



## **NATIONAL REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RAMSAR CONVENTION ON WETLANDS**

**National Reports to be submitted to the 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting  
of the Conference of the Contracting Parties,  
Romania, June 2012**

Please submit the completed National Report, in electronic (Microsoft Word) format, and preferably by e-mail, to the Ramsar Secretariat by **15 September 2011**.

National Reports should be sent to: Alexia Dufour, Regional Affairs Officer, Ramsar Secretariat ([dufour@ramsar.org](mailto:dufour@ramsar.org))

### Introduction & background

1. This National Report Format (NRF) has been approved by the Standing Committee in Decision SC41-24 for the Ramsar Convention's Contracting Parties to complete as their national reporting to the 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties of the Convention (Bucharest, Romania, June 2012).
2. Following Standing Committee discussions at its 40<sup>th</sup> meeting in May 2009, and its Decision SC40-29, this COP11 National Report Format closely follows that used for the COP10 National Report Format, which in turn was a significantly revised and simplified format in comparison with the National Report Formats provided to previous recent COPs.
3. In addition to thus permitting continuity of reporting and implementation progress analyses by ensuring that indicator questions are as far as possible consistent with previous NRFs (and especially the COP10 NRF), this COP11 NRF is structured in terms of the Goals and Strategies of the 2009-2015 Ramsar Strategic Plan adopted at COP10 as Resolution X.1, and the indicators speak to relevant Key Result Areas (KRAs) for each Strategy in the Strategic Plan.
4. The COP11 NRF indicators include, with the agreement of the Standing Committee, certain indicators specifically requested to be included by the Convention's Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP) in light of its work on assessing effectiveness indicators, and by the CEPA Oversight Panel, in order to facilitate their information gathering and reporting on key aspects of scientific, technical and CEPA implementation under the Convention. The format also includes indicator questions concerning the use of the "Changwon Declaration on human well-being and wetlands", as requested in Resolution X.3 (2008).
5. This COP11 NRF includes 82 indicator questions. In addition, for each Strategy the option is provided for a Contracting Party, if it so wishes, to supply additional information concerning its implementation under each indicator and, more generally, on implementation of other aspects of each Strategy.
6. The COP11 Format also now includes an additional, optional, section (section 4) to permit a Contracting Party to provide additional information, if it wishes to, on indicators relevant to individual Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Sites).

### The purposes and uses of national reporting to the Conference of the Contracting Parties

7. National Reports from Contracting Parties are official documents of the Convention and are made publicly available through their posting on the Convention's website.
8. There are six main purposes for the Convention's National Reports. These are to:
  - i) provide data and information on how the Convention is being implemented;
  - ii) capture lessons and experience to help Parties develop future action;
  - iii) identify emerging issues and implementation challenges faced by Parties that may require further attention from the Conference of the Parties;
  - iv) provide a means for Parties to be accountable for their commitments under the Convention;

- v) provide each Party with a tool to help it assess and monitor its progress in implementation, and to plan its future priorities; and
  - vi) provide an opportunity for Parties to draw attention to their achievements during the triennium.
9. The data and information provided by Parties in their National Reports have another valuable purpose as well, since a number of the indicators in the National Reports on Parties' implementation provide key sources of information for the analysis and assessment of the "ecological outcome-oriented indicators of effectiveness of the implementation of the Convention" currently being further developed by the Scientific and Technical Review Panel for Standing Committee and COP11 consideration.
10. To facilitate the analysis and subsequent use of the data and information provided by Contracting Parties in their National Reports, once received and verified by the Ramsar Secretariat all information is entered and held by the Secretariat in a database, which then facilitates extraction and analysis of the information for a number of purposes.
11. The Convention's National Reports are used in a number of ways. These include:
- i) providing the basis for reporting by the Secretariat to each meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the global and regional implementation, and the progress in implementation, of the Convention. This is provided to Parties at the COP as a series of Information Papers, including:
    - the Report of the Secretary General on the implementation of the Convention at the global level (see, e.g., COP10 DOC. 6);
    - the Report of the Secretary General pursuant to Article 8.2 (b), (c), and (d) concerning the List of Wetlands of International Importance (see, e.g., COP10 DOC. 7); and
    - the reports providing regional overviews of the implementation of the Convention and its Strategic Plan in each Ramsar region (see, e.g., COP10 DOCs 8-13);
  - ii) providing information on specific implementation issues in support of the provision of advice and decisions by Parties at the COP. Examples at CO9 and COP10 included:
    - Resolution IX.15 and X.13, *The status of sites in the Ramsar List of Wetlands of International Importance*, and
    - Information Papers on *Issues and scenarios concerning Ramsar Sites or parts of sites which cease to meet or never met the Ramsar Criteria* (COP9 DOC. 15), *Implementation of the Convention's CEPA Programme for the period 2003-2005* (COP9 DOC. 25), *Overview of the implementation of the Convention's CEPA Programme for the period 2006-2008* (COP10 DOC. 16, and *Background and rationale to the Framework for processes of detecting, reporting and responding to change in wetland ecological character* (COP10 DOC. 27);
  - iii) providing the source data for time-series assessments of progress on specific aspects in the implementation of the Convention included in other Convention products. An example is the summary of progress since COP3 (Regina, 1997) in the development

of National Wetland Policies, included as Table 1 in Ramsar Wise Use Handbook 2 (4<sup>th</sup> edition, 2010); and

- iv) providing information for reporting to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) on the national-level implementation of the CBD/Ramsar Joint Work Plan and the Ramsar Convention's lead implementation role on wetlands for the CBD. In particular, the COP10 NRF indicators have been used extensively in 2009 in the preparation by the Ramsar Secretariat and STRP of contributions to the in-depth review of the CBD programme of work on the biological diversity of inland water ecosystems that was being considered by CBD SBSTTA14 and COP10 during 2010 (see UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/14/3).

### The structure of the COP11 National Report Format

12. The COP11 National Report Format is in four sections.

**Section 1** provides the Institutional Information about the Administrative Authority and National Focal Points for the national implementation of the Convention.

**Section 2** is a “free-text” section in which the Party is invited to provide a summary of various aspects of national implementation progress and recommendations for the future.

**Section 3** provides the 82 implementation indicator questions, grouped under each Convention implementation strategy in the Strategic Plan 2009-2015, and with an optional “free-text” section under each indicator question in which the Contracting Party may, if it wishes, add further information on national implementation of that activity; and a further “free-text” section for adding further information on other aspects of implementation of that Strategy.

**Section 4** ([www.ramsar.org/doc/cop11/cop11\\_nrform\\_e\\_sec4.doc](http://www.ramsar.org/doc/cop11/cop11_nrform_e_sec4.doc)) is an optional Annex to the National Report Format to allow any Contracting Party that wishes to do so to provide additional information separately for any or all of its Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Sites). This has been included at the request of a number of Parties.

### Guidance for filling in and submitting the COP11 National Report Format

**IMPORTANT – PLEASE READ THIS SECTION OF GUIDANCE BEFORE STARTING TO FILL IN THE NATIONAL REPORT FORMAT**

13. All of the first three Sections of the COP11 National Report Format should be completed in one of the Convention's official languages (English, French, Spanish).
14. The deadline for submission of the completed NRF is **15 September 2011**. It will not be possible to include information from National Reports received after that date in the analysis and reporting on Convention implementation to COP11.
15. All fields with a pale yellow background  must be filled in.
16. Fields with a pale green background  are optional free-text fields in which to provide additional information, if the Contracting Party so wishes. Although providing information in these fields in the NRF is optional, Contracting Parties are encouraged to provide such additional information wherever possible and relevant, since experience

shows that such explanatory information is very valuable in ensuring a full understanding of implementation progress and activity, notably in informing the preparation of global and regional implementation reports to COP.

17. In order to assist Contracting Parties in providing such additional information, for a number of indicator questions some particularly helpful types of such information are suggested. However, of course, Parties are free to add any other relevant information they wish in any of the “Additional implementation information” fields.
18. The Format is created as a “Form” in Microsoft Word. You are only able to move to each of the yellow or green boxes to give your replies and information, as all other parts of the form are locked to ensure that the form and wording of indicators will remain uniform and comparable for all Parties. If you need to work with an unlocked version of the Format, please contact Alexia Dufour, Regional Affairs Officer ([dufour@ramsar.org](mailto:dufour@ramsar.org)), who will advise on how that can be done.
19. To go to a yellow or green field you wish to fill in, move the cursor over the relevant part of the form and left-click the mouse. The cursor will automatically move to the next field available.
20. To move down the sequence of fields to fill in, you can also use the “Tab” key on the computer keyboard.
21. For a “free-text” field, you can type in whatever information you wish. If you wish to amend any of the text you have put in a green or yellow “free-text” box, it is recommended that you cut-and-paste the existing text into a separate file, make the amendments, and then cut-and-paste the revised text back into the green box – this is because within the Microsoft “Form” format there is limited facility to make editorial changes in the “free-text” box once text has been entered.
22. Certain keyboard characters interfere with the automatic data entry into our database for handling and analysing National Reports. For that reason, please do not use the characters “ ”, [ ] °°°° in the “free text” fields.
23. For each of the “Indicator questions” in Section 3, a drop-down menu of answer options is provided. These vary between indicators, depending on the question, but are generally of the form: “Yes”, “No”, “Partly”, “In progress”, etc. This is necessary so that statistical comparisons can be made of the replies.
24. For each indicator question you can choose only one answer. If you wish to provide further information or clarifications concerning your answer, you can do so in the green additional information box below the relevant indicator question.
25. To select an answer to an indicator question, use the Tab key, or move the cursor over the relevant yellow box and left-click the mouse. The drop-down menu of answer options will appear. Left-click the mouse on the answer option you choose, and this will appear in the centre of the yellow box.
26. The NRF is not intended normally to be filled in by one person alone – for many indicators it would seem best for the principal compiler to consult with colleagues in the same and other agencies within the government who might have fuller knowledge of the Party’s overall implementation of the Convention. The principal compiler can save the

work at any point in the process and return to it subsequently to continue or to amend answers previously given. When filling in this form, it is also advised to refer back to the National Report submitted for COP10 for purposes of continuity and consistency.

27. After each session working on the NRF, remember to save the file! A recommended filename structure is: COP11NRF [Country] [date].
28. After the NRF has been completed, please send the completed National Report to the Ramsar Secretariat, preferably by e-mail, to Alexia Dufour, Regional Affairs Officer, Ramsar Convention Secretariat, e-mail: [dufour@ramsar.org](mailto:dufour@ramsar.org). The Secretariat must receive your completed National Report in this electronic (Microsoft Word) format.
29. When the completed National Report is submitted by the Party, **it must be accompanied by a letter or e-mail message in the name of the Administrative Authority, confirming that this is that Contracting Party's official submission of its COP11 National Report.**
30. If you have any questions or problems concerning filling in the COP11 NRF, please contact the Ramsar Secretariat for advice (e-mail as above).

