

## Task templates for the STRP work plan 2019-2018

**Note:**

The set of templates below, corresponding to each of the Thematic Work Areas (TWAS) in [Resolution XIII.8](#) and containing the requests to the STRP in Resolutions from COP13, are intended to facilitate the development of the STRP work plan (2019-2021) to be presented at the next meeting of the Standing Committee (SC57) for adoption.

To ease comprehension the standard formulation “consistent with its scope, mandate and priority thematic work areas for 2019-2021, in developing its proposed work plan for presentation at the 57th meeting of the Standing Committee”, which appears in all COP13 Resolution requests to STRP, has been removed from all tasks.

For the textual language in the Resolutions, please refer to Annex 1 below.

### Total number of requests to STRP in COP13 Resolutions per Thematic Work Area

<b>Thematic Work Area 1:</b> Best practice methodologies / tools to identify and monitor Ramsar Sites and other wetlands, including surveying, mapping, inventorying, and global and regional analysis of the priorities for enhancing the Ramsar site network	5 requests to STRP
<b>Thematic Work Area 2:</b> Best practices for developing and implementing tools for Ramsar Sites and other wetlands, recognizing traditional practices of indigenous peoples and local communities	17 Requests to STRP
<b>Thematic Work Area 3:</b> Methodologies for the economic and non-economic valuation of the values of the functions and services of wetlands, and improved methodologies and knowledge exchange on current and future drivers of wetland loss and degradation	2 requests to STRP
<b>Thematic Work Area 4:</b> Promoting wetland conservation within sustainable development frameworks and other relevant development initiatives	1 request to STRP
<b>Thematic Work Area 5:</b> Climate change and wetlands: innovative methodologies for carbon accounting/assessments related to wetlands	5 requests to STRP
<b>Other</b>	3 requests to STRP

Ad-hoc advisory functions and collaboration with other International bodies and processes							
Task	Res.	SP <sup>1</sup> goal & target	Description and task leads	Process and outcomes	Output	Audience	Costs
<b>Ramsar Convention Processes</b>							
Undertaking future updates/ editions of the Global Wetland Outlook (GWO): State of the World's Wetlands and their Services to People	<a href="#">XIII.8</a> ¶10; <a href="#">XIII.20</a> , ¶¶ 25, 42; <a href="#">XIII.14</a> , ¶11	3.11, 4.14, 4.16	Integrate data compiled and analysed in response to Res. XIII.20 and XIII.14;				
Reporting to Standing Committee	<a href="#">XIII.4</a> , ¶¶ 13; 19 (h)	4.14	STRP Chair will participate at meetings of Standing Committee (SC) as an observer, and will present the work plan for approval, reporting on progress with its implementation, and providing guidance for its future development				
Responding to requests for advice or input from the Secretariat and Standing Committee	<a href="#">XIII.5</a> , ¶¶ 20, 26  <a href="#">XII.5</a> , Annex 1, ¶¶ 1-2; 12 (iii), (v); 15	4.14	<i>Advise the Strategic Plan Review WG as appropriate; Advise on CEPA matters for <b>SC57</b></i>  Other requests may include, inter alia: revision of the Ramsar Handbooks, simplifying and repackaging existing guidance on Ramsar Sites management for the production of a simplified manual, update of the Ramsar Sites Management Toolkit, relevant scientific and technical guidance on ongoing global processes (i.e. SDG reporting)				
Drafting or providing input on Draft Resolutions	<a href="#">XII.5</a> , Annex 1, ¶¶ 1-2, 12 (iii)	4.14	The STRP may draft, at the request of Contracting Parties, a Draft Resolution or it may provide input to Draft Resolutions submitted to the COP by Contracting Parties.				
Responding to national or regional relevant requests for advice from Contracting Parties	<a href="#">XII.5</a> , Annex 1, ¶¶ 2, 59	4.14	The STRP may, as appropriate, provide advice to Contracting Parties requesting it.				

<sup>1</sup> Strategic Plan (SP): [https://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/library/cop12\\_res02\\_strategic\\_plan\\_e\\_0.pdf](https://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/library/cop12_res02_strategic_plan_e_0.pdf).

