

THE CONVENTION ON WETLANDS
59th Meeting of the Standing Committee
Resumed session
Gland, Switzerland, 23-27 May 2022

SC59/2022 Doc.8.4

Potential financial implications of draft resolutions

Action requested:

The Standing Committee is invited to note the projected administrative and financial implications of draft resolutions submitted to SC59/2022 for consideration.

Background

1. Rule 14 of the Convention on Wetlands Rules of Procedure state that the Secretariat shall report, within 24 hours of the opening of the meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties, on the projected administrative and financial implications of all substantive agenda items submitted to the meeting and before decisions on these items are taken by the Conference of the Parties.
2. As the Rules of Procedure apply *mutatis mutandis* to meetings of the Standing Committee, the Secretariat has prepared Table 1 below which identifies the preliminary projected administrative and financial implications of draft resolutions submitted to SC59 for COP14 consideration. An updated report on administrative and financial implications of draft resolutions will be prepared by the Secretariat to COP14.
3. The proposed actions compiled by the Secretariat in Table 1 are taken from the draft resolutions submitted by Parties, Working Groups, Subsidiary Bodies and the ones prepared by the Secretariat. The Secretariat has noted with an asterisk (*) administrative and financial implications provided by proponents, and with a double asterisk (**) estimates provided by the Secretariat. Concerning staff days, the information provided in the table refers to additional staff days required to carry out the activities and tasks proposed. The staff days required to fulfil activities and task that are already included in the core areas of work of the Secretariat and its work plan are not included.

Table 1: Projected administrative and financial implications of draft resolutions

Document	Draft Resolution	Activities/Tasks required	Additional Staff Days	Cost (CHF)
DRs prepared by the Secretariat				
SC59/2022 Doc.8.3	Draft resolution on financial and budgetary matters	Depending on the budget scenario approved by the COP14.	0	0
SC59 Doc.13.1	Draft resolution on a process for the review and consolidation of Resolutions and Recommendations of the Conference of the Parties	To approve the allocation of CHF 12,000, including unspent funds at the end of 2021, to cover the cost of the continued work on the consolidation of Resolutions	0	10,000
SC59 Doc.13.3	Draft consolidated resolution on 'Inventories'	No significant activities/tasks required.	0	0
SC59 Doc.15	Draft resolution on roles and responsibilities of the Standing Committee	No significant activities/tasks required.	0	0
SC59/2022 Doc.16	Draft resolution on enhancing the Convention's visibility and synergies with other multilateral environmental agreements and other international institutions	No significant activities/tasks required.	0	0
SC59 Doc.23 Rev.1	Draft resolution on status of Sites in the Ramsar List of Wetlands of International Importance	No significant activities/tasks required.	0	0
DRs submitted by Working Groups				
SC59/2022 Doc.10 Rev.1	Draft resolution on review of the fourth Strategic Plan of the Ramsar Convention	Preparation of SP5 for adoption at COP15 (Budget of 90,000 CHF approved by Decision SC59-32)	0	0

Document	Draft Resolution	Activities/Tasks required	Additional Staff Days	Cost (CHF)
SC59/2022 Doc.11	Draft resolution on the Effectiveness and Efficiency of the Ramsar Convention	Subject to available resources, to allocate [XXXCHF] to the Secretariat from surplus funds to fulfil the mandate of this resolution	0	*XXXCHF subject to available resources from surplus funds ** Administrative implications
SC59/2022 Doc.17.1	Draft resolution on the new CEPA approach	Strengthening the CEPA capacity at the Secretariat.	* 1 additional staff	* Having an additional staff member will increase the costs for the Secretariat **will have financial implications tbd
SC59/2022 Doc.17.1	Draft resolution on the Ramsar bodies CEPA work COP14-COP15	New timetable for establishment of CEPA CG	0	*No additional costs compared with today's procedure
		The Secretariat to revise the CEPA Handbook and engage more in CEPA implementation	1 additional staff	*Using the additional CEPA staff asked for in the resolution on the new approach.
		Recruitment process for an additional Communication Officer	0	*Cost of recruitment
		New CEPA post at the Ramsar Secretariat	0	*Cost of a staff member **Cost of staff tbd upon confirmation of staff level
		Workshop for the CEPA CG	0	*20,000
SC59 Doc.21.1	Draft resolution on Ramsar Regional Initiatives 2022-2024	No additional activities	0	0
SC59/2022 Doc.26	Draft Resolution on the future implementation of scientific and technical aspects of the Convention for 2023-2025	No additional activities/tasks required.	0	0

