

THE CONVENTION ON WETLANDS
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**Proposed draft resolution –
The Ramsar Convention’s Scientific and Technical bodies COP14-COP15**

Submitted by Sweden

Secretariat cover note:

The draft Resolution is related to Resolution XII.5 *New framework for delivery of scientific and technical advice and guidance on the Convention*. It is also linked to document SC59/2022 Doc.26 *Draft Resolution on Future implementation of scientific and technical aspects of the Convention for 2023-2025* and the draft Resolution SC59/2022 Doc.24.14 *The Ramsar Convention’s Scientific and Technical work – The basics* submitted by Sweden.

Action requested:

i, The Standing Committee is invited to review the suggested Draft Resolution in annex 2 to this SC Document and forward it for consideration by the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

ii, The Standing Committee is also invited to make the following suggested decision:

The SC decides that the Secretariat and the STRP is to prepare the nomination and crewing processes as described in the introduction para 3-6 in this SC-document, so that the decision on the new STCG can be done at the COP14.

The SC decides that the Secretariat is to contact the STRP and ask if it is possible for them after having analysed submitted draft resolutions on ST work to suggest a full work program for the COP14-COP15 period and provide it to be included in the draft resolution's annex 2.

The SC decides that the Secretariat after instruction from Sweden can improve the draft resolution before it is being published. Such amendments can only consist of copying content from documents on STRP already approved by the SC or earlier COPs and arranging para numbers and layout accordingly. This in order to have such changes prepared in advance of the COP.

Introduction

1. The enclosed draft resolution in annex 2 has a content about everything that is of importance for the Convention's Scientific and Technical bodies for the time between COP14-COP15 only. It focuses on the ST work program, funds to be allocated to ST work and the composition of the STCG and how it is crewed. It is valid until replaced by a new resolution with the similar theme at COP15.
2. Several voices have been raised about the importance of having the STRP and its work program establish earlier after a COP, so that the work asked for by Contracting Parties to be carried out can start early. In the enclosed draft resolution, there is a modus operandi for a process that allows the STCG and the ST work program to be established already at the COP.
3. Sweden also suggest that the suggested composition and crewing process in the enclosed draft resolution can be applied when establishing the STRP (or STCG) for the COP14-COP15 period, since there is nothing in existing decisions that prevents it.
4. But the call for nominations have to be like an ordinary nomination for the STRP, but with some addition information in the accompanying letter and the template. The additions will refer to this SC-document and describe that depending on the outcome at the COP, the nominees will either be candidates crewing the STRP or a STCG. Also informing that if there is a STCG established there is also a need to have individuals with CEPA competence as well. Also informing that this is made with the purpose of being prepared as much as possible independently on the outcome on the enclosed draft resolution from the COP14. The Secretariat is to prescribe that the template in annex 1 to this SC-document is to be used and that nominees also can provide a text about the nominated person that is to be maximum 2 500 characters including blanks.

5. The suggested SC-decision will be executed as follows if accepted by the SC;
 - The STRP chooses what theme experts that might be needed and submit the result to the Secretariat;
 - The Secretariat invites CPs and IOPs to nominate persons, with a template in excel according to the content in annex 1, (such excel file has been submitted to the Secretariat).
 - The CP's and IOPs do their nominations,
 - The Secretariat compiles a table of the nominees in an excel file based upon the template in annex 1 to this SC document, just by copying rows with data about the nominees,
 - The STRP compile their suggestion of what nominees they consider should be members of the STCG. They may consult the nominees asking for their preferences etc if considered to be useful to get such information. The result is submitted to the Secretariat,
 - The Secretariat includes the relevant data about the nominees suggested by the STRP to be part of the STCG in the draft resolution. Then the resolution is published, (or in a Rev_1 of it, if not possible to do this before the deadline for publication of draft resolutions).
 - If the COP14 decides to keep the STRP and all ST work as done until now, the result may be used for establishing the STRP.

6. The template in excel on nominations and the compilation of nominated individuals is to be used for a quicker compilation, reducing risk of losing data while transferring it during compiling, and finally for the possibility for the ones using the compilation to sort rows of data in the excel file in different ways while trying to crew the STCG as best as possible.

Financial implications of implementation

7. The applying of the new procedure for establishing the STCG will not cause any additional costs compared with the old one. Neither will the draft resolution on ST work in its full.

Paragraph (nr/ key part of text)	Action	Cost (CHF) /Benefits
Annex 1 Template for nomination	Establishment of the STCG, Template for nominations	Will give benefits, less time needed for the compilation of nominees etc.
Annex 2 Full DR	All in the DR	Might decrease costs.

Annex 1

Template for establishing the STRP or STCG for the COP14-COP15

Nominations for the STPR (or if changed at COP14 to the STCG or/and having interest in participating in STWG about...)