Advising on Removals of Ramsar Sites from the Montreux Record	Annex 1, ¶4; <a href="#">XIII.11</a> , ¶21; <a href="#">XII.5</a> , Annex 1, ¶¶ 1- 2, 12 (v), 15, 38	2.5, 2.7, 4.14	Advise on Contracting Parties requests for removal of Ramsar Sites from the Montreux Record, after they have been received by the Secretariat				
Advising on Ramsar Advisory Missions	<a href="#">XII.5</a> , Annex 1, 12 (iii), (v)	2.5, 2.7, 4.14	The STRP may assist the Ramsar Secretariat with Ramsar Advisory Missions, as appropriate and subject to the availability of resources				
Providing advice on emerging issues	<a href="#">XII.5</a> , Annex 1, ¶¶ 2, 15 (ii), 38	4.14	The STRP may, as necessary and appropriate, keep under review emerging and more strategic issues of relevance for the Convention which may require action or advice in the near- or medium-term future.				
<b>Other international processes of relevance to the Convention and that contribute to implementation of the Convention's Strategic Plan</b>							
Reviewing proposals to the Intergovernmental Panel for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)	<a href="#">XIII.8</a> , ¶13	4.14, 4.18	Review IPBES proposals and advise Standing Committee based on the Guidelines for developing requests to IPBES for its future work programmes				

**Thematic Work Area 1: Best practice methodologies / tools to identify and monitor Ramsar Sites and other wetlands, including surveying, mapping, inventorying, and global and regional analysis of the priorities for enhancing the Ramsar site network**

<b>Working Group lead(s) and participants:</b>	
<b>Contributing organizations: [IOPs/observers/others]</b>	

Task	Res.	SP goal & target	Description	Process and outcomes	Output	Audience	Costs
Sharing information from the review and compilation of outputs from the Rapid assessment of wetland ecosystem services (RAWES) approach	<a href="#">XIII. 17</a> , ¶ 22	3.11, 4.14	Share information from the review and compilation with other relevant bodies on behalf of the Convention				
Work with International Organization Partners and other observer organizations to review outputs from the RAWES	<a href="#">XIII. 17</a> , ¶ 23	3.11, 4.14	Subject to the availability of resources, work with International Organization Partners and other observer organizations to review outputs from the RAWES, to ensure that they effectively evaluate the ecosystem services of wetlands				
Providing data on extent of intact, as well as damaged and destroyed wetlands from agricultural land conversion since 1970s	<a href="#">XIII.19</a> , ¶ 29	4.14	Funding permitting, provide data on, and an overview of, the extent of intact agricultural wetlands and those damaged and destroyed through conversion to agricultural land uses since the 1970s				
Summarizing the extent of new intertidal wetland Ramsar Site designations for succeeding COPs and include the information in future updates of the GWO	<a href="#">XIII. 20</a> , ¶ 42	2.5, 4.14	In doing so, work with the Secretariat, and as far as possible place this in historical contexts, and to report this information in future updates of the Global Wetland Outlook				

Consider preparing guidance on the identification of small wetlands, and their multiple values for biodiversity conservation, especially in the contexts of landscape management and climate change	<a href="#">XIII.21</a> , ¶ 23	2.5, 2.6, 4.14	In preparing such guidance, draw representative examples from each of the Ramsar regions highlighting a range of different legislation, policy and other best-practice approaches to the conservation, management and wise use of these wetlands				
<b>Unfinished tasks from 2016-2018</b>							
Finishing the Ramsar Technical Report and a toolkit on assessing multiple values of wetlands and applying them to integrated management	<a href="#">XIII.8</a> ¶ 14	3.11, 4.14					
Finishing the <a href="#">Ramsar Technical Report 10</a> : The use of Earth Observation for wetland inventory, assessment and monitoring.	<a href="#">XIII.8</a> , ¶ 14	4.14	Report needs a further round of edits and translation.				