Document	Draft Resolution	Activities/Tasks required	Additional Staff Days	Cost (CHF)
DRs submitted by the Contracting Parties				
SC59/2022 Doc.24.1 Rev.1	Draft resolution on Protection, management and restoration of wetlands as Nature-based solutions to address the climate crisis	The Secretariat to liaise with relevant international conventions and organizations as appropriate, including exploring the development of formal links to promote wetland protection, management restoration as NbS for climate change adaptation.	0	*0
		The Secretariat to promote an appropriate Community of Practice by involving regional initiatives on wetland protection, management and restoration as NbS with the support of MedWet.	**10	*15,000
		The Scientific and Technical Review Panel to work in collaboration with MedWet on different activities.	**20	*60,000
SC59 Doc.24.2	Draft Resolution on review of the Ramsar criteria, and delisting of Ramsar Sites located in territories which are not recognized at the UN level as part of the territory of the submitting country	The STRP to review the Ramsar Classification System for Wetland Type with a view to including additional aspects	**3	**5,000
		The Scientific and Technical Review Panel, in consultation with experts and competent partner organizations and with the assistance of the Ramsar Secretariat, review the existing Criteria for Identifying Wetlands of International Importance	**3	**5,000
SC59 Doc. 24.3	Draft Resolution on development of legal indicators to measure the effectiveness of the Ramsar Convention	Recruitment by the Secretariat of a consultant to assist in the formulation of legal indicators	**8	*18,000
		Oversight of the development of legal indicators by the Effectiveness Working Group and the Standing Committee	**0	*No financial implications

Document	Draft Resolution	Activities/Tasks required	Additional Staff Days	Cost (CHF)
SC59/2022 Doc.24.4	Draft resolution on Guidance on Conservation and Management of Small Wetlands	The Scientific and Technical Review Panel with support of the Secretariat and the consultant, based on the latest scientific knowledge and feedback from Contracting Parties, to develop and improve the guidance, and include in the Ramsar Framework for Wetland Inventory and handbooks.	**8	**10,000
SC59 Doc.24.5	Draft Resolution on Integrating wetland conservation and restoration into national sustainable development strategy	The Secretariat to enhance closer cooperation with the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (UNCSD), United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and other multilateral environmental agreements to promote global mainstreaming of wetland conservation and restoration.	**0	*No financial implications
		Consultant to compile case studies and develop technical guidance on the integration of national wetland conservation and restoration into national sustainable development strategies	**20	**15,000

Document	Draft Resolution	Activities/Tasks required	Additional Staff Days	Cost (CHF)
SC59 Doc.24.6	Draft resolution on Wetland education in the formal education sector	The Secretariat to include wetland education as an indicator in National Reports, analyse the progress of development and implementation of wetland education programmes based on National Reports in cooperation with the CEPA Oversight Panel, and report the progress to the Contracting Parties through the COPs towards the goal of mainstreaming wetland education in formal education	**2	*No financial implications
		The Secretary General to coordinate with UNESCO and work to synergise Ramsar Convention's goal of mainstreaming wetland education in formal education with UNESCO's ESD for 2030 Roadmap.	**10	*No financial implications
SC59 Doc.24.7	Draft Resolution on the Ramsar Wetland Awards	The Ramsar Wetland Award recipients shall receive a trophy and a certificate. The Ramsar Wetland Merit Awards recipients shall receive a trophy and a certificate.	*0	**1,200
SC59/2022 Doc24.8	Draft Resolution on Updating the Wetland City Accreditation of the Ramsar Convention	Secretariat to support the Wetland City Accreditation process (10 days per annum for support staff)	*10	*CHF 4,200 per annum
		Production of accreditation certificates	*0	
SC59/2022 Doc24.9	Draft resolution on Ramsar Regional Initiatives – the basics	The Secretariat to publish information provided by the RRI, including reports on their successes and work programmes and other relevant information on RRI as appropriate, on the Convention's website.	*0	*No financial implications but has administrative implications

