THE CONVENTION ON WETLANDS

Intersessional Process of the Standing Committee

23 – 25 June 2020

**Provisional Agenda**

**Tuesday 23 June**

**13:00 – 16:00 Plenary virtual intersessional session of the Standing Committee**

1. **Opening statements**
   1. Chair of the Standing Committee (United Arab Emirates)
   2. Secretary General of the Convention
2. **Adoption of the provisional agenda**

Note on the agenda: If Parties are able to conclude all outstanding business during the first meeting on Tuesday 23 June, the second meeting scheduled for Thursday 25 June will be cancelled. For these meetings of the full Standing Committee, simultaneous interpretation will be provided.

1. **Brief on the Standing Committee intersessional process**

The following SC58 agenda items were identified by the Standing Committee as being time-sensitive and to be addressed through the intersessional process. The status of these items is as follows:

* Agenda item 19 *Report of the Chair of the Scientific and Technical Review Panel*: the Management Working Group met on 10 June to discuss this matter. The meeting report was sent to Standing Committee members and Contracting Parties registered as observers on 19 June.
* Agenda item 20.4 *Process for the preparation and review of draft resolutions* (purpose and timing of regional pre-COP meetings): the Executive Team met on 17 June to discuss this matter. The meeting report was sent to Standing Committee members and Contracting Parties registered as observers on 19 June.
* Agenda item 8.2 *Report on financial matters for 2019 and 2020* and Agenda item 8.3 *Status of annual contributions*: The Subgroup on Finance met on 15 June to discuss these matters. The meeting report was sent to Standing Committee members and Contracting Parties registered as observers on 19 June.
* Agenda item 20.1 *Report of the Subgroup on COP14*: The Subgroup on COP14 met on 12 June. An oral summary will be presented by the Chair of the Subgroup (People’s Republic of China) at this meeting.
* The following agenda items were open for comment via email by 15 June. The consolidated comments received from Parties were sent to Parties with the revised decision text on the 19 June:
  + Agenda item 13 *Review of all previous Resolutions and decisions*;
  + Agenda item 16 *Work plan of the Secretariat for 2020*;
  + Agenda item 20.3 *The Ramsar Wetlands Conservation Awards*;
  + Agenda item 22.2 *Report of the Secretariat on the Ramsar Regional Initiatives* (clarification on the call for proposals for new RRIs);
  + Agenda item 23 *Report of the Co-chairs of the Independent Committee on Wetland City Accreditation*;
  + Elements of advice for the GEF concerning the funding to support the objectives and priorities of the Convention, for the eighth replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund.

Standing Committee Members and registered Contracting Parties observers reviewed the revised decision text proposed that was based on comments provided by Contracting Parties through 12:00 (noon) CET, Monday 22 June. Under agenda item nine, the status of these decisions will be presented.

1. **Standing Committee participation**

The voting members of the Standing Committee are identified in the Annex of the agenda as are those Contracting Parties who registered as observers for the virtual intersessional meetings. Under Rules 25 and 28, the virtual intersessional meetings of the Standing Committee will be held in closed session.

1. **Report of the Management Working Group**

The Chair of the Management Working Group will present the status of the report with the recommendations to the Standing Committee for approval.

1. **Report of the Subgroup on COP14**

The Chair of the Subgroup on COP14 will present an oral report on the issues discussed by the Subgroup on 12 June (COP14 theme and theme for the 50th Anniversary of the Convention).

1. **Report of the Executive Team on Agenda item 20.4 *Process for the preparation and review of draft resolutions* (purpose and timing of regional pre-COP meetings)**

The Chair of the Executive Team will present the report of the team and the recommendations for approval of the Standing Committee.

1. **Agenda item 8.2 *Report on financial matters for 2019 and 2020* and Agenda item 8.3 *Status of annual contributions***

The Chair of the Subgroup on Finance will present the report of the Subgroup and the recommendations for the Standing Committee’s approval.

1. **Revision of decisions on agenda items discussed by email**

Six agenda items were open for initial comment via email through 15 June. Revised decision text based on the comments received was then provided to Contracting Parties for a second round of comments through22 June. The status of these six items follows:

The Secretariat will introduce the status of the agenda items that received comments or objections.

* Agenda item 13 - *Review of all previous Resolutions and decisions*
* Agenda item 16 - *Work plan of the Secretariat for 2020*
* Agenda item 20.3 - *The Ramsar Wetlands Conservation Awards*
* Agenda item 22.2 - *Report of the Secretariat on the Ramsar Regional Initiatives* (clarification on the call for proposals for new RRIs).
* Agenda item 23 - *Report of the Co-chairs of the Independent Advisory Committee on Wetland City Accreditation*; and
* Elements of advice for the GEF concerning the funding to support the objectives and priorities of the Convention, for the eighth replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund.

1. **Adoption of the report of the meeting**

The record of the virtual intersessional session of 23 June will be sent on 24 June for any comments by the Standing Committee members and approval on the session on 25 June. In the case that the session of 25 June is cancelled, the Standing Committee may agree that the report is approved by the Chair of the Standing Committee or request that it be sent by email for approval by the Standing Committee. If the session of the Standing Committee takes place on 25 June, the record of the meeting will be sent on 29 June for approval of the Standing Committee by 2 July. The Standing Committee may also agree that the record of 25 June is approved by the Chair or request that it be sent by email for approval by the Standing Committee.

1. **Any other business**
2. **Closing remarks**

**Annex 1**

**Voting members of the Standing Committee:**

Africa: Algeria, Chad, Sierra Leone, Uganda, Zambia

Asia: Bhutan, Japan, Oman

Europe: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Latin America and the Caribbean: Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Uruguay

North America: Mexico

Oceania: Australia

COP13 host: United Arab Emirates (Chair)

COP14 host: People’s Republic of China

**Contracting Parties observers registered to participating the virtual meeting:**

Brazil

Colombia

Congo

Fiji

France

Guatemala

Iran

Madagascar

Mauritania

Myanmar

North Macedonia.

Norway

Panama

Peru

Romania

Russian Federation

Senegal

Switzerland: Permanent Observer

Thailand

United States of America

Uzbekistan

Venezuela