**Thematic Work Area 2: Best practices for developing and implementing tools for Ramsar Sites and other wetlands, recognizing traditional practices of indigenous peoples and local communities**

<b>Working Group lead(s) and participants:</b>	
<b>Contributing organizations: [IOPs/observers/others]</b>	

<b>Task</b>	<b>Res.</b>	<b>SP goal &amp; target</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Process and outcomes</b>	<b>Output</b>	<b>Audience</b>	<b>Costs</b>
Advising on RAMs operational guidance	<a href="#">XIII.11</a> , ¶15,	2.7	<i>Advice Secretariat in the preparation of RAMs operational guidance for adoption <b>at SC57</b>, see Res. XIII. 11</i>				
Advising on Removals of Ramsar Sites from the Montreux Record	<a href="#">XIII.11</a> , ¶19	2.5, 2.7, 4.14	Work with the Secretariat in its efforts to advise Contracting Parties in their efforts to manage Sites on the Montreux Record and Sites for which reports on adverse change in ecological character have been received, engaging Regional Centres in such efforts as appropriate				
Finishing the draft RTR on <i>Peatland restoration and rewetting methodologies in northern bogs</i>	<a href="#">XIII.13</a> , ¶25	2.5, 2.6, 3.12,4.14	Finalize the draft RTR, which currently focuses on acid bog restoration, considering a global compilation of experiences on peatland restoration and rewetting methods, which CPs will provide, and which can be adapted to local or national contexts.				
Further elaborating on practical experiences of restoration methods for peatlands not covered by Ramsar guidance	<a href="#">XIII.13</a> , ¶33	2.5, 2.6, 3.12,4.14	Related with the current SP, elaborate on practical experiences of restoration methods for peatland types not yet covered by Ramsar Convention guidance;				
Assessing implementation status of Res. VIII.17: <i>Guidelines for Global Action on Peatlands</i>	<a href="#">XIII.13</a> , ¶34	4.14					

Consider elaborating on practical experiences of restoration methods based on the integrated approach to ecosystem restoration	<a href="#">XIII.13</a> , ¶134	2.5, 3.12, 4.14					
Consider developing guidance for the cost-benefit analysis, a cost-effectiveness analysis and multiple-criteria analysis of peatland restoration projects	<a href="#">XIII.13</a> , ¶134	2.5, 3.12,4.14					
Consider developing templates to assist parties to report on peatland restoration	<a href="#">XIII.13</a> , ¶134	2.5, 3.12, 4.14					
Consider advising Contracting Parties in the development of terms of reference for the Ramsar Culture Network	<a href="#">XIII.15</a> , ¶18	3.10, 4.14	<b>Consider working with interested Contracting Parties</b> in developing terms of reference for the Ramsar Culture Network, <i>to be considered at <a href="#">SC57</a></i>				
Reviewing and revising the Rapid Cultural Inventories for Wetlands guidance	<a href="#">XIII.15</a> , ¶19	3.10, 4.14	In undertaking the review, ensure that these guidelines are effective in evaluating the cultural ecosystem benefits of wetlands, including in relation to climate-change mitigation and adaptation, in advance of COP14; and include indigenous representation, as appropriate;				
Consider Developing technical guidelines for the design of urban and peri-urban Ramsar Sites	<a href="#">XIII. 16</a> , ¶18(a)	1.1, 2.5, 4.14	In doing so, use climate scenario, climate modelling, and climate-change analysis techniques, as well as performing functional assessments of wetlands using hydrogeomorphic methods				

Consider developing technical guidelines for constructed urban and peri-urban water-treatment wetlands	<a href="#">XIII. 16,</a> ¶18(b)	1.1, 2.5, 4.14	In developing these guidelines consider <b>working with (1) interested Contracting Parties</b> and their accredited wetland cities, and (2) IOPs, including: ensuring water quality and the provision of wildlife habitat based on best available standards for the siting, design, construction, operation, maintenance and monitoring of constructed treatment wetlands, and bioremediation				
Consider developing technical guidelines to set limits for the pollutant loads discharged into urban wetlands	<a href="#">XIII. 16,</a> ¶18(c)	1.1, 2.5, 4.14	In developing these guidelines consider <b>working with (1) interested Contracting Parties</b> and their accredited wetland cities, and (2) IOPs, and will consider the pollutant load capacity of such wetlands				
Consider developing standard operating procedures for urban and peri-urban development or development adjacent to Ramsar Sites	<a href="#">XIII. 16,</a> ¶18(d)	1.1, 2.5, 4.14	In doing so, consider <b>working with (1) interested Contracting Parties</b> and their accredited wetland cities, and (2) IOPs, and provide the highest-quality standard operating procedures				
Consider developing guidelines for the wise use and management of urban and peri-urban wetlands and their buffer zones	<a href="#">XIII. 16,</a> ¶18(e)	1.1, 2.5, 4.14	<b>In developing these, consider working with (1) interested Contracting Parties</b> and their accredited wetland cities, and (2) IOPs, and consider factors related to climate change and ecosystem services and functions				
Compiling and reviewing of positive and negative impacts of agricultural practices on wetlands	<a href="#">XIII.19,</a> ¶28	1.1,4.14, 4.18	with the IOPs, and in collaboration with Contracting Parties and FAO compile and review information on the positive and negative impacts of agricultural practices on wetlands in terms of their biodiversity and ecosystem services, and document best-practice examples of wetland use for agricultural production that preserves wetland integrity and is sustainable in the long term and in the context of climate change				