Basic info					Nominated as/to					The nominee's competence					
Nominator; Organisation, Country, Name	"ID" for nominator nominee (country code/ORG + number)	Name (Given name and Family name)	The nominee's work place, Organisation, Country	Gender (M/F/O)	Regional representative for (AF/AS/EU/NA/OC/SA)	Other expert (1/2/3/4/5/6 or CEPA)	Suggested as Chair or Vice Chair (C/N/No)	Nominated for their COP-COP period (1/2/3)	Could be a participant in a suitable STWG (Y/N)	Competence (main wetland types)	Competence (biogeographical part/-s of the world)	Competence (CEPA)	Ramsar experience	Other for the STCG useful experiences/competences	Ramsar languages (E/F/S)

Annex 2

Draft Resolution XIV, ~~xx~~ on the Ramsar Convention's ST bodies COP14-COP15

1. RECOGNIZING that it is useful to have content on ST work that is valid for the COP14-COP15 only, gathered in one resolution that may be retired in full at COP15;
2. AWARE of the need to decide on composition and crew for the STCG at the COP so that they can start their work already at the COP if so if possible, ALSO AWARE of that it would be good if the COP took decision on the work program for the ST bodies;
3. FURTHER AWARE of the need to have the STWGs established already at the COP or as soon as possible after that so that they can start their work early during the COP14-COP15 period;
4. RECOGNIZING the need to have a nomination template in excel, this allowing quicker compilation of nominees and decreasing the risk that data gets lost while transferring it to a compilation of nominees, ALSO ALLOWING everyone working with the compilation to do sorting after content in the columns;
5. RECOGNIZING that having multiple STWGs that are open-ended may increase the total numbers of involved in the ST work and being able to participate where they have competence and interest only, instead of having to commit to a bigger workload;
6. THANKING all members of the STRP and its observer organizations and invited experts for their contributions since the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties;
7. ALSO THANKING the many governments which have supported the work of the STRP with financial contributions since the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties, and EXPRESSING GRATITUDE to observer organizations and the Convention's International Organization Partners for their sustained contributions to the work of the Panel;
8. EXPRESING GRATITUDE to the authors and institutions providing inputs and support to the Global Wetland Outlook published in 2021;

THE CONFERENCE OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES

Basic information on the resolution and other resolutions related to it

9. STATES that this resolution on the Convention's ST work is only containing information on what is specific for the period between COP14-COP15 and that decisions of long-lived character is part of the resolution XIV, ~~xx~~ *The Ramsar Convention's bodies for Scientific and Technical work – The basics*, that is to be applied as well.
10. DECIDES that this resolution is to be valid until replaced by a new one for the COP15-COP16 period at COP15.

Decisions on the STCG, the STWGs and their Work program and budget for COP14-COP15

11. DECIDES that the composition and the crewing of the STCG during the COP14-COP15 will be as shown in annex 1,
12. DECIDES that the Ramsar Convention's ST bodies' work program for the COP14-COP15 period is the one presented in the annex 2,
13. DECIDES to allocate funds for the use of the ST bodies (meeting physically, hiring consults etc) according to resolution XIV.~~88~~ *Financial and budgetary matters*;

Other decisions

14. INVITES all the IOPs and the organisations and international fora listed in Annex 3 to nominate experts to the STCG for the COP15-COP16 period;
15. APPROVES the list, in Annex 2 of this Resolution, of bodies and organizations which may be invited to participate as observers in the meetings and processes of the STCG and STWGs, ALSO INSTRUCTS the Standing Committee to amend the list during the triennium as appropriate ;

Annex 1

The composition of and the crewing of the STCG during COP14-COP15

1. The STRP have done preparatory work, suggesting a suitable composition for the STCG during the COP14-COP15 period. Contracting Parties and organisations have nominated suitable individuals and the STRP have suggested a selection of individuals to get a STCG-crew that together complement each other with different competences asked for, trying to get the best crew possible for having good results from the SCWG and the STWGs. The COP14 have had no reason not to comply with what has been suggested by the STRP.

