

## Adoption of the provisional working programme (annotated version)

The **Rules of Procedure** are online at [www.ramsar.org/document/ramsar-rules-of-procedure-cop12](http://www.ramsar.org/document/ramsar-rules-of-procedure-cop12).

### Monday 23 April 2018

08:15 – 09:30 Regional meetings

**(Throughout the week, the meetings of each region will be in the following rooms:**

**Americas - Red List A; Africa - Red List B; Asia and Oceania - Think Tank A; Europe - Think Tank B).**

09.45 – 11:00 Meeting of the Management Working Group

- CEPA Implementation Working Group (agenda item 11.2)
- Language strategy (agenda item 13, Doc. SC54-13 Rev.1)
- Review of current and proposed cooperative agreements (agenda item 16, Doc. SC54-16 Rev.1)

The Management Working Group will address the issues of CEPA Implementation, the review of the strategy on the use of UN languages (Doc. SC54-13 Rev.1), and the current and proposed cooperative agreements (Doc. SC54-16 Rev.1). The Chair of the Management Working Group will present to the Standing Committee the report of the Working Group with recommendations on the above issues under agenda item 6 *Report of the Management Working Group*.

11:00 – 13:00 Meeting of the Subgroup on COP13  
(Including closed session on the Ramsar Awards)

- Progress with preparations for COP13 (Doc. SC54-18.1)

The Chair of the Subgroup will provide a report from the host country's perspective. The Subgroup will discuss the current state of preparations for COP13 and the Chair will present the report of the Subgroup to the Standing Committee under agenda item 18.2 *Report of the Subgroup on COP13*.

The Subgroup will meet in a closed session to discuss the candidates for the Ramsar Wetlands Conservation Awards 2018, and to make its recommendations. A closed session of the Standing Committee to select the winners will take place under agenda item 27.

14:00 – 15:00 Meeting of the Facilitation Working Group

15:00 – 18:00 Meeting of the Subgroup on Finance

- Financial matters 2016-2018 (Doc. SC54-7.1 Rev.1) and Auditor's reports for 2016 and 2017
- Status of annual contributions (Doc. SC54-7.2)

- Budget scenarios for 2019-2021 (Doc. SC54-7.3)

The Secretariat will introduce the financial matters. The Subgroup will discuss these matters and the Chair of the Subgroup will present the report to the Standing Committee under agenda item 7.5 *Report of the Sub-group on Finance*.

15:00 – 16:00 Meeting of the Working Group on CEPA Implementation

The Working Group will discuss the subjects that have been referred to it. The Chair will report under agenda item 11.2 *Report of the CEPA Implementation Working Group* (Doc. SC54-11.2).

## **Tuesday 24 April 2018**

08:15 – 09:30 Regional meetings

### **09:45 – 13:00 Plenary Session of the Standing Committee**

1. Opening statements
  - 1.1. Chair of the Standing Committee (Uruguay)
  - 1.2. Director General of IUCN
  - 1.3. International Organization Partners (BirdLife International)
  - 1.4. Secretary General of the Convention
2. Adoption of the provisional agenda (Doc. SC54-2)
3. Adoption of the provisional working programme (Doc. SC54-3 Rev.2)
4. Admission of observers (Doc. SC54-4 Rev.1)

The Secretary General or Deputy will introduce the list of registered observers whose attendance must be approved by the Standing Committee.

5. Report of the Secretary General

The Secretary General will present her report highlighting the work of the Secretariat since SC53 (May-June 2017).

6. Report of the Management Working Group

- CEPA Implementation Working Group
- Language strategy (Doc. SC54-13 Rev.1)
- Review of current and proposed cooperative agreements (Doc. SC54-16 Rev.1)

The Chair of the Management Working Group will present its report with the recommendations to the Standing Committee on the above items.

9. Report of the Facilitation Working Group

The co-Chairs (United States of America and Uruguay) will present a draft resolution on enhancing the effectiveness of the Convention, as the outcome of tasks given at SC53 (Doc. SC54-9).

10. Roles and responsibilities of the Standing Committee

The Secretariat will give a brief introduction to the document and draft resolution for Contracting Parties' consideration (Doc. SC54-10).