## SECTION 1: INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION

<b>NAME OF CONTRACTING PARTY: THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA</b>	
<b>DESIGNATED RAMSAR ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY</b>	
<b>Name of Administrative Authority:</b>	State Forestry Administration
<b>Head of Administrative Authority - name and title:</b>	Mr. JIA Zhibang, Administrator
<b>Mailing address:</b>	No. 18 Hepingli Dongjie, Beijing, P.R. China, zip: 100714
<b>Telephone/Fax:</b>	86-10-84238719/86-10-84238749
<b>Email:</b>	
<b>DESIGNATED NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR RAMSAR CONVENTION MATTERS</b>	
<b>Name and title:</b>	Mr. YAN Chenggao, Deputy Director General, the Convention on Wetlands Management Office, P.R.China
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<b>DESIGNATED NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO STRP (SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL REVIEW PANEL)</b>	
<b>Name and title of focal point:</b>	Mr. BAO Daming, Division Chief
<b>Name of organisation:</b>	The Convention on Wetlands Management Office, P.R.China
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<b>DESIGNATED GOVERNMENT NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO THE CEPA PROGRAMME ON COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION, PARTICIPATION AND AWARENESS</b>	
<b>Name and title of focal point:</b>	Ms Fang Yan, Division Chief
<b>Name of organisation:</b>	The Convention on Wetlands Management Office, P.R.China
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<b>DESIGNATED NON-GOVERNMENT NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO THE CEPA PROGRAMME ON COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION, PARTICIPATION AND AWARENESS</b>	
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## SECTION 2: GENERAL SUMMARY OF NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES

**In your country, in the past triennium (i.e., since COP10 reporting):**

A. What new steps have been taken to implement the Convention?

### 1. Remarkable results achieved by wetland conservation programme

During the 11th Five-Year Plan period (2006-2010), the government of China implemented the Implementation Plan for China National Wetland Conservation Programme (2005-2010). With an investment of 1.4 billion Yuan by the central government and a local matching fund of over 1.7 billion Yuan, 205 projects have been implemented on wetland conservation, restoration, sustainable use and capacity building. These projects have effectively restored and improved the ecological conditions of the degraded wetlands in the project sites. Conservation and restoration demonstration models of various wetland types including lakes, marshes and coastal wetlands were gradually established, which have set good examples for conservation and restoration of important wetland sites .

Driven by national demonstration projects, various wetland conservation and restoration projects were implemented in different provinces. These local projects are striving for exploring innovative models of wetland conservation and restoration with local resources. The ecological conditions of a lot of important wetlands were gradually improved. In recent years, 8,000 ha and more than 2,000 ha wetlands were restored in Heilongjiang Province and Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region respectively. The gradual restoration of Dajiu Lake in Shenlongjia of Hubei Province and Xixi Wetland in Hangzhou City are successful cases of locally initiated wetland ecosystem restoration projects.

### 2. Steady progress made in national wetland survey and monitoring

The second National Wetland Resources Survey is an ecological resource survey with strategic importance for China. The survey has combined technologies of RS (remote sensing), GIS (geographic information system) and GPS (global positioning system) with field survey of wetlands with an area of above 8 ha in China. With adequate preparation, in 2009, 6 provinces initiated and completed the survey of 940,000 square kilometers; in 2010, 9 provinces initiated and completed survey of 3.7 million square kilometers; in 2011, 8 provinces initiated and completed survey of 3.4 million square kilometers. Organized by the State Forestry Administration and facilitated by local governments, the second National Wetland Resources Survey has been undertaken smoothly, and is expected to complete all the survey in 2012. The survey will provide information on wetland types, areas, wild fauna and flora, conservation and management status quo, threats and problems, etc. all over China. The information will provide a solid foundation for science-based wetland conservation and management and implementation of Ramsar Convention.

### 3. Effective monitoring and management exercised in Ramsar sites in China

Since the last Conference of the Parties, the Chinese government has compiled Technical Guideline on Monitoring of Ramsar Sites in China and Assessment Measures of Ecological Conditions of Ramsar Sites in China to guide the regular ecological monitoring of the 35 Ramsar sites in mainland China. In addition, with the implementation of the wetland conservation programme, 9 ecological monitoring stations were established for Ramsar sites. The relevant research institutes of the Chinese Academy of



Sciences have set up fixed ecosystem monitoring stations in some of the Ramsar sites and wetlands of national importance, which provides the information on the ecological conditions of Ramsar sites in China, and a good basis for science-based monitoring. In 2009, according to the requirements of Ramsar Convention and based on the evaluation of the ecological conditions of the 37 Ramsar Sites in China (Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department of Hong Kong, China evaluated Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar Site management plan from 2008 to 2009), the State Forestry Administration has compiled and will publish internationally the Report titled by Ecological Conditions of the Ramsar Sites in China.

Amongst the 37 Ramsar sites, 30 of them have prepared management plans and another 5 are in the process of preparing, the rest two have developed master plans which are similar to management plans. All the Ramsar sites make detailed annual work plans for implementation. The existing management plans will be amended and improved continuously. The Hong Kong Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar Site has implemented its management plan since 1998, and has reviewed its wetlands conservation strategy and management plan from 2008-2009. It will publish the amended management plan in 2011.

The water supply mechanism to maintain the wetland functions has been established in arid and semi-arid areas, such as Zhalong and Honghe Ramsar Sites in Heilongjiang Province.

4. New progress achieved in national and local legislation on wetland conservation  
At the national level, the State Forestry Administration has amended the draft of the National Wetland Conservation Regulation according to the suggestions and recommendations of the State Council Legislative Office. The negotiation with relevant departments in an endeavor for early promulgation of the regulation is under way.

In September 2008, the Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region promulgated its provincial wetlands conservation regulation. In 2010, the Sichuan Province, Jilin Province and the Tibet Autonomous Region promulgated provincial wetlands conservation regulations. Up to now, a total of 11 provincial level wetland conservation regulations have been promulgated and more provincial wetland regulations are to be promulgated. Promulgation and effective enforcement of provincial wetland conservation regulations have strengthened the effective protection of wetland resources.

5. A special fund for wetland conservation established with the central government financing

In 2009, the No.1 Document of the Central Party Committee announced the initiation of trials on compensation for wetland ecological benefit. In the same year, establishment of compensation mechanism for wetland ecological benefit was explicitly proposed in the Central Forestry Working Conference. In May 2010, the Ministry of Finance and the State Forestry Administration jointly issued the Guidelines on Implementation of Wetland Conservation Subsidy Projects in 2010, and a special wetland ecological conservation subsidy of 0.2 billion Yuan was firstly allocated for subsidizing 20 Ramsar sites, 16 wetland nature reserves and 7 national wetland parks to implement wetland monitoring and ecological restoration projects. In 2011, another 0.2 billion Yuan was allocated to support the conservation and restoration of Ramsar site, wetland nature reserves and national wetland parks. This initiative is a milestone for wetland conservation in China and will have a profound impact on wetland conservation in the future.

#### 6. Rapid development of wetland parks and other conservation approaches

From 2008-2010, 127 pilot national wetland parks and 74 local wetland parks were designated, covering an area of 680,869 ha and 176,696 ha respectively. Up to now, a total of 247 wetland parks were established for different types of wetlands, with a total area of 1.161 million ha. Among them, 145 are pilot national wetland parks with a total area of 0.935 million ha, and 102 are local wetland parks with a total area of 225,000 ha. To standardize the national wetland park development and management, the State Forestry Administration promulgated National Wetland Park Construction Guideline and National Wetland Park Evaluation Criteria in 2008, and National Wetland Park Management Measures, Guidelines of Master Planning for National Wetland Parks and Assessment and Accreditation Measures of Pilot National Wetland Parks in 2010. In 2010, China's national wetland park official logo was selected and officially registered in the Trade Mark Office of China's State Administration for Industry and Commerce. Meanwhile, the Interim Measures on Use of Official Logo of National Wetland Parks was compiled. With all the effort, wetland parks are playing an increasingly important role in China's wetland conservation system.

In the past 3 years, 180 national Aquatic Germplasm Reserves were established, covering various wetland types including bays, reefs, coastal mudflats etc. and different river and lake ecosystems in basins of Pearl River, Yangtze River, Yellow River and Heilong River. Four national Aquatic Species Nature Reserves were established to protect pearl oyster, coral reefs, *Brachymystax lenok tsinlingensis*, sea turtle, nautilus and other rare and endangered aquatic species.

#### 7. Scientific and technological support further strengthened and the 12th Five-Year Plan on wetland conservation and other wetlands-related plans developed

To strengthen the scientific and technological support for wetland management, in June 2009, the State Forestry Administration formed the National Expert Committee on Wetland Science and Technology, which consists of 8 academicians and 43 renowned experts from different disciplines, and the Technical Review Committee for National Wetland Parks composed of more than 30 experts. These committees are to provide technical support for science-based decision making. In November 2010, the State Forestry Administration approved the proposal on setting up a National Technical Centre for Wetland Conservation and Restoration and stepped up its collaboration with the Chinese Academy of Sciences on wetland conservation and restoration technology. The efforts have raised the technical standard of China's wetland conservation, management and ecological restoration.

Based on the successful implementation of the Implementation Plan for China National Wetland Conservation Programme (2005-2010), The State Forestry Administration together with 9 other ministries and departments have compiled Implementation Plan for China National Wetland Conservation Programme (2011-2015) and submitted it to the State Council. Once the plan is approved, more funds would be channeled to conservation, restoration and sustainable use of important wetlands, infrastructure construction for wetland conservation, awareness raising and training, wetland resource survey, monitoring, research and evaluation, and expanded demonstration of wise use of wetlands. Through these efforts, healthy development of wetland conservation and management will be promoted in the 12th Five-Year Plan period.

The State Council approved National Marine Development Plan Outline (2006-2010) in February 2008, which explicitly stated that conservation, restoration and rehabilitation projects on key ecosystems e.g. mangroves, sea-grass beds, coral reefs and coastal

wetlands should be prioritized.

The Ministry of Land and Resources together with other relevant government departments compiled National Land Use Master Plan Outline (2006-2020), which was approved by the State Council in October 2008. The guideline explicitly stipulated that the utilization and exploitation of natural forest, grassland and wetlands should be strictly controlled.

In November 2010, the State Council approved National Integrated Water Resource Plan. The plan has prioritized living, production and ecological use of water, which takes into full account of ecological water needs, especially the water needs of wetlands. In 2011, The Central Party Committee and the State Council Decision on Expediting Water Conservancy Reform and Development has stated that water and soil conservancy and water ecological conservation should be well organized; water ecological restoration should be continuously promoted in ecologically vulnerable watersheds; water environment improvement should be expedited in seriously polluted rivers and lakes; protection of key ecological reserves, water conservation areas, headwater areas and wetlands should be strengthened. The Decision has now become the guideline for integrated water resources management in China.

The State Council approved China National Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan (2011-2030) in September 2009, which listed wetlands as prioritized ecosystems for protection.

The National Main Functional Area Zoning Plan for Building an Efficient, Coordinated and Sustainable Land Development Pattern was issued by the State Council in December 2010, in which key wetlands were listed as areas of restricted development and prohibited development.

The 12th National Economic and Social Development Five-Year Plan approved by the 11th National People's Congress on March 14th, 2011, explicitly required the protection of forest, grassland, rivers, lakes and wetlands.

#### 8. Impressive progress made in CEPA

In the past 3 years, the forestry administrative authorities at different levels and other relevant government agencies, civil societies, media and local communities have jointly carried out CEPA activities of various kinds. These activities have raised public awareness on wetland conservation and created a desirable social atmosphere to promote the healthy development of wetland conservation.

Firstly, awareness raising activities are organized on 'World Wetlands Day' each year, focusing on the theme of that year. Collaboration is carried out with People's Daily, China Central TV Station etc. to raise public awareness on wetland conservation by publishing featured articles, making featured films, disseminating printed posters, etc. These activities have widely publicized the importance of wetland conservation.