Kind of expert	Region or Theme	Candidate number ¹ (Country/Organisation)	Chair and Vice Chair
Regional representative	Africa	<i>(To be suggested by the STRP at the COP)</i>	
Regional representative	Asia	<i>(To be suggested by the STRP at the COP)</i>	
Regional representative	Europe	<i>(To be suggested by the STRP at the COP)</i>	
Regional representative	North America	<i>(To be suggested by the STRP at the COP)</i>	
Regional representative	Oceania	<i>(To be suggested by the STRP at the COP)</i>	
Regional representative	South America and the Caribbean	<i>(To be suggested by the STRP at the COP)</i>	
Theme expert 1	<i>(theme to be suggested by the STRP to SC59 or ASAP after SC59)</i>	<i>(To be suggested by the STRP at the COP)</i>	NA
Theme expert 2	<i>(theme to be suggested by the STRP to SC59 or ASAP after SC59)</i>	<i>(To be suggested by the STRP at the COP)</i>	NA
Theme expert 3	<i>(theme to be suggested by the STRP to SC59 or ASAP after SC59)</i>	<i>(To be suggested by the STRP at the COP)</i>	NA
Theme expert 4	<i>(theme to be suggested by the STRP to SC59 or ASAP after SC59)</i>	<i>(To be suggested by the STRP at the COP)</i>	NA
Theme expert 5	<i>(theme to be suggested by the STRP to SC59 or ASAP after SC59)</i>	<i>(To be suggested by the STRP at the COP)</i>	NA
Theme expert 6	<i>(theme to be suggested by the STRP to SC59 or ASAP after SC59)</i>	<i>(To be suggested by the STRP at the COP)</i>	NA
CEPA expert 1		<i>(To be suggested by the STRP at the COP)</i>	NA
CEPA expert 2		<i>(To be suggested by the STRP at the COP)</i>	NA

¹Names have not been used for integrity reasons. Contracting Parties have received information on all the nominees at the COP in a suitable setting (for example regional meeting, side-event open for Contracting Parties only and/or in an unofficial document for their consideration).

Annex 2

The Ramsar Convention's Scientific and Technical work program

1. The STRP have done preparatory work, suggesting a ST work program for the COP14-COP15 period. STRP priorities were based on the strongest case vis-à-vis matching the strategic plan, what has been requested by the COP in valid resolutions and what the STRP find to be useful and suggest to the COP.
2. At the COP14 the work program was adapted a little according to the outcome of the negotiations. The work tasks are sorted after priority.

If possible the ST work program or the thematic areas is to be integrated here during early summer. Right now, there is only examples given.

The STCG	Work tasks	Source	Priority 1-5 (high–low)	Funds asked for, all in CHF
<i>The STCG</i>		<i>Res. xx.xx</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>None</i>
<i>The STCG</i>	<i>Physical meetings</i>			<i>xx.xx</i>

The STWG on...	Work tasks	Source	Priority 1-5 (high–low)	Funds asked for, all in CHF
<i>peatlands</i>				
<i>peatlands</i>				
<i>blue carbon</i>			<i>1</i>	
<i>coastal planning</i>			<i>2</i>	

<i>ramsar sites</i>	<i>Further guidance on application of Ramsar site criteria</i>	<i>Request from Parties</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>None</i>
<i>ramsar sites</i>	<i>Assessment of the gaps in the Ramsar site network</i>		<i>3</i>	<i>None</i>
<i>invasive alien species</i>				
<i>crosscutting issues</i>				

Annex 3

Organizations and international fora that are invited to take part in the Convention's Scientific and Technical work COP14-COP15

The Ramsar Conventions IOPs are also invited to do nominations but are not listed here.

Organisations and international fora	Bodies / other sublevels of special interest for wetlands
Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF) working group of the Arctic Council	Secretariat and/or representatives of their technical body
Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (WHC)	Secretariat and/or representatives of their technical body
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)	Secretariat and/or representatives of their technical body
Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)	Secretariat and/or representatives of their technical body
Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	Secretariat and/or representatives of their technical body
Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)	Secretariat and The Committee on Science and Technology
Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)	Secretariat and/or representatives of their technical body
Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes	Secretariat and/or representatives of their technical body
Ducks Unlimited (DU)	
European Environment Agency (EEA)	
European Space Agency – ESRIN (ESA-ESRIN)	
Flora and Fauna International	
Global Environment Facility (GEF)	Secretariat and the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP)
Global Water Partnership (GWP)	
Greifswald Mire Centre (GMC)	
Group on Earth Observation (GEO)	Biodiversity Observation Network (GEO-BON) Wetlands Initiative (GEO-Wetlands)
Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP)	
Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)	Secretariat and/or representatives of their technical body
Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)	Secretariat
International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO)	
International Society for Ecological Economics (ISEE)	
Inter American Institute for Global Change Research (IAI)	
International Crane Foundation (ICF)	
International Mire Conservation Group (IMCG)	
International Peat Society (IPS)	
Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)	

Japanese Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)	
Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI)	
Nature Conservancy (TNC)	
NatureServe	
Ramsar Regional Initiatives (all of them)	Representatives of any of their bodies
Society for Ecological Restoration (SER)	
Society of Wetland Scientists (SWS)	
Technical Committee of the African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement (AEWA)	
United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)	Delft Institute for Water Education (UNESCO-IHE) Man and the Biosphere Program (MAB) International Hydrological Program (UNESCO-IHP)
United Nations Environment Program (UNEP)	World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC)
Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust (WWT)	
World Bank	
Tour du Valat	Research Centre for the Conservation of Mediterranean wetlands
United Nations Human Settlements Program (UN-HABITAT)	