Unfinished tasks from 2016-2018							
Finalising Draft Ramsar Technical Report: Peatland restoration and rewetting methodologies in northern bogs	<a href="#">XIII.8</a> , ¶ 14	2.5, 2.6, 3.12, 4.14	RTR needs to be finished and further elaborated pursuant to the request in XIII.13, ¶25. Secretariat has current draft.				
Providing additional content for the Ramsar wetland Sites management toolkit	<a href="#">XIII.8</a> , ¶ 14	2.5, 4.14	further content needed				
Finalising <a href="#">Briefing Note 10</a> : Wetland Restoration for Climate Change Resilience	<a href="#">XIII.8</a> , ¶ 14	2.5, 3.12, 4.14	Report needs a further round of edits and translation. Timelines: right after we finish SC57 documents				
Undertaking a Policy Brief on best practices and policy options in wetland restoration incentives and instruments	<a href="#">XIII.8</a> , ¶ 14	2.5, 3.12, 4.14	The policy brief will discuss incentives and instruments such as carbon fund\private sector\VCS\CCBA climate community biodiversity alliance to explain available approaches to invest in these efforts.				

**Thematic Work Area 3: Methodologies for the economic and non-economic valuation of the values of the functions and services of wetlands, and improved methodologies and knowledge exchange on current and future drivers of wetland loss and degradation**

<b>Working Group lead(s) and participants:</b>	
<b>Contributing organizations: [IOPs/observers/others]</b>	

<b>Task</b>	<b>Res.</b>	<b>SP goal &amp; target</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Process and outcomes</b>	<b>Output</b>	<b>Audience</b>	<b>Costs</b>
Participating in in the coastal forum	<a href="#">XIII.20</a> , ¶ 37		Consider actively participating in the coastal forum to promote the restoration of coastal wetlands and other relevant habitats				
Consider developing guidance on the conservation, wise use and management of sustainable “working coastal habitats” in coordination with the scientific subsidiary bodies of other MEAs under the proposed coastal forum	<a href="#">XIII.20</a> , ¶45	1.2, 2.5, 4.14, 4.18	In developing the guidance, consider for example elaborating strategies and models for economic development that maintain the ecological character and functionality of such habitats to the benefit of local communities and migratory species for the consideration of Contracting Parties				

Thematic Work Area 4: Promoting wetland conservation within sustainable development frameworks and other relevant development initiatives	
Working Group lead(s) and participants:	
Contributing organizations: [IOPs/observers/others]	

Task	Res.	SP goal & target	Description	Process and outcomes	Output	Audience	Costs
Consider developing guidance on integrating gender issues in the implementation of the Convention	<a href="#">XIII.18.</a> ¶	4.14	Consider analysing the benefits to wetland management and wise use that derive from taking a gender perspective, developing guidance on how to integrate gender issues in the implementation of the Convention, and submitting proposals to the Conference of the Contracting Parties for its consideration				

**Thematic Work Area 5 : Climate change and wetlands: innovative methodologies for carbon accounting/assessments related to wetlands**

<b>Working Group lead(s) and participants:</b>	
<b>Contributing organizations: [IOPs/observers/others]</b>	