Secondly, various forums and campaigns are used to give publicity to wetland conservation. In the years of 2008, 2009 and 2010, the State Forestry Administration and WWF organized the Yangtze River Wetland Conservation Network Annual Meetings in the lower and middle reaches of Yangtze River in Jiangsu, Anhui and Hubei provinces respectively. These meetings have forged wide consensus on Yangtze River wetland

conservation. On June 11th, 2009, the Population, Resources and Environment Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), the State Forestry Administration and the Hebei provincial Political Consultative Conference organized Hengshui Lake Wetland Conservation and Development Forum in Beijing. On April 20th, 2009, the Shanghai Municipal People's Government and the Ministry of Water Resources organized the third round of the 'Yangtze River Forum'. On June 3rd, 2009, the Office for Wetland Conservation and Management of the State Forestry Administration (the Convention on Wetlands Management Office, P.R.China), Shanghai Municipal Forestry Bureau and the Nature Conservancy organized East China Wetland Migratory Birds Conservation Network Seminar. From April to November, 2009, the Library Society of China and the Central Radio and TV University organized the 2009 Wetland Reading and Cross Country Wetland Tour, which not only disseminated wetland conservation and management basics, but also raised societal concern on wetlands and awareness on wetland conservation. In November 2009, the State Forestry Administration and the Zhejiang Provincial Government co-organized the first China Wetland Culture Festival, which is considered as the wetland conservation awareness raising activity with the biggest scale, deepest influence and richest content. Currently, the Chinese government is actively preparing for the second China Wetland Culture Festival, combined with the Asian Wetland Forum.

Thirdly, the construction of China's wetland museums and other wetland education centres have been promoted. In 2009, China Wetland Museum was built in Hangzhou City, which is the biggest museum with the single theme on wetlands in the world. With free entry, since its opening, it has attracted over 800,000 visitors. With China Wetland Museum as an example, some provinces and nature reserves have established or prepared to build more than 20 museums and education centres to demonstrate wetlands' ecological functions and benefits. A wetland museum association has been set up and more than 20 wetland museums are working together to jointly promote China's wetland conservation publicity and education.

Fourthly, public wetland conservation promotion activities have been organized. The number of informants and volunteers of Wetland China website maintained by the State Forestry Administration's Office for Wetland Conservation and Management (the Convention on Wetlands Management Office, P.R.China) has been increasing unceasingly. Since the launching of the website, it has published more than 20,000 messages annually, with the clicking rate and traffic index ranking high amongst other governmental websites. The State Forestry Administration and other relevant government departments jointly organized '2010 Coastal Wetland Ten Thousand Li (5000 km) Tour'. The 7 central media including the People's Daily and 4 departmental media were closely following the trip, which created active participation and successive exposure of media and positive societal effects. The 'Wetland Ambassador Action' organized by the State Forestry Administration and WWF annually attracts large group of teenagers and student associations, with successful educational effects.

Fifth, with the support from the Ramsar Small Grants Fund, National Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA) Plan for Wetland Protection in China was developed.

#### 9. Considerable achievements made in Ramsar implementation and international collaboration

In 2009, Hangzhou Xixi National Wetland Park was listed as a Ramsar site, which made the total number of Ramsar sites in China to 37. In 2011, China has designated 4 other wetlands to be listed as Ramsar sites, which will make the country's Ramsar site to reach

41.

Annual Memorandum of Understanding was signed with Ramsar Convention's International Organization Partners i.e. Wetlands International (WI) and WWF, and the Nature Conservancy (TNC) of U.S., Rare Conservation, Conservation International and other international organizations. In 2009, 'China-Iraqi Wetlands Collaboration Agreement' was signed with the Iraqi government. In 2008, in the Energy and Environment Collaboration Framework of the China-U.S. Economic Strategic Dialogue, wetland conservation was listed as one of the five priority areas. It has formed the 'China-U.S. Wetland Collaboration 10-Year Action Plan', under which a round of exchange visits were completed in 2010. Further collaboration has been planned on non-state-owned wetland restoration mechanism and successful case study, wetland conservation and restoration.

The Wetland Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use in China Project funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) via United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and implemented by the State Forestry Administration was successfully accomplished in 2009. The collaboration with the Australian government on Wetland Management Policy, Guidelines and Capacity Building Project, and with the German government on Wetland Biodiversity Conservation in China Project were launched in 2010 respectively. Now these projects are under implementation according to the project work plans.

The State Forestry Administration, Jiangsu Provincial People's Government, Japan's Environment Department, Japan's Ramsar Centre and Wetlands International are planning for holding the Asian Wetland Forum (Wuxi) in Wuxi City, Jiangsu Province in October 2011. The forum is expected to be the biggest international wetland conservation gathering taking place in China since the last COP.

B. What have been the most successful aspects of implementation of the Convention?



#### 1. Wetland Conservation Programme with significant achievement

During the 11th Five-Year Plan period (2006-2010), the State Forestry Administration together with other relevant government departments earnestly implemented the Implementation Plan for China National Wetland Conservation Programme (2005-2010). With 1.4 billion Yuan of central government investment and a local matching fund of over 1.7 billion Yuan, 205 projects have been implemented in four aspects e.g. wetland conservation, restoration, sustainable use demonstration and capacity building. These projects have effectively restored and improved the ecological conditions of the degraded wetlands in the project sites. Conservation and restoration demonstration models of the various wetland types including lakes, marshes and coastal wetlands were gradually established, which have set good examples for conservation and restoration of important wetland sites.

#### 2. A new stable wetland conservation financing mechanism was established

Based on the existing invest from the National Wetland Conservation Programme, a special fund on wetland conservation was established by the central government. The Ministry of Finance and the State Forestry Administration jointly issued the Guidelines on Implementation of Wetland Conservation Subsidy Projects in 2010, with initial 0.2 billion Yuan of Special Fund for wetland monitoring and ecological restoration projects. In 2011, the central government has budgeted another 0.2 billion Yuan for wetland conservation and the investment mechanism has become a stable funding source for China's wetland conservation.

#### 3. The second national wetland survey is under implementation with steady progress

The Second National Wetland Resource Survey launched in 2009 is an ecological resources survey with strategical significance in China. It is expected to complete in 2012. The survey result will provide ample data support for science-based decision-making on wetland conservation and management. It will facilitate China's better implementation of Ramsar Convention and development of appropriate wetland conservation regulations and policies.

#### 4. Wetland legislation with new progress

In 2008, the Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region promulgated its provincial wetland conservation regulation. In 2010, Sichuan Province, Jilin Provinces and Tibet Autonomous Region promulgated their provincial wetland conservation regulations. A few other provinces have paved the ground for the promulgation of their provincial wetland regulations. Up to now, 11 provincial wetland conservation regulations have been promulgated and implemented. At the national level, the State Forestry Administration has amended the draft National Wetlands Conservation Regulation according to the suggestions and recommendations of the State Council Legislative Office in an endeavor for early promulgation of the regulation.

#### 5. Wetland Conservation has been incorporated into other relevant national strategic plans

The State Forestry Administration together with the other 9 ministries has compiled the Implementation Plan for China National Wetland Conservation Programme (2011-2015), which has been submitted to the State Council for approval.

The State Council approved National Marine Development Plan Outline (2006-2010) in February 2008, which explicitly stated that conservation, restoration and rehabilitation projects on key ecosystems e.g. mangroves, sea-grass beds, coral reefs and coastal wetlands should be prioritized.

The Ministry of Land and Resources together with other relevant government departments compiled National Land Use Master Plan Outline (2006-2020), which was approved by the State Council in October 2008. The guideline explicitly stipulated that the utilization and exploitation of natural forest, grassland and wetlands should be strictly controlled.

The State Council approved China National Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan (2011-2030) in September 2009, which listed wetlands as prioritized ecosystems for protection.

In November 2010, the State Council approved National Integrated Water Resource Plan. The plan has prioritized living, production and ecological use of water, which takes into full account of ecological water needs, especially the water needs of wetlands. In 2011, The Central Party Committee and the State Council Decision on Expediting Water Conservancy Reform and Development has emphasized wetland conservation

The National Main Functional Area Zoning Plan for Building an Efficient, Coordinated and Sustainable Land Development Pattern was issued by the State Council in December 2010, in which key wetlands were listed as areas of restricted development and prohibited development.

The 12th National Economic and Social Development Five-Year Plan approved by the 11th National People's Congress on March 14th, 2011, explicitly required the protection of forest, grassland, rivers, lakes and wetlands".

#### C. What have been the greatest difficulties in implementing the Convention?

1. How to raise the public awareness on wetland conservation, especially the awareness of decision makers at different levels.
2. A complete and comprehensive national wetland conservation legislation hasn't been promulgated yet.
3. How to establish efficient wetland ecological compensation mechanism.
4. Urgent scientific and technological support is needed on various subjects, such as research on restoration technology of different types of degraded wetland ecosystems, ecological functions of different types of wetland ecosystems, wetland biogeochemical cycle, relationship between wetlands and global climate change, wetland conservation and wise use models, etc.
5. How to improve capacity for better implementation of Ramsar Convention.

#### D. What are the priorities for future implementation of the Convention?

1. Expediting the establishment and improvement of wetland conservation policy and legislative system; actively promoting the promulgation of national wetland conservation regulation; strengthening researches on wetland ecological function compensation system and regular water supply mechanisms for maintaining wetland ecological functions. Strengthening wetland research and monitoring, wetland classification and classification management system, wetland nature reserve function zoning, the wetlands' role in main functional zones, wetland water replenishment mechanism research and practice. Striving for a standardized, improved research, monitoring and evaluation system, exploring on establishing a domestic dynamic wetland early warning system to monitor wetland conditions scientifically.
2. Organizing the implementation of the Implementation Plan for China National Wetland Conservation Programme (2011-2015) through systematic and integrated approaches to realize the goal of wetland conservation. Further improving the implementation of projects supported by central government subsidies on wetland conservation to maximize their benefits. Actively expediting salvage protection of ecologically fragile wetlands by establishing nature reserves, wetland parks, small wetland conservation areas etc. to

improve wetland conservation system and increase the area of protected wetlands and restore wetland functions.

3. Earnestly organizing the second national wetland resource survey to set up a national dynamic wetland monitoring system for science-based decision making, facilitating prompt decision-making. Further undertaking ecological condition survey and boundary defining of 173 wetlands of national importance listed in the China National Wetland Conservation Action Plan. Further strengthening the conservation and management of existing Ramsar sites, maintaining their ecological features, while designating candidate Ramsar sites that comply with the criteria.

4. Using the opportunities of World Wetlands Day and China's Wetland Cultural Festival and the Asian Wetland Forum (Wuxi) to widely disseminate China's wetland conservation achievement, further undertake wetland conservation education, raise wetland conservation awareness of the society especially of officials from different levels, encourage public and civil society participation in wetland conservation. Actively incorporating wetland conservation into existing institutional system, mechanisms and policies, and mainstreaming wetland conservation into economic and social development practices.

5. Strengthening the organization and coordination of government departments which are relevant to Ramsar Convention implementation. Establishing smooth inter-sectoral communication and effective collaboration mechanism, striving to create synergy to ensure the sound implementation of relevant Ramsar strategic plans and enhance capacity to implement the Convention.

E. Does the Contracting Party have any proposals concerning adjustments to the 2009-2015 Strategic Plan?

NO

F. Does the Contracting Party have any recommendations concerning implementation assistance from the Ramsar Secretariat?

1. Provide more technical guidance, for instance, in drafting wetland ecological evaluation guideline, Ramsar Sites monitoring technical guideline, wetland restoration technical guideline, and provide technical support and successful cases for restoration and wise use of different wetland types.

2. By information sharing, training, technical support and project aid to enhance the capacity of developing countries in its capacity for Convention implementation. Make full use of the regional wetland training centres and provide regular training for related personnel of the contracting parties in a planned fashion.

3. Make clear the legal status of the Ramsar Convention and try to use GEF as the funding mechanism for the Ramsar Convention.

4. Further strengthen the relationship and communication between Ramsar Convention and other relevant conventions, such as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Convention on Biological Diversity, etc.

