in Annex 1 provides information on these Targets.

6. In terms of the resources available, 7% of Contracting Parties (13 respondents) mentioned resourcing as “limiting” for Targets 1 and 5. Only one Contracting Party described resourcing as “good” for either of these Targets, while three Contracting Parties reported that is adequate for both of these targets. The identification of the resources available may support Contracting Parties to seek additional funding for implementation through the appropriate financial mechanisms.
7. Besides the implementation of the Strategic Plan of the Convention, Target 1 contributes to Aichi Target 2 and Target 5 to Aichi Targets 6, 11 and 12. Therefore, the relevant Contracting Parties will be able to report as well through the COP13 NRF in 2018 on their achievements under the Convention on Biological Biodiversity and the Sustainable Development Goals.
8. The Secretariat reminds Contracting Parties that the deadline to submit their completed National Reports for COP13 is 21 January 2018, and encourages them to use the Online Reporting System so that it can present an evaluation for COP13 regarding the use of the online system according to decision SC52-07.

Annex 1

National Targets in line with the targets set in the Strategic Plan 2016-2024

Note

Priority of the target: A= High; B= Medium; C= Low; D= Not relevant; E= No answer

Resourcing: A= Good; B= Adequate; C= Limiting; D= Severely limiting; E= No answer

Goal 1: Addressing the drivers of wetland loss and degradation				
<i>Region</i>	<i>Country</i>	Target 1 “Wetland benefits are featured in national/local policy strategies and plans relating to key sectors such as water, energy, mining, agriculture, tourism, urban development, infrastructure, industry, forestry, aquaculture, fisheries at the national and local level.”	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Resourcing</i>
Africa	Algeria		A	C
Latin America and the Caribbean	Argentina		A	B
Oceania	Australia			
Europe	Belarus			
Asia	Bhutan			
Africa	Burkina Faso			
Africa	Burundi			
Africa	Côte d'Ivoire			
Asia	Iraq			
Latin America and the Caribbean	Jamaica			
Africa	Kenya			
Africa	Madagascar			D
Africa	Namibia			C
Latin America and the Caribbean	Panama			
Asia	Philippines			
Asia	Republic of Korea		B	B
Africa	South Sudan		A	D
Europe	Switzerland		B	B
Asia	Thailand		-	-
Africa	Zambia	A	C	
Goal 2: Effectively conserving and managing the Ramsar Site network				
<i>Region</i>	<i>Country</i>	Target 5 “The ecological character of Ramsar sites is maintained or restored, through effective planning and integrated management.”	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Resourcing</i>
Africa	Algeria		B	D
Latin America and the Caribbean	Argentina		A	C
Oceania	Australia			
Europe	Belarus			
Asia	Bhutan			
Africa	Burkina Faso			
Africa	Burundi			
Africa	Côte d'Ivoire			
Asia	Iraq			
Latin America and the Caribbean	Jamaica			
Africa	Kenya			B
Africa	Madagascar		C	

Africa	Namibia			
Latin America and the Caribbean	Panama			
Asia	Philippines			
Asia	Republic of Korea		B	B
Africa	South Sudan		A	D
Europe	Switzerland		A	A
Asia	Thailand		-	-
Africa	Zambia		A	C
Goal 3: Wisely using all wetlands				
<i>Region</i>	<i>Country</i>	Target 9 "The wise use of wetlands is strengthened through integrated resource management at the appropriate scale, <i>inter alia</i> , within a river basin or along a coastal zone."	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Resourcing</i>
Africa	Algeria		-	-
Latin America and the Caribbean	Argentina		B	C
Oceania	Australia		A	C
Europe	Belarus			B
Asia	Bhutan			C
Africa	Burkina Faso			D
Africa	Burundi			C
Africa	Côte d'Ivoire			B
Asia	Iraq			C
Latin America and the Caribbean	Jamaica			B
Africa	Kenya		A	C
Africa	Madagascar			D
Africa	Namibia			C
Latin America and the Caribbean	Panama			B
Asia	Philippines		C	C
Asia	Republic of Korea		A	D
Africa	South Sudan			
Europe	Switzerland			
Asia	Thailand		-	-
Africa	Zambia	-	-	