Task	Res.	SP target	Description	Process and outcomes	Output	Audience	Costs
Consider undertaking a desktop study of coastal blue carbon ecosystems in Ramsar Sites, consistent with relevant IPCC guidelines	<a href="#">XIII.14</a> , ¶ 15(a)	3.11, 4.14	The study will: - assess the spatial extent, ecological characteristics and condition of coastal blue-carbon ecosystems - identify the most abundant and at risk coastal ecosystems (including from vulnerability to climate change, conversion, infrastructure development, drainage, invasive species, fire or natural disasters) coastal blue carbon ecosystems in Ramsar Regions				
Consider reviewing and analysing regional modelling of carbon stocks, greenhouse gas emissions and carbon dynamics in coastal blue-carbon ecosystems	<a href="#">XIII.14</a> , ¶ 15(b)	3.11, 4.14	Undertake the review and analysis and provide information, as appropriate, to the IPCC to inform future updates to the Wetlands Supplement				
Consider developing guidance for prioritizing coastal blue-carbon ecosystems for conservation and restoration	<a href="#">XIII.14</a> , ¶ 15(c)	2.5,3.11, 3.12, 4.14	The guidance will include inter alia: climate change mitigation and adaptation benefits; the range of other potential ecosystem benefits and services; and assessment of costs relative to benefits				

Consider reviewing and updating existing guidance on the preparation of plans for conservation, restoration and sustainable management of coastal blue-carbon ecosystems at Ramsar Sites	<a href="#">XIII.14</a> , ¶ 15(d)	2.5, 3.11, 3.12, 4.14	The review could include the development of case studies with regional experts to illustrate how guidance has been applied				
Consider developing methods to rapidly assess climate vulnerability of wetlands, particularly those important as habitats for marine turtles	<a href="#">XIII. 24</a> , ¶ 23						

## Annex 1

### Indicative list of tasks for the development of the STRP work plan (2019-2021) drawn from COP13 Resolutions

#### Note:

This Annex lists all the requests to the STRP in COP13 Resolutions, organised under the Thematic Work Areas of the Panel for the 2019-2021 triennium, to facilitate the development of the STRP work plan (2019-2021).

To ease comprehension the standard formulation “consistent with its scope, mandate and priority thematic work areas for 2019-2021, in developing its proposed work plan for presentation at the 57th meeting of the Standing Committee,” which appears in all COP13 Resolution requests to STRP, has been removed from all tasks. Deletions are indicated by an ellipsis (...).

#### Overarching instruction to STRP in [Resolution XIII.8](#)

14. INSTRUCTS the STRP to develop its work plan for 2019-2021 for approval of the Standing Committee at its 57th meeting; ENCOURAGES it in so doing to give due consideration to including unfinished high-priority and low-priority tasks from the 2016-2018 work plan as well as to including elements of the Strategic Plan which the Secretariat reported<sup>2</sup> that Parties are struggling to implement; and ALSO INSTRUCTS it to ensure that the plan developed is streamlined and achievable within a single triennium;
15. REQUESTS the Secretariat and the STRP, building on lessons learned regarding the timing of the STRP’s work during the 2016-2018 triennium, to test a new procedure for sequencing its work throughout the 2019-2021 triennium that maximizes time available within a triennium to develop outputs and products for the Conference of the Parties (COP), noting that STRP outputs need to be finalized about nine months prior to meetings of the COP, and to advise the Standing Committee of progress and report to the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties on its results;
16. REQUESTS the Secretariat to schedule the second STRP meeting in conjunction with the second Standing Committee meeting of the triennium, starting with the 58th meeting of the Standing Committee and continuing in future triennia, with a view to benefiting the development of the STRP’s work and more broadly fostering communication and synergies across the work of the Convention;
17. ALSO REQUESTS the Secretariat, as a means to foster diversity and greater participation from STRP Focal Points from all regions and subject to the availability of resources, to hold the third STRP meeting of the triennium in the region or country of the host of the forthcoming meeting of the Conference of the Parties; and INVITES Contracting Parties and Ramsar Regional Centres to offer to host such meetings in order to support enhanced engagement by and capacity of STRP Focal Points from their respective regions, noting that, if no such offer is forthcoming, STRP meetings would be held in the host country of the Secretariat of the Convention; and

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<sup>2</sup> [Ramsar COP13 Doc.11.1 Rev.1](#) (Annex 2): *Report of the Secretary General on the implementation of the Convention: Global implementation*

18. ADDITIONALLY REQUESTS the Secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, to undertake activities to build the capacity of Parties' National Focal Points and STRP and CEPA Focal Points, including *inter alia* through regional capacity-building workshops and other training opportunities, including on the margins of STRP meetings held in regions, as a means to further enhance the effectiveness of the Convention; and INVITES Parties, and interested entities in a position to do so, to provide support, including in-kind support, to the Secretariat's capacity-building efforts.