G. Does the Contracting Party have any recommendations concerning implementation assistance from the Convention's International Organisation Partners (IOPs)?

Strengthen the communication and collaboration among the international organization partners, Secretariat of Ramsar Convention, and contracting parties. Provide more technical support and funding for the implementation of the convention.

H. How can national implementation of the Ramsar Convention be better linked with implementation of other multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs), especially those in the "Biodiversity cluster" (Ramsar, Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD),



Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), CITES, and World Heritage Convention), and UNCCD and UNFCCC?

Enhance the role of National Implementing Ramsar Convention Committee to strengthen the coordination and information communication among the leading agencies of different conventions, and among the leading agencies and other relevant agencies. From the perspective of promoting China's wetland conservation and realizing the strategical goal of the Convention, establish the coordination and collaboration mechanism in implementing relevant conventions, and via jointly implementing international collaboration projects to strengthen the communication and coordination amongst different conventions.

I. How can Ramsar Convention implementation be better linked with the implementation of water policy/strategy and other strategies in the country (e.g., sustainable development, energy, extractive industries, poverty reduction, sanitation, food security, biodiversity)?

Member agencies of National Implementing RAMSAR Convention Committee maintain routine communication and hold regular meetings so that the State Forestry Administration, the leading implementation agency of Ramsar Convention in China, is enabled to keep abreast of relevant policies, strategies and plans that are formulated in other agencies and provide improvement suggestions from wetland conservation perspective. Thus different departments could mainstream wetland conservation into their daily work and take into account wetland conservation related issues within their responsibilities. For example, in the past 3 years, the State Forestry Administration actively participated in technical review of important watershed and regional plans, such as National Integrated Water Resource Plan and Poyang Lake Ecological Economic Zone Planning, and 27 provincial land use master plans, actively participated in the compilation of Bohai Environmental Protection Master Plan, compiled wetland action plan on climate change which was included into the Forestry Action Plan on Climate Change. In general, wetland conservation is one of the important parts of the national fundamental development strategy. Therefore, the disadvantages, risks on wetland conservation and the possible impact of wetland conservation on other aspects have been considered and evaluated from an integrated perspective, which are closely connected with other aspects of national development strategy.

J. Does the Contracting Party have any other general comments on the implementation of the Convention?

The information communication, exchange visits and information communication mechanism amongst contracting parties shall be strengthened.

## SECTION 3: INDICATOR QUESTIONS & FURTHER IMPLEMENTATION INFORMATION

### Guidance for filling in this section

1. For each “indicator question”, please select one answer from the “drop-down” list in the yellow box.
2. If you wish to add any additional information on a specific indicator, please provide this information in the green “free-text” boxes below the indicator questions.
3. If you wish to amend any of the text you have put in a green “free-text” box, it is recommended that you cut-and-paste the existing text into a separate file, make the amendments, and then paste the revised text back into the green box.
4. Some characters used in the free text box prevent the automatic data entry into our database designed for handling and analysing National Reports. For that reason, please do not use the characters “ ”, [ ], °°°° in the free text box.
5. To assist Contracting Parties in referring to relevant information they provided in their National Report to COP10, for each indicator below (where appropriate) a cross-reference is provided to the equivalent indicator(s) in the COP10 NRF, shown thus: {x.x.x}
6. Where appropriate, a cross-reference is also provided to the relevant Key Result Area (KRA) relating to Contracting Parties in the Strategic Plan 2009-2015.
7. Only Strategic Plan 2009-2015 Strategies and KRAs for which there are significant implementation actions for Contracting Parties are included in this reporting format; those parts of the Strategic Plan that do not refer directly to Parties are omitted.

## GOAL 1. THE WISE USE OF WETLANDS

**STRATEGY 1.1 Wetland inventory and assessment.** *Describe, assess and monitor the extent and condition of all types of wetlands as defined by the Ramsar Convention and wetland resources at relevant scales, in order to inform and underpin implementation of the Convention, in particular in the application of its provisions concerning the wise use of all wetlands.*

1.1.1 Does your country have a comprehensive National Wetland Inventory? {1.1.1} KRA 1.1.i	A - Yes
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<p>1.1.1 Additional information:          In 2000, China National Wetland Conservation Action Plan was issued, which for the first time listed 173 wetlands of national importance. In 2003, China completed its first national wetland resource survey and published the survey data. Meanwhile, a database was built to include China’s wetland list and other relevant information. The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region government regularly updates wetland survey data and information for government departments’ use.</p>	
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1.1.2 Is wetland inventory data and information maintained and made accessible to all stakeholders? {1.1.2} KRA 1.1.ii	A - Yes
<p>1.1.2 Additional information:</p> <p>The State Forestry Administration's Wetland Resource Monitoring Centre is responsible for maintaining wetland inventory data and other relevant data. Relevant stakeholders could get access to the information. In 2008, China launched its second national wetland resource survey. According to the plan, the wetland inventory data will be fully updated after the completion of the survey in 2012.</p>	

<p>1.1.3 Has the condition* of wetlands in your country, overall, changed since the previous triennium?{1.1.3 &amp; 1.1.4}</p> <p>a) Ramsar Sites b) wetlands generally</p> <p>Please comment on the nature of the information on which your answer is based in the green free- text box below. If there is a difference between inland and coastal wetland situations, please describe. If you are able to, please comment on what are the principal driver(s) of the change(s).</p> <p>* "Condition" corresponds to ecological character, as defined by the Convention</p>	<p>P - Status improved O - No change</p>
<p>1.1.3 a) Additional information: Additional information: According to the report on Ecological Conditions of Ramsar Sites in China, to be published shortly, the overall situation of the conditions of Ramsar sites in China is improving.</p>	
<p>1.1.3 b) Additional information: The second national wetland resource survey has been completed in 15 provinces, which comprising half of the whole territory of China. According to the analysis of the survey result so far, the general conditions of the wetlands in China remain stable.</p>	

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 1.1 implementation:

**STRATEGY 1.3 Policy, legislation and institutions.** *Develop and implement policies, legislation, and practices, including growth and development of appropriate institutions, in all Contracting Parties, to ensure that the wise use provisions of the Convention are being effectively applied.*

<p>1.3.1 Is a National Wetland Policy (or equivalent instrument) in place? {1.2.1} KRA 1.3.i (If "Yes", please give the title and date of the policy in the green text box)</p>	A - Yes
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1.3.1 Additional information: Since the last COP, the Implementation Plan for China National Wetland Conservation Programme (2011-2015) promulgated in June 2005 has been implemented successfully. The compilation of the Implementation Plan for China National Wetland Conservation Programme (2011-2015) has been completed and will be approved by the State Council in late 2011. In May 2010, the Ministry of Finance and the State Forestry Administration issued Guidelines on Implementation of Wetland Conservation Subsidy Projects in 2010 which stipulates the scope and the purpose of use of the 0.2 billion Yuan subsidy allocated for wetland conservation the same year. In 2011, the central government has decided to allocate another 0.2 billion Yuan to support wetland conservation.

1.3.2 Does the National Wetland Policy (or equivalent instrument) incorporate any 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) targets and actions? {1.2.2}

A - Yes

1.3.2 Additional information: The Implementation Plan for China National Wetland Conservation Programme (2005-2010) is an important national wetland policy issued and implemented by the Chinese government since the last COP. The Plan includes the goals and actions of the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development, such as poverty alleviation, conservation and amangement of natural resources which serves as the basis for economic and social development.

1.3.3 Have wetland issues been incorporated into other national strategies and planning processes, including:

- a) Poverty eradication strategies
  - b) Water ressource management and water efficiency plans
  - c) Coastal and marine resource management plans
  - d) National forest programmes
  - e) National strategies for sustainable development
  - f) National policies or measures on agriculture
  - g) National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans
- {1.2.3} KRA 1.3.i

A - Yes

A - Yes

A - Yes

A - Yes

A - Yes

A - Yes

A - Yes

## 1.3.3 Additional information:

Guidelines on Promoting Stable Development of Agriculture and Continuous Growth of Farmers' Income in 2009 issued by the CPC Central Committee and the State Council in January 2009 (CPC (2009) No. 1 Document) is an important document on policies regarding poverty alleviation and agriculture, in which, the launching of wetland ecological benefit compensation pilots is required.

In November 2010, the State Council approved National Integrated Water Resource Plan, the plan has prioritized use of water for domestic, production and ecological purposes, taking full consideration of the water needs for ecological purposes, especially wetlands' water demand. In 2011, the Central Party Committee and the State Council Decision on Expediting Water Conservancy Reform and Development stated the importance for improving soil and water conservation, continuously promoting ecological restoration of fragile watersheds, expediting the aquatic environment governance for seriously polluted rivers and lakes, and strengthening conservation of important ecological reserves, water conservation areas, headwater area, wetlands. The decision is the guiding principle for integrated water resource management.

The State Council approved National Marine Development Plan Outline (2006-2010) on February 2008, which explicitly stated that conservation, restoration and rehabilitation projects on key ecosystems e.g. mangroves, sea-grass beds, coral reefs and coastal wetland should be prioritized.

In November 2009, the State Forestry Administration issued Forestry Action Plan on Climate Change, in which wetland conservation and restoration are listed as one of the prioritized actions.

The National Economic and Social Development 12th Five-Year Plan approved by the 11th National People's Congress on March 14th, 2011, explicitly required to protect forest, grassland, rivers, lakes and wetlands.

In October 2011, the Ministry of Agriculture issued China's Agricultural Wetland Conservation and Utilization Plan (2011-2015).

In September 2010, the State Council approved China Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan (2011-2030), in which wetlands are listed as priority ecosystems for conservation.

1.3.4 Are Strategic Environmental Assessment practices applied when reviewing policies, programmes and plans that may impact upon wetlands? {1.2.5} KRA 1.3.ii

A - Yes

1.3.4 Additional information: The Regulation of Environmental Impact Assessment on Planning was put into effect on October 1st, 2009. According to the Regulation, environmental impact assessment, including impact assessment on wetlands is required for the integrated plans and special plans developed by relevant departments of the State Council, municipal governments and their relevant departments.

1.3.5 For any project development (new buildings, new roads, extractive industry, etc.) that may affect wetlands, are Environmental Impact Assessments made?

A - Yes

1.3.5 Additional information: According to the Environmental Impact Assessment Law of the People's Republic of China, construction projects in the territory of China that may have an impact on environment need to carry out environmental impact assessments.

1.3.6 Have any amendments to existing legislation been made to reflect Ramsar commitments?

C - In progress

1.3.6 Additional information: China is now in the process of promoting the promulgation of National Wetland Conservation Regulation.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 1.3 implementation:

**STRATEGY 1.4: Cross-sectoral recognition of wetland services.** *Increase recognition of and attention in decision-making to the significance of wetlands for reasons of biodiversity conservation, water supply, coastal protection, integrated coastal zone management, flood defence, climate change mitigation and/or adaptation, food security, poverty eradication, tourism, cultural heritage, and scientific research, by developing and disseminating methodologies to achieve wise use of wetlands.*

1.4.1 Has an assessment been conducted of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by Ramsar Sites? {1.3.1} KRA 1.4.ii

C - Partly

1.4.1 Additional information: The Chinese Academy of Sciences, in its national key basic research (973) program: China's Main Terrestrial Ecosystem Service and Ecological Security(January 2009-August 2013,) set Wetland Ecosystem Service Mechanism and Regional Effects as its third research task. A few of Ramsar sites, such as Dongting Lake and Poyang Lake were selected as the case study sites for research on wetland ecosystem service in terms of their temporal and spacial variation features and regional ecological effects, etc.