21. Draft resolutions submitted by Contracting Parties

**Note: all Draft Resolutions can be retrieved from the Convention web site at the following url:**

**<https://www.ramsar.org/event/54th-meeting-of-the-standing-committee>**

The Chair will explain the process to address for consideration of the draft resolutions submitted by Contracting Parties, in accordance with the Rules of Procedure (Rule 34, Proposals and amendments to proposals, Rule 36 Withdrawal of proposals or motions, Rule 37 Reconsideration of proposals, Rule 42 Amendment to a proposal, Rule 43 Order of voting on amendments to a proposal).

21.8 Draft resolution on improving the efficiency of structures and processes of the Convention (Submitted by Switzerland)

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

21. Draft resolutions submitted by Contracting Parties (continued)

21.6 Draft resolution on peace and the sustainable management of biodiversity in Ramsar Sites (Submitted by the Central African Republic)

21.15 Draft resolution on wetlands, peace and security (Submitted by Senegal)

21.2 Draft resolution on cultural values, local communities and climate change mitigation and adaptation in wetlands (Submitted by Burkina Faso, Senegal and Tunisia)

21.12 Draft Resolution on urbanization, climate change and sustainable wetlands (Submitted by the United Arab Emirates)

13. Language strategy

The Secretariat will introduce document Doc. SC54-13 Rev.1, with a draft resolution outlining a possible language strategy for the Convention.

20. Ramsar Regional Initiatives

20.2 Draft resolution for 2019-2021 and operational framework

21. Draft resolutions submitted by Contracting Parties (continued)

21.5 Draft resolution on agriculture in wetlands (Submitted by the Czech Republic)

21.14 Draft Resolution on wetlands in polar and subpolar regions (Submitted by Sweden)

### **Wednesday 25 April 2018**

08:00 – 09:00 Regional meetings

#### **10:00 – 13:00 Plenary Session of the Standing Committee**

7. Financial and budgetary matters: Report of the Subgroup on Finance

7.1. Report on financial matters for 2016-2018

7.2. Status of annual contributions

7.3. Budget scenarios for 2019-2021 and draft resolution on financial and budgetary matters

7.4. Potential financial implications of draft resolutions

The Chair of the Subgroup on Finance will present the report of the Subgroup with recommendations on financial matters for Standing Committee consideration.

8. Review of the fourth Strategic Plan of the Ramsar Convention

The Secretariat will give a brief introduction to the document and draft resolution for Contracting Parties consideration (Doc. SC54-8).

14. Enhancing the Convention's visibility and synergies with other multilateral environmental agreements and other institutions

The Secretariat give a brief introduction to document Doc. SC54-14 and a draft resolution for Contracting Parties' consideration.

19. Update on the status of Sites on the List of Wetlands of International Importance

The Secretariat will give a brief introduction to document Doc. SC54-19 and a draft resolution for Contracting Parties' consideration.

11. Communication, capacity building, education, participation and awareness (CEPA)

11.1 Report of the Chair of the CEPA Oversight Panel

11.2 Report of the CEPA Implementation Working Group

11.3 Update on the MAVA project "Conservation of the natural and cultural heritage in wetlands"

The Chairs of the Panel and the Working Group will report of their activities undertaken since SC53. The Chair of the Working Group on CEPA Implementation will also report on the outcomes of its meeting on 23 April.

The Secretariat will present an update on the MAVIA project “Conservation of the natural and cultural heritage in wetlands” (Doc. SC54-11.3).

#### 17. Ramsar Convention Resource Mobilization Work Plan

The Secretariat will give a brief introduction to document Doc. SC54-17 for Standing Committee consideration, in particular the endorsement of the Resource Mobilization Work Plan.

#### 20. Ramsar Regional Initiatives (continued)

##### 20.1 Update for 2018

### **15:00 – 18:00 Plenary Session of the Standing Committee**

Report on progress of contact groups

#### 15. Observer status in the United Nations General Assembly

An update on the request for observer status in the United Nations General Assembly will be presented. The Secretariat will complement this as appropriate. The Standing Committee is expected to decide on the way forward, in particular in view of the discussion that will take place on this matter in the UN General Assembly in September 2018.