#### STRP Priority Thematic Work Areas

##### TWA 1

**Best practice methodologies / tools to identify and monitor Ramsar Sites and other wetlands, including surveying, mapping, inventorying, and global and regional analysis of the priorities for enhancing the Ramsar site network.**

##### [Resolution XIII.17](#)

22. REQUESTS the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP), ..., and requests the Secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, to work with Contracting Parties to review and compile outputs from this voluntary assessment approach [of rapidly assessing ecosystem services] and share information with other relevant bodies on behalf of the Ramsar Convention; and
23. ALSO REQUESTS the STRP, subject to the availability of resources, ..., working with International Organization Partners and other observer organizations to review outputs from the *Rapid assessment of wetland ecosystem services*, to ensure that they effectively evaluate the ecosystem services of wetlands.

##### **Unfinished task from 2016-18**

Wetland ecosystem services assessment and valuation Policy Brief with toolkit: an RTR was to be drafted as part of this task which was otherwise delivered.

##### [Resolution XIII.19](#)

29. REQUESTS that the STRP, funding permitting ..., support the implementation of the present Resolution by providing data on, and an overview of, the extent of intact agricultural wetlands and those damaged and destroyed through conversion to agricultural land uses since the 1970s; and

##### [Resolution XIII.20](#)

42. REQUESTS the Secretariat and the STRP, ..., to summarize the extent of new intertidal wetland Ramsar Site designations for succeeding meetings of the Conference of the Contracting Parties, as far as possible placing this in historical contexts, and to report this information in future updates of the *Global Wetland Outlook*;

##### [Resolution XIII.21](#)

23. REQUESTS the Scientific and Technical Review Panel, ..., to consider preparing guidance on the identification of small wetlands, and their multiple values for biodiversity conservation especially in the contexts of landscape management and climate change, and to draw representative examples from each of the Ramsar regions highlighting a range of different legislation, policy and other best-practice approaches to the conservation, management and wise use of these wetlands.

##### **Unfinished task from 2016-18**

- 1.1 Earth observation as a "best practice" tool for inventorying, mapping and monitoring wetlands, including Ramsar Sites: Ramsar Technical Report on Earth Observation still needs to be translated and edited further.

## **TWA 2**

### **Best practices for developing and implementing tools for Ramsar Sites and other wetlands, recognizing traditional practices of indigenous peoples and local communities.**

#### **Resolution XIII.11**

15. INSTRUCTS the Secretariat, in consultation with the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP), to prepare operational guidance for RAMs, addressing *inter alia* the issues listed in Annex 1 to the present Resolution and giving due consideration to the briefing note and policy brief on RAMs published in 2018, to be submitted for adoption by the Standing Committee at its 57th meeting;

19. REQUESTS the Secretariat, as appropriate and upon request, to advise Contracting Parties in their efforts to manage Sites on the Montreux Record and Sites for which reports on adverse change in ecological character have been received, engaging Regional Centres in such efforts as appropriate; and FURTHER REQUESTS the STRP, ..., to consider working together with the Secretariat to support these efforts;

21. FURTHER REQUESTS the Secretariat to promptly submit to the STRP all Contracting Parties' requests for removal of Ramsar Sites from the Montreux Record and to expeditiously inform the Contracting Party and the Standing Committee of the STRP's recommendation regarding the outcome of such requests.