1.4.2 Have wetland programmes and/or projects that contribute to poverty alleviation objectives and/or food and water security plans been implemented? {1.3.2} KRA 1.4.i

A - Yes

1.4.2 Additional information: The 205 wetland conservation and restoration projects during the 11th Five-Year Plan period have contributed to poverty alleviation, food and water security goals. The Three River Headwaters' Ecological Conservation and Construction Project in Qinghai Province has achieved remarkable results through adopting such measures as removing grazing, grazing and rodent control, mountain closure for forest regeneration, desertification control, water and soil conservation, etc. which greatly slows down the degradation of the pasture with initial effects on vegetation recovery. The implementation of the projects on building small townships, pen rearing of cattle, providing technical trainings to farmers and herders, drinking water projects and energy project, etc. have improved local people's living and production conditions and increased local employment opportunity and income.

1.4.3 Has national action been taken to apply the guiding principles on cultural values of wetlands (Resolutions VIII.19 and IX.21)?  
{1.3.4} KRA 1.4.iii

A - Yes

1.4.3 Additional information: Clause 5.1.5: cultural conservation planning in the Guideline on Master Planning for National Wetland Parks promulgated in 2010 requires that wetland park's cultural origin be investigated and analyzed with indepth understanding on wetland culture and its content and detailed measures proposed for conserving and promoting the culture of the wetlands. Fish pond culture is recognised as a wise use of wetland. The introduction of cultural processes and ecological services of wetlands in Hong Kong are included as part of the educational programmes of the Hong Kong Wetland Park.

1.4.4 Have socio-economic and cultural values of wetlands been included in the management planning for Ramsar Sites and other wetlands? {4.1.5} KRA 1.4.iii

A - Yes

1.4.4 Additional information (if "Yes" or "Partly", please indicate, if known, how many Ramsar Sites and their names): The socio-economic and cultural values have been taken into account in the management plans or master plans for the 37 ramsar sites.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 1.4 implementation:

**STRATEGY 1.5 Recognition of the role of the Convention.** *Raise the profile of the Convention by highlighting its capacity as a unique mechanism for wetland ecosystem management at all levels; promote the usefulness of the Convention as a possible implementation mechanism to meet the goals and targets of other global conventions and processes*

1.5.1 Have you taken steps to ensure that your national focal points for other environmental conventions are contributing to the application of Ramsar Convention implementation mechanisms? KRA 1.5.i

A - Yes

1.5.1 Additional information: By organizing annual meeting of National Implementing Ramsar Convention Committee, and inviting national focal points of other environmental conventions to attend Ramsar Convention Conference of the Parties and other Convention implementation activities, the national focal points for other environmental conventions are contributing to Ramsar Convention implementation mechanisms.

1.5.2 Have you brought the "Changwon Declaration" (Resolution X.3) to the attention of your:

- a. head of state
- b. parliament
- c. private sector
- d. civil society

B - No  
A - Yes  
A - Yes  
A - Yes



1.5.2 Additional information: Special report on the achievement of the Ramsar Convention COP 10 including the Changwon Declaration is submitted to the State Council, National People's Congress and the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference. Meanwhile, through different media channels, the information about Changwon Declaration is disseminated to the public.

1.5.3 Has the "Changwon Declaration" been used to inform the positions of your national delegations to other external processes (such as the UN Commission on Sustainable Development, UN agencies, multilateral environmental agreements, and the World Water Forum)?

A - Yes

1.5.3 Additional information: The member agencies of the National Implementing Ramsar Convention Committee are informed about 'Changwon Declaration', some of which are responsible for organizing delegations to other external processes.

1.5.4 Have you translated and disseminated the "Changwon Declaration" into local languages relevant for your country?

A - Yes

1.5.4 Additional information: Please referring to the additional information in 1.5.2.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 1.5 implementation:

**STRATEGY 1.6 Science-based management of wetlands.** *Promote successful implementation of the wise use concept by ensuring that national policies and wetland management plans are based on the best available scientific knowledge, including technical and traditional knowledge.*

1.6.1 Has research to inform wetland policies and plans been undertaken in your country on:

- a. agriculture-wetland interactions
- b. climate change
- c. valuation of ecosystem services

KRA 1.6.i

A - Yes

A - Yes

A - Yes



1.6.1 Additional information: In October 2010, the Ministry of Agriculture issued National Agricultural Wetland Conservation and Utilization Plan (2011-2015). In Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, fish farming is regarded as a wetlands' wise use approach.

In Hong Kong a project that aims to conserve freshwater agricultural habitats and to enhance the biodiversity particularly the avifauna and freshwater wetland dependent species through the efforts of local farmers and NGOs is going on.

In November 2009, the State Forestry Administration issued Forestry Action Plan on Climate Change, in which wetland conservation and restoration is regarded as a prioritized action.

The Chinese Academy of Sciences launched a special scientific and technical program: Tackling Climate Change --- Carbon Balance Certification and Related Issues in which a plan is made for research on typical wetland ecosystem carbon storage rate under its fifth project: the ecosystem carbon sink status quo, rate, mechanism and potential. In its second project: The Emission of methane and nitrous oxide in Land Use and Animal Husbandry, a plan is worked out for research on the anthropogenic activities' impact on the emission of CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O from wetlands. On the assessment of ecosystem service, the national key basic research (973) program: China's Main Terrestrial Ecosystem Service and Ecological Security(January 2009-August 2013) set Wetland Ecosystem Service Mechanism and Regional Effects as its third task.

The China Meteorological Administration has analyzed climate and climate change impact on wetland ecosystems in northeast China with a time scale of 30 years and proposed appropriate mechanisms and meteorological countermeasures for slowing down wetland degradation.

1.6.2 Have all wetland management plans been based on sound scientific research, including on potential threats to the wetlands? KRA 1.6.ii

A - Yes

1.6.2 Additional information: The National Wetland Conservation Five-Year Plans and individual wetland management plans and master plans are based on scientific research. They were drafted by research institutes and professional planning and design institutes, subject to experts review before implementation. Renewal of the Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar Site Management Plan had taken into account relevant scientific literature and ecological baseline including the data collected from the Baseline Ecological Monitoring Programme for the Ramsar Site and the Waterbird monitoring Programme for the Deep Bay area. .

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 1.6 implementation:

**STRATEGY 1.7 Integrated Water Resources Management.** *Ensure that policies and implementation of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), applying an ecosystem-based approach, are included in the planning activities in all Contracting Parties and in their decision-making processes, particularly concerning groundwater management, catchment/river basin management, coastal and nearshore marine zone planning and climate change mitigation and/or adaptation activities.*

<p>1.7.1 Has the Convention's water-related guidance (see Resolution IX.1. Annex C) been helpful in informing decision-making related to water resource planning and management? {1.4.1} KRA 1.7.i</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>
<p>1.7.1 Additional information: The National Integrated Water Resources Plan was approved by the State Council in November 2010, in which the need of water for ecological purpose, especially, the need for replenishing wetlands has been taken into full consideration. In 2011, the Central Party Committee and the State Council Decision on Expediting Water Conservancy Reform and Development stated the importance for improving soil and water conservation, continuously promoting ecological restoration of fragile watersheds, expediting the aquatic environment governance for seriously polluted river and lakes and strengthening conservation for important ecological reserves, water conservation areas, headwater areas and wetlands. The two documents have taken into account and applied the Convention's water-related guidance.</p>	
<p>1.7.2 Does your country's water governance and management treat wetlands as natural water infrastructure integral to water resource management at the scale of river basins? KRA 1.7.ii</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>
<p>1.7.2 Additional information: The water administrative authority in China has fully recognized wetlands' important functions in flood control, water conservation and improving water quality. Therefore, wetland conservation and restoration has been included in relevant water resource conservation and utilization plans. In November 2010, the State Council approved National Integrated Water Resource Plan. The plan prioritized the use of water for domestic, production and ecological purposes, which takes into consideration the amount of water needed for ecological purpose, especially wetlands' water demand. In 2011, the Central Party Committee and the State Council Decision on Expediting Water Conservancy Reform and Development states the importance for improving soil and water conservation, continuously promoting ecological restoration of fragile watersheds, expediting the aquatic environment governance for seriously polluted rivers and lakes and strengthening conservation for important ecological reserves, water conservation areas, headwater area and wetlands. The decision is the guiding principle for integrated water resource management.</p>	
<p>1.7.3 Have Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness (CEPA) expertise and tools been incorporated into catchment/river basin planning and management (see Resolution X.19)? {1.4.2}</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>
<p>1.7.3 Additional information: Expertise and tools for public communication, education, participation and awareness raising(CEPA) have been incorporated in watershed management in China. For instance, in the Yangtze River Forum and Yangtze River Wetland Conservation Network, raising public awareness on water resource and wetland conservation is one of the priorities. The water department has made raising of public water-saving awareness and promoting water-saving society as its priority task.</p>	

1.7.4 Has the Convention's guidance on wetlands and coastal zone management (Annex to Resolution VIII.4) been used/applied in Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) planning and decision-making? {1.4.3}

A - Yes

1.7.4 Additional information: The State Council approved National Marine Development Plan Outline in 2008, which has incorporated and applied the Convention's guidance on wetlands and coastal zone management.

1.7.5 Has your country established policies or guidelines for enhancing the role of wetlands in mitigation and/or adaptation to climate change? KRA 1.7.iii

A - Yes

1.7.5 Additional information: In November 2009, the State Forestry Administration issued Forestry Action Plan on Climate Change, which emphasized the role of wetlands in mitigation and/or adaptation to climate change. In addition, wetland conservation and restoration is listed as one of the priority activities.

1.7.6 Has your country formulated plans or projects to sustain and enhance the role of wetlands and water in supporting and maintaining viable farming systems? KRA 1.7.v

A - Yes

1.7.6 Additional information: The National Integrated Water Resources Plan approved by the State Council in November 2010 and the National Agricultural Wetland Conservation and Utilization Plan (2011-2015) issued by the Ministry of Agriculture in October 2011 have been conducive to sustaining and enhancing the role of wetlands and water body in supporting and maintaining viable farming systems.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 1.7 implementation:

**STRATEGY 1.8 Wetland restoration.** *Identify priority wetlands and wetland systems where restoration or rehabilitation would be beneficial and yield long-term environmental, social or economic benefits, and implement the necessary measures to recover these sites and systems.*

1.8.1 Have priority sites for wetland restoration been identified? {1.5.1} KRA 1.8.i

A - Yes

1.8.1 Additional information: The National Wetland Conservation Programme (2002-2030) has identified prioritized wetlands for restoration in the middle and long term. The Implementation Plan for China National Wetland Conservation Programme for the 11th Five-Year Plan period (2006-2010) and the 12th Five-Year Plan period (2011-2015), have identified prioritized wetlands for restoration. In Hong Kong, areas of degraded wetlands have been identified within the Wetland Buffer Area as stipulated in the Town Planning Guidelines as target areas for wetland restoration.

1.8.2 Have wetland restoration/rehabilitation programmes or projects been implemented? {1.5.1} KRA 1.8.i

A - Yes

1.8.2 Additional information: During the 11th Five-Year Plan period (2006-2010), China implemented its Implementation Plan for China National Wetland Conservation Programme (2005-2010). A total of 205 projects were implemented on wetland conservation, restoration, sustainable use demonstration and capacity building, among which most of the projects involved wetland restoration/rehabilitation content. In addition, local government conducted various kinds of wetland conservation and restoration projects. For instances, 8,000 ha and 2,000 ha of wetlands were restored in Heilongjiang Province and Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region respectively. The gradual restoration of Da Jiuwu wetlands in Shenlongjia of Hubei Province and Xixi Wetlands in Hangzhou City are successful cases of locally initiated wetland ecosystem restoration projects. China Meteorological Administration has used artificial measures for restoring wetlands in the Three Rivers Headwater area in Qinghai Province and Northeast China, which has increased runoff of the headwater and relieved the water resource shortage and extended the size of lake surface. The Ministry of Housing and Urban Rual Development of China has used infrastructure measures and other restoration/rehabilitation measures for constructing some urban wetlands.