Document	Draft Resolution	Activities/Tasks required	Additional Staff Days	Cost (CHF)
SC59/2022 Doc24.10	Draft Resolution on Ramsar Regional Initiatives – COP14-COP15	The Secretariat to update the consolidated list of retired decisions and tag the document as retired at the website or any other procedure decided in another resolution at the COP14.	*0	*Less than 20 CHF
		The Secretariat to find a way to finalize their involvement in the IKI project as soon as possible and start activities to make this happen within three months from the end of COP14.	*0	*Unknown **Administrative and financial implications.
SC59/2022 Doc24.11	Draft Resolution on Ramsar Regional Initiatives – addressing old decisions	Use of a consultant to review all RRI related Resolutions and Decisions to prepare a consolidated resolution that retires obsolete decisions and consolidates decisions in effect.	**1	*Less than 100 CHF **Financial implications to be determined. **See above Doc SC59-13.1
SC59/2022 Doc24.12	Draft Resolution on Strengthening Ramsar Connections Through Youth	The Secretariat to explore hybrid models like virtual Forums that allow young people to meet ahead of and take part in the Conference of the Parties, for the purpose of expanding youth participation and regional outreach of the Conference.	**10	** Financial implications to be determined
		The Secretariat to appoint an Advisor to coordinate the Ramsar Youth Working group and projects with a youth focus, as well as engage with national youth focal points and other key actors and organizations such as YEW; including the Global Youth Biodiversity Network and the youth programs of international environmental organizations and conventions. Ongoing annual cost of a P1 position.	one P1 staff	*140,000

Document	Draft Resolution	Activities/Tasks required	Additional Staff Days	Cost (CHF)
SC59/2022 Doc24.13	Draft Resolution on Waterbird population estimates to support new and existing Ramsar site designations under Ramsar Criterion 6 – use of alternative estimates	The Secretariat to amend the Strategic Framework – 2012 Revision, (adopted as Resolution XI.8, Annex 2, Rev. COP13) to give effect to para 11, as outlined in Annex 1	*0	*No financial implications
SC59/2022 Doc24.14	Draft Resolution - The Ramsar Convention's Scientific and Technical work – The basics	The Secretariat to mobilize additional resources for implementation of technical guidance and advice, and by that also supporting Contracting Parties' implementation of the Convention.	*0	*No financial implications
		The Secretariat to assist with the nomination process as described in Annex 1, part 3, do necessary updates of the draft resolution for the ST bodies.	*0	*No financial implications
SC59/2022 Doc24.15	Draft Resolution on the Ramsar Convention's Scientific and Technical bodies COP14-COP15	**no action required by the Secretariat	*0	*No financial implications
SC59/2022 Doc24.16	Draft Resolution on the establishment of the International Mangrove Center in the Framework of the Ramsar Convention	Secretariat to provide support in coordination and communication with regard to the establishment and operation of the International Mangrove Center. Coordination support for establishment and operation will require Secretariat staff time.	**30 days pending on tasks expected	*No financial implications ** depending on availability of non-core funds and level of staff

Document	Draft Resolution	Activities/Tasks required	Additional Staff Days	Cost (CHF)
		The Scientific and Technical Review Panel to provide scientific and technical support to the International Mangrove Center.	*0	*No financial implications Additional cost will depend on the extent of support required.
SC59/2022 Doc24.17	Draft resolution on online drafting and preparatory negotiations of documents	Establish work areas on line to comment and suggest amendments	** 15 days pending on tasks	* Very difficult to estimate ** administrative and financial implications depending on availability of funds and staff levels.
		Evaluate utilization of IUCN MS	7	* Very difficult to estimate ** administrative and financial implications
		The negotiations and decision processes and the process for retirement and consolidation of older decisions of the Convention can be done more efficiently by improving the way the draft resolution and the Standing Committee documents are written and structured, as well as how SC-decisions are prepared.		*The costs for translation will slightly increase. **There are not cost included but will have financial implications
SC59/2022 Doc24.18	Draft Resolution on how to structure, write and handle Convention documents and messages	The Secretariat to hold online webinars in at least all official Ramsar languages on how to write resolutions as a way of capacity-building.	*0	*The costs for translation will slightly increase. **There are not cost included but will have financial implications.
		Give advice and suggest minor amendment on draft resolutions to the authors	**tbd	
		Distribution of messages by the Secretariat and decision making in the Secretariat.	**tbd	**Administrative and financial implications **There are not cost included but will have financial implications