#### **Resolution XIII.13**

25. ENCOURAGES Contracting Parties to contribute, as appropriate, to a global compilation of experiences on peatland restoration and rewetting methods, to inform a Ramsar Technical Report mainly on acid bog restoration, that can be adapted to local or national contexts, to be finalized by the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP);

33. REQUESTS the STRP, ..., to consider, related to the fourth Strategic Plan 2016-2024, the further elaboration of practical experiences of restoration methods for peatland types not yet covered by Ramsar Convention guidance;

34. ALSO REQUESTS the STRP, ..., to consider:

- making an assessment of the status of implementation of Resolution VIII.17;
- elaborating on the practical experiences of restoration methods based on the integrated approach to ecosystem restoration;
- developing guidance for the cost-benefit analysis, a cost-effectiveness analysis and multiple-criteria analysis of peatland restoration projects; and
- developing templates for reporting on peatland restoration;

#### **Ongoing task from 2016-18**

5.3 Advice for COP13 on practical methods for rewetting and restoring peatlands: part of this was completed, but the Draft Ramsar Technical Report: Peatland restoration and rewetting methodologies in northern bogs still needs to be completed and revamped based on Res. XIII.13.

#### **Resolution XIII.15**

18. INVITES the Ramsar Culture Network, subject to the availability of resources, to continue its work as a mechanism to address wetland cultural issues in order to share lessons learned and to guide Contracting Parties in the implementation of relevant Resolutions of the Conference of Parties; and ALSO REQUESTS the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP), ..., to consider working with interested Contracting Parties in developing terms of reference for the Ramsar Culture Network, to be considered at SC57;



19. INVITES the STRP, ..., to consider reviewing and revising the *Guidance: Rapid Cultural Inventories for Wetlands* with a view to ensuring that these guidelines are effective in evaluating the cultural ecosystem benefits of wetlands, including in relation to climate-change mitigation and adaptation, in advance of COP14; and ALSO REQUESTS that the STRP includes indigenous representation in conducting the proposed work, as appropriate;

#### **Resolution XIII.16**

18. REQUESTS that the Scientific and Technical Review Panel, ..., and working in cooperation with 1) interested Contracting Parties and their accredited wetland cities, and 2) International Organization Partners, consider the following:

- a. Developing technical guidelines for the design of urban and peri-urban Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Sites) using climate scenario, climate modelling, and climate-change analysis techniques, as well as performing functional assessments of wetlands using hydrogeomorphic methods;
- b. Developing technical guidelines for constructed urban and peri-urban water-treatment wetlands, which would include ensuring water quality and the provision of wildlife habitat based on best available standards for the siting, design, construction, operation, maintenance and monitoring of constructed treatment wetlands, and bioremediation;
- c. Developing technical guidelines to set limits for the pollutant loads that are discharged into urban wetlands, depending on their pollutant load capacity;
- d. Providing the highest-quality standard operating procedures for urban and peri-urban development or development adjacent to Ramsar Sites; and
- e. Developing guidelines for the wise use and management of urban and peri-urban wetlands and their buffer zones, considering factors related to climate change and ecosystem services and functions;

#### **Resolution XIII.19**

28. REQUESTS that the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP), funding permitting ..., together with the International Organization Partners, and in collaboration with Contracting Parties and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, compile and review information on the positive and negative impacts of agricultural practices on wetlands in terms of their biodiversity and ecosystem services, and document best-practice examples of wetland use for agricultural production that preserves wetland integrity and is sustainable in the long term and in the context of climate change;

#### **Ongoing task from 2016-18**

2.1: Ramsar wetland Sites management toolkit: further content needed

#### **Ongoing task from 2016-18**

5.1 Promoting best practices on wetland restoration: Translation and further editing of BN 10 (restoration) needed.

### **TWA 3**

Methodologies for the economic and non-economic valuation of the values of the functions and services of wetlands, and improved methodologies and knowledge exchange on current and future drivers of wetland loss and degradation.

#### **Resolution XIII.20**

37. ENCOURAGES ... and the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP), consistent with its scope, mandate and priority thematic work areas for 2019-2021, in developing its proposed work plan... to consider actively participating in the coastal forum proposed in paragraph 36 of the present Resolution to promote the restoration of coastal wetlands and other relevant habitats

45. REQUESTS the STRP, subject to the availability of resources ..., to consider coordinating with the scientific subsidiary bodies of other multilateral environmental agreements, under the proposed coastal forum, to develop guidance on the conservation, wise use and management of sustainable “working coastal habitats”, such as by elaborating strategies and models for economic development that maintain the ecological character and functionality of such habitats to the benefit of local communities and migratory species for the consideration of Contracting Parties;

### **TWA 4**

Promoting wetland conservation within sustainable development frameworks and other relevant development initiatives

#### **Resolution XIII.18**

15. REQUESTS that the Scientific and Technical Review Panel, ..., consider analysing the benefits to wetland management and wise use that derive from taking a gender perspective, developing guidance on how to integrate gender issues in the implementation of the Convention, and submitting proposals to the Conference of the Contracting Parties for its consideration;

### **TWA 5**

Climate change and wetlands: innovative methodologies for **carbon** accounting/assessments related to wetlands.