1.8.3 Has Ramsar guidance (Annex to Resolution VIII.16) or equivalent guidance on wetland restoration been used in designing and implementing wetland restoration/rehabilitation programmes or projects? {1.5.2}

A - Yes

1.8.3 Additional information: The State Forestry Administration has translated and disseminated part of the Ramsar Convention guidance on wetland restoration. Therefore, the planning and designing institutes could take advantages of these guidance in compiling wetland restoration projects' feasibility study report, and project implementation agencies could also apply the guidance in their implementation.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 1.8 implementation:

**STRATEGY 1.9 Invasive alien species.** *Encourage Contracting Parties to develop a national inventory of invasive alien species that currently and/or potentially impact the ecological character of wetlands, especially Ramsar Sites, and ensure mutual supportiveness between the national inventory and IUCN's Global Register on Invasive Species (GRIS); develop guidance and promote procedures and actions to prevent, control or eradicate such species in wetland systems.*

1.9.1 Does your country have a comprehensive national inventory of invasive alien species that currently or potentially impact the ecological character of wetlands?  
KRA 1.9.i

C - Partly

1.9.1 Additional information: In 2003, the former State Environmental Protection Administration published the first name list of invasive alien species jointly with the Chinese Academy of Sciences. In 2010, the Ministry of Environmental Protection published the second name list of invasive alien species, which includes invasive alien species that affect ecological features of wetlands.

In Hong Kong Mai Po Inner Deep Bay, detection and removal of exotic Mikania, Spartina and Sonneratia in this Ramsar site have been organized. Besides government's effort, local NGO and volunteers are involved.

1.9.2 Have national invasive species control and management policies or guidelines been established for wetlands?  
{1.6.1} KRa 1.9.iii

C - Partly

1.9.2 Additional information: In 2003, the former State Environmental Protection Administration published Circular on Strengthening the Prevention and Control of Invasive Species with its principles and measures applicable to invasive species that affect wetlands. In 2010, China Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan (2011-2030) was published, which made 'strengthening the management of invasive alien species and Genetically Modified Organism Safety' as one of its ten prioritized areas.

Hong Kong Special Administrative Region has developed a management strategy to manage the exotic mangrove Sonneratia in Inner Deep Bay for maintaining the intertidal mudflat as foraging and roosting grounds for waterbirds.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 1.9 implementation:

**STRATEGY 1.10 Private sector.** *Promote the involvement of the private sector in the conservation and wise use of wetlands.*

1.10.1 Is the private sector encouraged to apply the Ramsar wise use principle and guidance (Ramsar handbooks for the wise use of wetlands) in its activities and investments concerning wetlands? {4.2.1} KRA 1.10.i

A - Yes

1.10.1 Additional information: The Chinese government encourages active societal participation in wetland conservation and wise use, including the private sector participation. In 2004, the Circular on Strengthening Wetland Conservation and Management issued by the State Council required that greater supportive efforts shall be jointly made by the state, localities and all walks of life to establish a multi-level, multi-channel input mechanism for wetland conservation to bring the joint efforts of different sides into full play to speed up the pace of wetland conservation. A lot of private-owned enterprises have participated in the construction of wetland parks.

In Hong Kong, the Private-public Partnership approach for private development proposal with conservation objectives in the Wetland Conservation Area (including the landward part of Ramsar site) is stipulated in the Town Planning Guidelines to ensure long-term commitment for conservation and management of wetlands within the development site.

1.10.2 Has the private sector undertaken activities or actions for the wise and management of:

a. Wetlands in general

b. Ramsar Sites

KRA 1.10.ii

A - Yes

A - Yes

1.10.2 Additional information: In the construction and management of wetland parks, the government could receive investment from the private sector on developing eco-tourism, and contract the private sector to operate and manage eco-tourism activities. In wetland areas where production activities are allowed, the government encourages individuals and private sectors to engage in environment friendly fish farming, agricultural activities and animal husbandry which would contribute to wetland conservation.

In Hong Kong, a corporate community service programme is established by the Hong Kong Wetland Park to encourage participation and commitments on wetland conservation work by the private sector.

1.10.3 Have awareness-raising materials been made available to enable wetland-friendly consumer choices? KRA 1.10.iii

A - Yes

1.10.3 Additional information: Forestry departments at different levels have disseminated awareness-raising materials to consumers to educate them against using wild animal products including eating of waterfowls.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 1.10 implementation:

**STRATEGY 1.11: Incentive measures.** *Promote incentive measures that encourage the application of the wise use provisions of the Convention.*

1.11.1 Have actions been taken to implement incentive measures which encourage the conservation and wise use of wetlands? {4.3.1} KRA 1.11.i

A - Yes

1.11.1 Additional information: The agriculture sector is promoting environment-friendly agriculture, fish farming and animal husbandry, etc. which could contribute to wetland conservation in wetlands and their surrounding areas. In addition, the government is exploring using economic measures to provide subsidy to farmers who are implementing sustainable production approaches. The government encourages the development of eco-tourism in wetlands with desirable conditions. In the National Eco-tourism Development Guideline (2008-2015) jointly issued by the National Tourism Administration and the Ministry of Environmental Protection, wetlands are listed as one of the seven eco-tourism resources. In recent years, governments at different levels have encouraged wetland conservation and wise use by establishing wetland parks, which has achieved good results.

1.11.2 Have actions been taken to remove perverse incentive measures which discourage conservation and wise use of wetlands? {4.3.2} KRA 1.11.i

A - Yes

1.11.2 Additional information: The governments at different levels and their relevant departments strictly control all kinds harmful activities in wetlands, including checking and removing perverse incentive measures which would discourage conservation and wise use of wetlands. Currently, 11 provinces (autonomous regions) have promulgated wetland conservation regulations, which forbid various activities and perverse incentives that are destructive to wetlands. The People's congress at different levels have also taken wetland conservation as an important aspect in their supervision and inspection of law enforcement.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 1.11 implementation:



## GOAL 2. WETLANDS OF INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE

**Note.** An optional Annex (Section 4) to this COP11 National Report Format is provided so that a Contracting Party, if it so wishes, can also provide additional information separately on any of its designated Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Sites).

**STRATEGY 2.1 Ramsar Site designation.** *Apply the "Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance" (Handbook 14, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition).*

2.1.1 Have a national strategy and priorities been established for the further designation of Ramsar Sites, using the <i>Strategic Framework for the Ramsar List</i> ? {2.1.1} KRA 2.1.i	A - Yes
2.1.1 Additional information: According to the National Wetland Conservation Programme (2002-2030), China will designate 80 Ramsar sites by the year of 2030.	
2.1.2 Have all required updates of the Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands been submitted to the Ramsar Secretariat? {2.2.1} KRA 2.1.ii	A - Yes
2.1.2 Additional information: According to the requirements of the Ramsar Secretariat, updates of the Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands have been submitted on time.	
2.1.3 How many Ramsar Site designations in your country have been submitted to the Secretariat but are not yet placed on the List of Wetlands of International Importance? KRA 2.1.iii	0 sites
2.1.3 Additional information:	
2.1.4 If further Ramsar Site designations are planned for the next triennium (2012-2015), please indicate how many sites (otherwise indicate 0) KRA 2.1.iii	5-10 sites
2.1.4 Additional information (please indicate the anticipated year of designation):	

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 2.1 implementation:

**STRATEGY 2.2 Ramsar Site information.** *Ensure that the Ramsar Sites Information Service . . . is available and enhanced as a tool for guiding the further designation of wetlands for the List of Wetlands of International Importance and for research and assessment, and is effectively managed by the Secretariat.*

2.2.1 Are the Ramsar Sites Information Service and its tools being used in national identification of further Ramsar Sites to designate? {2.2.2} KRA 2.2.ii	A - Yes
2.2.1 Additional information:	



Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 2.2 implementation:

**STRATEGY 2.3 Management planning - new Ramsar Sites.** *While recognizing that Ramsar Site designation can act as a stimulus for development of effective site management plans, generally encourage the philosophy that all new Ramsar Sites should have effective management planning in place before designation, as well as resources for implementing such management.*

2.3.1 Have all sites being prepared for Ramsar designation (2.1.2 above) had adequate management planning processes established? KRA 2.3.i

C - Some sites

2.3.1 Additional information:

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 2.3 implementation:

**STRATEGY 2.4 Ramsar Site ecological character.** *Maintain the ecological character of all designated Ramsar Sites, through planning and management.*

2.4.1 How many Ramsar Sites have a management plan? {2.3.2} KRA 2.4.i

30 sites

2.4.2 For those Ramsar Sites with a management plan, for how many is the management plan being implemented? KRA 2.4.i

30 sites

2.4.3 How many Ramsar Sites have a management plan in preparation? KRA 2.4.i

5 sites

2.4.4 For those Ramsar Sites with a management plan, for how many is the management plan being revised or updated? KRA 2.4.i

14 sites

2.4.1 – 2.4.4 Additional information: Among the 37 Ramsar sites in China, 30 of them have developed management plans, another 5 are in the process of preparing management plans, the remaining 2 have developed master plans which are similar to management plans. All of them prepare more detailed annual workplans for implementation purposes. The Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar Site has implemented a Management Plan since 1998. A review on the conservation strategy and the management plan of the Ramsar Site has been undertaken in 2008-9 and the renewed Management Plan is issued in 2011.

2.4.5 Do the Ramsar Site management plans establish the maintenance of the ecological character as a management objective? KRA 2.4.ii

A - Yes

2.4.5 Additional information: Ramsar Sites in China in general have established the maintenance of the ecological character as their most important management objective.

2.4.6 How many sites have a cross-sectoral management committee? {2.3.3} KRA 2.4.iv

11 sites

2.4.6 Additional information (If at least "1 site", please name the site(s)): Poyang Lake in Jiangxi Province; Beilun port in Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region; Yancheng in Jiangsu Province; Zhangjiang Estuary in Fujian Province; Qinghai Lake Bird Island in Qinghai Province; Xingkai Lake and Sanjiang in Heilongjiang Province; West Dongting Lake in Hunan Province; Shuangtai Estuary in Liaoning Province; Chongming Dongtan in Shanghai city; Dalai Lake in Inner Mongolia

2.4.7 For how many sites has an ecological character description been prepared? KRA 2.4.v

37 sites

2.4.7 Additional information (If at least "1 site", please give the site(s) name and official number): All the Ramsar sites in China are included.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 2.4 implementation:

**STRATEGY 2.5 Ramsar Site management effectiveness.** *Review all existing Ramsar Sites to determine the effectiveness of management arrangements, in line with the "Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance".*

2.5.1 Have any assessments of Ramsar Site management effectiveness been carried out? {2.3.4} KRA 2.5.i

A - Yes

2.5.1 Additional information (if "Yes" or "Some sites", please indicate the year of assessment and from whom, or from where, the information is available): In 2009, in line with the requirement of the Ramsar Convention, the State Forestry Administration assessed the 37 Ramsar Sites' ecological conditions and prepared the Report titled by Ecological Conditions of Ramsar Sites in China, which will be published internationally. In Hong Kong, a major review of the management programme of the Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar Site was undertaken by Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department in 2008-09 and the renewed management plan is adopted in 2011.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 2.5 implementation:

**STRATEGY 2.6 Ramsar Site status.** *Monitor the condition of Ramsar Sites and address negative changes in their ecological character, notify the Ramsar Secretariat of changes affecting Ramsar Sites, and apply the Montreux Record, if appropriate, and Ramsar Advisory Mission as tools to address problems.*

2.6.1 Are arrangements in place for the Administrative Authority to be informed of negative human-induced changes or likely changes in the ecological character of Ramsar Sites, pursuant to Article 3.2? {2.4.1} KRA 2.6.i

A - Yes

2.6.1 Additional information (if "Yes" or "Some sites", please summarise the mechanism(s) established): The Administrative Authority is responsible for monitoring and reporting all sorts of negative human-induced changes or likely changes of the ecological character of Ramsar Sites to the provincial forestry department or directly to the State Forestry Administration.