#### 21. Draft resolutions submitted by Contracting Parties (continued)

21.1 Draft resolution on the rapid assessment of wetland ecosystem services (Submitted by the Republic of Korea)

21.3 Draft resolution on conservation and management of small and micro wetlands (Submitted by China)

21.4 Draft resolution on Ramsar Advisory Missions (Submitted by Burkina Faso)

21.7 Draft resolution on wetlands in West Asia (Submitted by Iraq)

21.9 Draft resolution on promoting conservation, restoration and sustainable management of coastal blue carbon ecosystems (Submitted by Australia)

21.10 Draft resolution on the enhanced protection and management of sea turtle breeding, feeding and nursery areas and the designation of key areas as Ramsar Sites (Submitted by France and Senegal)

## **Thursday 26 April 2018**

08:00 – 09:00 Regional meetings

### **10:00 – 13:00 Plenary Session of the Standing Committee**

21. Draft resolutions submitted by Contracting Parties (continued)

21.11 Draft resolution on World Wetlands Day (Submitted by the United Arab Emirates)

21.13 Draft resolution on promoting the conservation and wise use of intertidal wetlands and ecologically associated habitats (Submitted by the Philippines)

21.16 Draft resolution on gender and wetlands (Submitted by Colombia)

### **15:00 – 18:00 Plenary Session of the Standing Committee**

Report on progress of contact groups

22. Report of the Chair of the Scientific and Technical Review Panel

The Chair of the Scientific and Technical Review Panel will present the results of the Working Plan of the Panel for the triennium (Doc. SC54-22).

23. Draft resolution on future implementation of scientific and technical aspects of the Convention for 2019-2021

The Chair of the Scientific and Technical Review Panel will introduce a draft resolution for Standing Committee consideration (Doc. SC54-23).

24. Draft Resolution on guidance on identifying Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Sites) for global climate change regulation as an additional argument to existing Ramsar criteria

The Chair of the Scientific and Technical Review Panel will introduce a draft resolution for Standing Committee consideration (Doc. SC54-24).

25. Draft resolution on restoration of degraded peatlands to mitigate and adapt to climate change and enhance biodiversity.

The Chair of the Scientific and Technical Review Panel will introduce a draft resolution for Standing Committee consideration (Doc. SC54-25).

## **Friday 27 April 2018**

08:15 – 09:30 Regional meetings

### **09:45 – 13:00 Plenary Session of the Standing Committee**

12. Work plan of the Secretariat for 2018 and proposed format for 2019-2021

The Secretariat will introduce the Work Plan for 2018 and the proposed format for 2019-2021 for Standing Committee consideration (Doc. SC54-12).

16. Review of current and proposed cooperative agreements

7. Financial and budgetary matters: Report of the Subgroup on Finance (continued if necessary)

18. Preparation of the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties

18.1. Report of the Secretariat

18.2. Report of the Subgroup on COP13

18.3 Process for review of draft resolutions

The Chair of the Subgroup will report on the discussions of the Subgroup and the progress in preparation for COP13 (Doc. SC54-18.1).

The Secretariat will present a proposed process for the review of draft resolutions at COP13 in order to ensure an optimal documentation service for the meeting (Doc. SC54-18.3).

### **15:00 – 18:00 Plenary Session of the Standing Committee**

26. World Wetlands Day 2018, 2019 and 2020

The Secretariat will introduce document Doc. SC54.26 on the activities for WWD in 2018. The Standing Committee will be requested to take a decision on the themes proposed for 2019 and 2020.

27. The Ramsar Wetlands Conservation Awards 2018 (in closed session)

The Standing Committee will meet in closed session to select the Award winners, following the recommendations of the Subgroup on COP13 resulting from the Subgroup's closed session of 23 April.

28. Wetland City Accreditation (in closed session)

The Standing Committee will meet in closed session for consideration of the Independent Advisory Committee recommendations and to select its nominees.

27. The Ramsar Wetlands Conservation Awards 2018 (continued in open session)

The Chair will announce the Ramsar Award laureates selected during the closed session.

28. Wetland City Accreditation (continued in open session)

The Chair will report to the plenary on the Report of the Independent Advisory Committee.

29. Dates and venues of the 55th and 56th meetings

The Secretariat will note the dates for SC55 and SC56, to take place in association with COP13.

30. Adoption of the report of the meeting

The record of the meeting will be presented for approval.

31. Any other business

32. Closing remarks