#### **Resolution XIII.14**

15. REQUESTS that the STRP, if resources are available, ..., consider continuing its work on climate change and wetlands, including coastal blue-carbon ecosystems, as a high priority, consistent with the relevant IPCC guidelines, *inter alia* by:

- a. undertaking a desktop study of coastal blue-carbon ecosystems across the Ramsar Sites of those Contracting Parties that express their interest in participating (noting that some countries have data that are more highly publicized or accessible than others), including:
  - i. assessing the spatial extent, the ecological characteristics and condition of coastal blue-carbon ecosystems across the network of Ramsar Sites; and
  - ii. where practical, identifying coastal blue-carbon ecosystems of greatest abundance and at most risk (including from vulnerability to climate change, conversion, infrastructure development, drainage, invasive species, fire or natural disasters) in each Ramsar region;

- b. reviewing and analysing regional modelling of carbon stocks, greenhouse gas emissions and carbon dynamics in coastal blue-carbon ecosystems and providing information, as appropriate, to the IPCC to inform future updates to the *Wetlands Supplement*;
- c. developing guidance for prioritizing coastal blue-carbon ecosystems for conservation and restoration that includes *inter alia*: climate change mitigation and adaptation benefits; the range of other potential ecosystem benefits and services; and assessment of costs relative to benefits; and
- d. reviewing and, as appropriate, updating existing guidance on the preparation of plans for conservation, restoration and sustainable management of coastal blue-carbon ecosystems at Ramsar Sites where such a review could include development of case studies with regional experts to illustrate how guidance has been applied;

**Resolution XIII. 24**

23. REQUESTS the Scientific and Technical Review Panel, consistent with its scope, mandate and priority thematic work areas for 2019-2021, in developing its proposed work plan ... to consider developing methods to rapidly assess climate vulnerability of wetlands, particularly those important as habitats for marine turtles

**Cross-cutting issue**

**Future development of the Global Wetland Outlook to report to StC 57:**

Possible areas for discussion:

- Whether there are further spin-off products from 2018 GWO?
- how often should updates occur?
- value in undertaking a survey about the uptake and reactions to the first edition of the GWO
- and whether future editions should be just updates or thematic (e.g. broadly the same structure but reporting at a regional scale – e.g. African Wetland Outlook; or thematically – perhaps in more depth on ecosystem services)

**Other requests**

**Resolution XIII.5**

20. REQUESTS the Standing Committee, at its 56th meeting (SC56), to establish a Strategic Plan Working Group to conduct the review of the fourth Strategic Plan; the Working Group will include representation from all regions; the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP) will provide advice as appropriate ...

26. REQUESTS the Standing Committee at SC57 to consider and approve the CEPA Oversight Panel's plan to develop a new approach for advising and supporting CEPA in the Convention, which *inter alia* provides for incorporation of the advice of the STRP, and complements the work of the Strategic Plan Working Group established in accordance with paragraph 20 of the present Resolution;

**Resolution XIII.8**

13. REQUESTS that the STRP review proposals submitted and provide advice to the Standing Committee in this regard in accordance with the procedure described in Annex 4;

**Low priority tasks (2016-2018) not commenced owing to lack of previous capacity**

- 1.3 Wetland cultural inventories implementation workshop: this was not undertaken
- 2.2 Wetland management to reduce the risk of waterborne and aquatic-vector borne diseases
- 2.3 Transboundary wetland management
- 2.5 Best practices for developing and implementing action plans to manage Invasive Alien Species in Ramsar Sites and other wetlands: a guide to available guidance
- 3.3 Case studies on 'wetland valuation and wise use': this was to be included as part of the management toolkit (see above): no work was undertaken
- 4.3 Aquaculture developments and wise use of wetlands
- 5.2 The implications of REDD-plus for the wise use of wetlands: no work was undertaken