2.6.2 Have all cases of negative human-induced change or likely change in the ecological character of Ramsar Sites been reported to the Ramsar Secretariat, pursuant to Article 3.2,? {2.4.2} KRA 2.6.i

Z - No negative change

2.6.2 Additional information (if "Yes" or "Some cases", please indicate for which Ramsar Sites Article 3.2 reports have been made by the Administrative Authority to the Secretariat, and for which sites such reports of change or likely change have not yet been made):

2.6.3 If applicable, have actions been taken to address the issues for which Ramsar Sites have been listed on the Montreux Record, including requesting a Ramsar Advisory Mission? {2.4.3} KRA 2.6.ii

Z - Not applicable

2.6.3 Additional information (if "Yes", please indicate the actions taken):

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 2.6 implementation:

**STRATEGY 2.7 Management of other internationally important wetlands.** *Appropriate management and wise use achieved for those internationally important wetlands that have not yet been formally designated as Ramsar Sites but have been identified through domestic application of the Strategic Framework or an equivalent process.*

2.7.1 Has the ecological character of internationally important wetlands not yet designated as Ramsar Sites been maintained? KRA 2.7.i

C - Some sites

2.7.1 Additional information: In China, a lot of wetlands which meet the Ramsar Site Criteria have been effectively protected by being designated as nature reserves or wetland parks.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 2.7 implementation:



<b>GOAL 3. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION</b>
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<b>STRATEGY 3.1 Synergies and partnerships with MEAs and IGOs.</b> <i>Work as partners with international and regional multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) and other intergovernmental agencies (IGOs).</i>
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3.1.1 Are mechanisms in place at the national level for collaboration between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the focal points of other multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs)? {3.1.1} KRAs 3.1.i & 3.1.ii	A - Yes
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3.1.1 Additional information: The National Implementing Ramsar Convention Committee was established in 2007, whose members included focal points of other multilateral environmental agreements .	
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3.1.2 Are the national focal points of other MEAs invited to participate in the National Ramsar/Wetland Committee? {3.1.2} KRA KRAs 3.1.i & 3.1.iv	A - Yes
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3.1.2 Additional information: The Ministry of Environmental Protection (Implementation Agency of Convention on Biological Diversity), the State Forestry Administration (responsible agency of Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora and United Nations' Convention to Combat Desertification), The National Development and Reform Commission (responsible agency of Framework Convention on Climate Change), the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development (responsible agency of the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage) are members of the National Implementing Ramsar Convention Committee.	
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3.1.3 Are mechanisms in place at the national level for collaboration between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the focal points of UN and other global and regional bodies and agencies (e.g. UNEP, UNDP, WHO, FAO, UNECE, ITTO, etc)? KRA 3.1.iv	A - Yes
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3.1.3 Additional information: Long-term wetland projects are carried out in collaboration with UNEP, UNDP, FAO, GEF, etc.	
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3.1.4 [For African Contracting Parties only] Has the Contracting Party participated in the implementation of the wetland programme under NEPAD? {3.1.3} KRA 3.1.iii	---
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3.1.4 Additional information:	
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Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 3.1 implementation:	
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**STRATEGY 3.2 Regional initiatives.** *Support existing regional arrangements under the Convention and promote additional arrangements.*

3.2.1 Has the Contracting Party been involved in the development and implementation of a Regional Initiative under the framework of the Convention? {2.6.1} KRA 3.2.i

A - Yes

3.2.1 Additional information (If "Yes" or "Planned", please indicate the regional initiative(s) and the collaborating countries of each initiative): China has participated in Ramsar Regional Center for Networking, Training and Research on Wetlands in East Asia (RRC-East Asia) in the Republic of Korea and Himalayan Wetlands Initiative, etc.

3.2.2 Has your country provided support to, or participated in, the development of other regional (i.e., covering more than one country) wetland training and research centres? {4.10.1}

A - Yes

3.2.2 Additional information (If "Yes", please indicate the name(s) of the centre(s): China has participated in the establishment of Ramsar Regional Center for Networking, Training and Research on Wetlands in East Asia (RRC-East Asia) in the Republic of Korea and is a member of the Center's Steering Committee. Efforts have been made in support of and participation in the work of Mai Po Nature Reserve Wetland Management Training Center of Hong Kong. Hong Kong's Wetland Park has become an example of public awareness raising and education. Maipo Nature Reserve provides training programs for personnel of nearby wetlands and nature reserves.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 3.2 implementation:

**STRATEGY 3.3 International assistance.** *Promote international assistance to support the conservation and wise use of wetlands, while ensuring that environmental safeguards and assessments are an integral component of all development projects that affect wetlands, including foreign and domestic investments.*

3.3.1 [For Contracting Parties with development assistance agencies only ("donor countries")]: Has funding support been provided from the development assistance agency for wetland conservation and management in other countries? {4.5.1} KRA 3.3.i

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3.3.1 Additional information (If "Yes", please indicate the countries supported since COP10):

3.3.2 [For Contracting Parties with development assistance agencies only (“donor countries”): Have environmental safeguards and assessments been included in development proposals proposed by your development assistance agency? KRA 3.3.ii	---
3.3.2 Additional information:	

3.3.3 [For Contracting Parties that have received development assistance only (“recipient countries”): Has funding support been received from development assistance agencies specifically for in-country wetland conservation and management? {4.5.2}	A - Yes
3.3.3 Additional information (If “Yes”, please indicate from which countries/agencies since COP10): EU, GEF, German government and Australian government have provided funding to support China’s wetland conservation and management.	

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 3.3 implementation:

**STRATEGY 3.4 Sharing information and expertise.** *Promote the sharing of expertise and information concerning the conservation and wise use of wetlands.*

3.4.1 Have networks, including twinning arrangements, been established, nationally or internationally, for knowledge sharing and training for wetlands that share common features? {3.2.1}	A - Yes
3.4.1 Additional information (If “Yes” or “Partly”, please indicate the networks and wetlands involved): A Wetland Nature Reserve Network has been established in the Yangtze Basin. Now more than 40 wetland nature reserves have participated in the network. A lot of nature reserves have participated in the East Asian-Australasian Shorebird Site Network, the East Asia Anatidae Site Network, North East Asian Crane Site Network. The Hong Kong Wetland Park currently has a twinning arrangement with the London Wetland Centre in the UK and the Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve in Singapore.	
3.4.2 Has information about your country’s wetlands and/or Ramsar Sites and their status been made publicly available (e.g., through publications or a website)? {3.2.2}	A - Yes

3.4.2 Additional information: In the past three years a raft of books were published in China to introduce conditions of wetlands and Ramsar Sites of China, for instance, the bimonthly journal: 'Wetlands' published by Wetlands International - China, the journal: 'Wetlands Management and Sciences' published by the Chinese Academy of Forestry, and 'Wetland Science' published by the Northeast Institute of Geography and Agricultural Ecology of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. With an effort to build a wetland information sharing network, the Chinese government has developed Wetlands China website (www.shidi.org) or (www.wetland.gov.cn) at the national level. Some provinces have built their wetland websites. Some wetland nature reserves and wetland parks have also established their specialized websites to introduce themselves. Some non-government organizations, for example, Wetlands International – China and WWF – China have used their websites to disseminate information on China's wetlands.

3.4.3 Has information about your country's wetlands and/or Ramsar Sites been transmitted to the Ramsar Secretariat for dissemination? KRA 3.4.ii

A - Yes

3.4.3 Additional information: The information about the 37 Ramsar Sites in China has been published on the Ramsar Secretariat's website.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 3.4 implementation:

**STRATEGY 3.5 Shared wetlands, river basins and migratory species.** *Promote inventory and cooperation for the management of shared wetlands and hydrological basins, including cooperative monitoring and management of shared wetland-dependent species.*

3.5.1 Have all transboundary/shared wetland systems been identified? {2.5.1} KRA 3.5.i

D - Planned

3.5.1 Additional information: The transboundary/shared wetland systems will be identified according to the results of the second National Wetland Survey.

3.5.2 Is effective cooperative management in place for shared wetland systems (for example, in shared river basins and coastal zones)? {2.5.2} KRA 3.5.ii

C - Partly

3.5.2 Additional information (if "Yes" or "Partly", please indicate for which wetland systems such management is in place): Xingkai Lake Ramsar Site and Sanjiang Ramsar Sites in Heilongjiang Province, and their adjacent Russian protected areas have signed collaborative conservation and management agreements.

3.5.3 Does your country participate in regional networks or initiatives for wetland-dependent migratory species? KRA 3.5.iii

A - Yes



3.5.3 Additional information: A lot of nature reserves have participated in the East Asian-Australasian Shorebird Site Network, the East Asia Anatidae Site Network , and the North East Asian Crane Site Network.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 3.5 implementation:

<b>GOAL 4. IMPLEMENTATION CAPACITY</b>
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<p><b>STRATEGY 4.1 CEPA.</b> <i>Support, and assist in implementing at all levels, where appropriate, the Convention's Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness Programme (Resolution X.8) for promoting the conservation and wise use of wetlands through communication, education, participation awareness (CEPA) and work towards wider awareness of the Convention's goals, mechanisms, and key findings.</i></p>
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<p>4.1.1 Has/have an Action Plan/Plans for wetland CEPA been established? {4.4.2} KRA 4.1.i</p>	
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- |                                                                                                                |                                                                        |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>a) At the national level<br/>b) Sub-national level<br/>c) Catchment/basin level<br/>d) Local/site level</p> | <p>A - Yes<br/>D - Planned<br/>C - In progress<br/>C - In progress</p> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|

<p>(Even if no CEPA plans have been developed, if broad CEPA objectives for CEPA actions have been established, please indicate this below in the Additional information section below)</p>	
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<p>4.1.1 Additional information (if "Yes" or "In progress" to one of the four questions above, please describe the mechanism, and identify if it has involved CEPA NFPs): With the support from the Ramsar Small Grants Fund, China National Communication, Education and Public Awareness(CEPA) Plan for Wetland Protection in China was developed at the national level.</p>	
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<p>During the 11th Five-Year Plan period, the State Forestry Administration have set up 5 regional wetland education centers in Poyang Lake of Jiangxi Province in the middle and lower reaches of the Yangtze River, Lashihai of Yunnan Province in southeast China, Chongming Island of Shanghai in east China and Xixi National Wetland Park of Hangzhou City, Sanjiang Plain in northeast China and Sanya in Hainan Province. During the 12th Five-Year Plan period, more regional education centers will be established.</p>	
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<p>The established Yangtze Basin Wetland Conservation Network will be an important initiative for wetland related education.</p>	
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<p>Forestry administrative authorities at different levels make and implement annual plans on wetland publicity and awareness raising. With continuous efforts, the forestry administrative authorities at different levels, civil societies, media and local communities have regularly conducted wetland publicity and awareness raising activities of various kinds, which have raised public awareness and created favorable conditions for wetland conservation.</p>	
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<p>Wetland CEPA plan established in the Hong Kong Wetland Park is the local programme for the Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar Site.</p>	
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<p>4.1.2 How many centres (visitor/interpretation/education) have been established at Ramsar Sites and other wetlands? {4.4.6} KRA 4.1.ii</p>	
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	<p>More than 28 centres</p>
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4.1.2 Additional information (If centres are part of a national or international network, please describe the network(s)): Education centers have been built in 28 Ramsar sites in China, and education centers have also been built in some other wetland sites . The Hong Kong Wetland Park (adjacent to the Ramsar Site) and the Mai Po Nature Reserve (within the Ramsar Site) are part of the Wetland Link International (WLI) and WLI-Asia network.

4.1.3 Does the Contracting Party:

- a) promote public participation in decision-making with respect to wetland planning and management
- b) specifically involve local stakeholders in the selection of new Ramsar Sites and in Ramsar Site management?

A - Yes

A - Yes

{4.1.3} KRA 4.1.iii

4.1.3 Additional information (if "Yes" or "Partly", please provide information about the ways in which local communities are involved): China has paid attention to public participation in decision-making with respect to wetland planning and management, and designation of Ramsar site. For example, citizens and concerned stakeholders are invited to participate in relevant meetings, and public opinions are solicited via website and other media.

4.1.4 Has an assessment of national and local training needs for the implementation of the Convention been made?  
{4.10.2} KRAs 4.1.iv & 4.1.viii

A - Yes

4.1.4 Additional information: Assessment on the training needs for the implementation of the Convention have been undertaken at national, provincial and project site levels under international cooperative projects e.g. China-Germany, China-Australia, and GEF projects.

4.1.5 How many opportunities for wetland site manager training have been provided since COP10? {4.10.3} KRA 4.1.iv

h opportunities

4.1.5 Additional information (including whether the Ramsar Wise Use Handbooks were used in the training): The central and local governments, relevant international organizations and international projects have conducted various training activities, which have given wetland site managers extensive training opportunities.

4.1.6 Do you have an operational National Ramsar/Wetlands Committee (or equivalent body)? {4.8.2}	A - Yes
<p>4.1.6 Additional information (If "Yes", indicate a) its membership; b) its frequency of meetings; and c) what responsibilities the Committee has): The National Implementing RAMSAR Convention Committee consists of 16 different ministries and administrations. They are State Forestry Administration, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, National Development and Reform Commission, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Land and Resources, Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, Ministry of Communications, Ministry of Water Resources, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Environmental Protection, National Tourism Administration, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China Meteorological Administration, and State Oceanic Administration. Among the 16 ministries and administrations, the State Forestry Administration is the chairman department of the committee and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Water Resources, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Environmental Protection and the State Oceanic Administration are vice chairman departments. The Committee holds at least one meeting annually. The role of the Committee is to coordinate and guide relevant departments in carrying out responsibilities related to the implementation of the Ramsar Convention, make decisions on important strategies for implementation of Ramsar Convention, coordinate and resolve the important issues related to the implementation of Ramsar Convention, review proposals on the Convention-related international negotiations; coordinate the implementation of the Convention-related decisions and resolutions of relevant international conferences/meetings and coordinate the application and implementation of international collaborative wetland projects.</p>	
<p>4.1.7 Are other communication mechanisms (apart from a national committee) in place to share Ramsar implementation guidelines and other information between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Ramsar Sites managers?</li> <li>b. other MEA national focal points?</li> <li>c. relevant ministries, departments and agencies?</li> </ul> <p>{4.4.3} KRA 4.1.vi</p>	<p>A - Yes</p> <p>A - Yes</p> <p>A - Yes</p>

4.1.7 Additional information (If “Yes” or “Partly”, please describe what types of mechanism are in place): The Ramsar Administrative Authority, namely, the State Forestry Administration maintains daily communication with Ramsar site management agencies via telephone and emails. The Ramsar site management agencies need to report to the State Forestry Administration on wetland ecological conditions at least once a year and special circumstances need to be reported at all times. The State Forestry Administration organizes trainings for Ramsar site management personnel from time to time to enhance their management and technical capacity.

The State Forestry Administration often invites national focal points of other multi-lateral environment agreements or their authorized representatives to participate in the Convention implementation activities, for instances, World Wetlands Day Awareness Raising activities and wetland conservation management workshops, etc. In addition, other communication approaches such as formal document exchange, telephone, email, etc were also used.

The State Forestry Administration often invites representatives of relevant ministries, departments and agencies to participate in the Convention implementation activities, for instances, World Wetlands Day Awareness Raising activities and wetland conservation management workshops, etc. In addition, other communication approaches like formal document exchange, telephone, email exchange, etc were also used .

4.1.8 Have World Wetlands Day activities, either government and NGO-led or both, been carried out in the country since COP10? {4.4.5}

A - Yes

4.1.8 Additional information: For the annual World Wetlands Day, the Central government of China and local governments and Ramsar site management agencies would collaborate with mainstream media and NGOs such as WWF to organize celebration activities together.

4.1.9 Have campaigns, programmes, and projects (other than for World Wetlands Day) been carried out since COP10 to raise awareness of the importance of wetlands to people and wildlife and the ecosystem benefits/services provided by wetlands? {4.4.4}

A - Yes

4.1.9 Additional information (including, if support has been provided for the delivery of these and other CEPA activities by other organisations, please indicate this): Firstly, various forums and campaigns are used to give publicity to wetland conservation. In the years of 2008, 2009 and 2010, the State Forestry Administration and WWF organized Yangtze River Wetland Conservation Network Annual Meeting in the lower and middle reaches of Yangtze River in Jiangsu, Anhui and Hubei provinces. These meetings have forged wide consensus on Yangtze River wetland conservation. On June 11th, 2009, the Population, Resources and Environment Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), the State Forestry Administration and the Hebei provincial Political Consultative Conference organized Hengshui Lake Wetland Conservation and Development Forum in Beijing. On April 20th, 2009, the Shanghai Municipal People's Government and the Ministry of Water Resources organized the third round of the 'Yangtze River Forum'. On June 3rd, 2009, the Office for Wetland Conservation and Management of the State Forestry Administration (the Convention on Wetlands Management Office, P.R.China), Shanghai Municipal Forestry Bureau and the Nature Conservancy organized East China Wetland Migratory Birds Conservation Network Seminar. From April to November, 2009, the Library Society of China and the Central Radio and TV University organized the 2009 Wetland Reading and Cross Country Wetland Tour, which not only disseminated wetland conservation and management basics, but also raised societal concern on wetlands and awareness on wetland conservation. In November 2009, the State Forestry Administration and the Zhejiang Provincial Government co-organized the first China Wetland Culture Festival, which is considered as the wetland conservation awareness raising activity with the biggest scale, deepest influence and richest content.

Secondly, active efforts have been made to promote the construction of China's wetland museums and other wetland education centres have been promoted. In 2009, China Wetland Museum was built in Hangzhou, which is the biggest museum with the single theme on wetlands in the world. With free entry, since its opening, it has attracted over 800,000 visitors. With China Wetland Museum as an example, some provinces and nature reserves have established or prepared to build more than 20 museums and education centres to demonstrate wetlands' ecological functions and benefits.

Thirdly, public wetland conservation promotion activities have been organized. The number of informants and volunteers of Wetland China website maintained by the State Forestry Administration's Office for Wetland Conservation and Management (the Convention on Wetlands Management Office, P.R.China) has been increasing unceasingly. Since the launching of the website, it has published more than 20,000 messages annually, with the clicking rate and traffic index ranking high amongst other governmental websites. The State Forestry Administration and other relevant government departments jointly organized '2010 Coastal Wetland Ten Thousand Li (5000 km) Tour'. The 7 central media including the People's Daily and 4 departmental media were closely following the trip, which created active participation and successive media exposure and positive societal effects. The 'Wetland Ambassador Action' organized by the State Forestry Administration and WWF annually attracts large group of teenagers and student associations, with successful educational effects.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 4.1 implementation:

**STRATEGY 4.2 Convention financial capacity.** *Provide the financial resources necessary for the Convention's governance, mechanisms and programmes to achieve the expectations of the Conference of the Contracting Parties, within the availability of existing resources and by the effective use of such resources; explore and enable options and mechanism for mobilization of new and additional resources for implementation of the Convention.*

4.2.1

a) Have Ramsar contributions been paid in full for 2009, 2010, 2011? {4.6.1} KRA 4.2.i

A - Yes

b) If "No" in 4.2.1 a), please clarify what plan is in place to ensure future prompt payment:

4.2.2 Has any additional financial support been provided through voluntary contributions to non-core funded Convention activities? {4.6.2} KRA 4.2.i

B - No

4.2.2 Additional information (If "Yes" please state the amounts, and for which activities):

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 4.2 implementation:

**STRATEGY 4.3 Convention bodies' effectiveness.** *Ensure that the Conference of the Contracting Parties, Standing Committee, Scientific and Technical Review Panel, and Secretariat are operating at a high level of efficiency and effectiveness to support the implementation of the Convention.*

4.3.1 Has the Contracting Party used its previous Ramsar National Reports in monitoring its implementation of the Convention? {4.7.1} KRA 4.3.ii

A - Yes

□



4.3.1 Additional information (If "Yes", please indicate how the Reports have been used for monitoring): National reports submitted including the ones prior to COP10 have contained monitoring information and descriptions on various aspects of wetland conservation and management, which provide baselines for wetland conservation and management work in the future. Therefore, these reports are beneficial for the implementation agency to measure progress in its daily work according to the monitoring baseline. Based on the comparative analysis of the national reports the implementation agency can exercise overall and effective monitoring of development and progress of wetland conservation work carried out since the last COP.

4.3.2 Has the Secretariat been updated on any appointments and changes in Administrative Authority focal points and daily contacts (including CEPA and STRP National Focal Points)? KRA 4.3.i

A - Yes

4.3.2 Additional information: If any changes occur in terms of administrative authority focal points and daily contacts (including CEPA and STRP National Focal Points), the Secretariat will be informed of the changes in time.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 4.3 implementation:

**STRATEGY 4.4 Working with IOPs and others.** *Maximize the benefits of working with the Convention's International Organization Partners (IOPs\*) and others.*

\* The IOPs are: BirdLife International, the International Water Management Institute (IWMI), IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature), Wetlands International, and WWF International.

4.4.1 Has your country received assistance from one or more of the Convention's IOPs in its implementation of the Convention? {4.9.1} KRA 4.4.iii

A - Yes

4.4.1 Additional information (If "Yes" please provide the name(s) of the IOP(s) and the type of assistance provided): Extensive international collaboration has been carried out with WWF and Wetlands International in wetland conservation and wise use. The annual meeting of the Yangtze Basin Wetland Conservation Network and the World Wetland Day Celebration Activities were jointly organized together with WWF. In October 2011, the Asian Wetland Forum (Wuxi) will be organized in collaboration with WI. The World Wide Fund for Nature Hong Kong (WWF-HK) assisted in the habitat management of the Mai Po Nature Reserve which is part of the Ramsar site. It also carried out education programme for schools and public.

4.4.2 Has your country provided assistance to one or more of the Convention's IOPs? {4.9.2} KRA 4.4.iii

A - Yes

4.4.2 Additional information (If “Yes” please provide the name(s) of the IOP(s) and the type of assistance provided): The State Forestry Administration has provided funding to Wetlands International – China to support free distribution of the journal “Wetlands” . The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government of China provide land of about 230ha at a nominal fee per year as rent from the WWF-HK to carry out habitat management. Also, each year some HK\$1.6 million was provided to WWF-HK for supporting the habitat management work.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 4.4 implementation:

**Section 4** ([www.ramsar.org/doc/cop11/cop11\\_nrform\\_e\\_sec4.doc](http://www.ramsar.org/doc/cop11/cop11_nrform_e_sec4.doc)) is an optional Annex to the National Report Format to allow any Contracting Party that wishes to do so to provide additional information separately for any or all of its Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Sites).