



## **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: REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA</b>	
<b>DESIGNATED RAMSAR ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY</b>	
<b>Name of Administrative Authority:</b>	<b>MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND PHYSICAL PLANNING</b>
<b>Head of Administrative Authority - name and title:</b>	Abdilaqim Ademi, Minister
<b>Mailing address:</b>	Bul. Goce Delcev bb MTV X 1000 Skopje MACEDONIA
<b>Telephone/Fax:</b>	+389 2 3251 400/ 3220 165
<b>Email:</b>	infoeko@moepp.gov.mk
<b>DESIGNATED NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR RAMSAR CONVENTION MATTERS</b>	
<b>Name and title:</b>	Aleksandar Nastov, Head of Department of Biodiversity
<b>Mailing address:</b>	Bul. Goce Delcev bb MTV Xi (1127) 1000 Skopje MACEDONIA
<b>Telephone/Fax:</b>	+389 2 3251 466/ 3213 651
<b>Email:</b>	a.nastov@moepp.gov.mk or anastov@gmail.com
<b>DESIGNATED NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO STRP (SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL REVIEW PANEL)</b>	
<b>Name and title of focal point:</b>	Branko Micevski, President of National Ramsar Committee
<b>Name of organisation:</b>	Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics-Skopje
<b>Mailing address:</b>	Gazi Baba bb, P.O. box 162 , 1000 Skopje MACEDONIA
<b>Telephone/Fax:</b>	+389 2 2432 071 (phone and fax)
<b>Email:</b>	brankom@ukim.edu.mk
<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>	Pejo Kirovski, State Inspector of Nature and Environment
<b>Name of organisation:</b>	State Inspectorate of Environment
<b>Mailing address:</b>	Bul. Goce Delcev bb MTV XII 1000 Skopje MACEDONIA
<b>Telephone/Fax:</b>	+389 2 3251 400/ 3220 165
<b>Email:</b>	p.kirovski@moepp.gov.mk
<b>DESIGNATED NON-GOVERNMENT NATIONAL FOCAL POINT FOR MATTERS RELATING TO THE CEPA PROGRAMME ON COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION, PARTICIPATION AND AWARENESS</b>	
<b>Name and title:</b>	Branko Micevski, President of BSPSM
<b>Name of organisation:</b>	Bird Study and Protected Society of Macedonia
<b>Mailing address:</b>	Gazi Baba bb, R.O. box 162, 1000 Skopje MACEDONIA
<b>Telephone/Fax:</b>	+389 2 3249 614/ +389 2432 071
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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?

The following documents have been developed on national level: mid-term Programme of the Macedonian Government with priorities for implementation of multilateral environmental agreements and approximation of the national legislation with the EU acquis (2008-2012), mid-term Programme for the work of the Macedonian Ramsar Committee (2009-2011), common mid-term Programme for the implementation of the Rio Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (RCW), Bonn Convention on Wild Migratory Species (CMS), Hague Agreement (AEWA), London Agreement (EUROBATS) and Bern Convention (BC/CE).

The following activities have been carried out during the reporting period:

- Official sessions of MRC were organized and World Wetland Day (WWD, 02.02.2009, 02.02.2010, 02.02.2011) was celebrated;
- Overview and reports were prepared and submitted to the Office of the President of the Republic of Macedonia, President of the Macedonian Parliament, President of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of Environment and Physical Planning;
- Reports were submitted to the President of SC and Secretary General of the RCW;
- Programme for the work of the MRC was adopted in 2009;
- Observations and monitoring of Ramsar sites Prespa Lake and Dojran Lake were carried out (MRC, BSPSM and students volunteers).;
- Observations and monitoring of Ohrid Lake with St.Naum Springs and monitoring of Studenchica Swamp were carried out (MRC, BSPSM and students volunteers);
- Observations and monitoring of Katlanovo Swamp and section of Pcinja River were carried out (MRC, BSPSM recreation fishermen and students volunteers);
- In the framework of the World Migratory Wild Birds Day (WMWBD 15.05.2009, 2010 and 2011), observations and monitoring of sections of Vardar River with Treska River (lakes Kozjak and Matka), river Lepenec, Markova Reka and Kadina Reka, Skopje region, were carried out (MRC, BSPSM, recreation fishermen and students volunteers);
- In the framework of the International Biodiversity Day (IBD 22.05.2010), observations were carried out on Radica River Basin with the Lake of Mavrovo (MEPP, NGOs);
- In the frames of the International Year of Biodiversity (IYBD 2010), Project Office of UNDP and MEPP, together with MCB, Implemented public discussions, workshops and presentations in kindergartens, primary and secondary schools in several cities;
- Representatives of MRC and BSPSM took part in public discussions in the Municipalities of Resen and Dojran in relation to the proposals of the MEPP for re-proclamation of Prespa and Dojran Lakes for protected areas as Nature Monuments;
- MRC and BSPSM delivered productive comments on legal acts (laws) concerning proclamation of Prespa and Dojran Lakes (the laws were adopted by the Macedonian parliament in April 2011);
- Representatives of MRC and BSPSM took part in the workshops of MEPP and UNDP Project Office concerning the Study on Belasica, Monospitovo Swamp and development of management plans for Smolare and Koleshino Waterfalls (Strumica, 2011).



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

Cooperation with national committees and commissions.

Common working sessions of the presidencies of MRC, MBC and MCBBD were held with representatives of the Administration of Environment and State Environment Inspectorate

A list of priority activities was established with regard to the implementation of the Law on Nature Protection in relation to integrated conservation of Ramsar sites and other wetlands (2009-2011).

Letters were sent to Parliamentary commissions for ecology, education and science and for agriculture, forestry and water economy, concerning implementation of priorities for wetlands protection.

Cooperation with relevant departments involved in the Convention implementation.

Letters were sent to the competent state bodies, scientific institutions, protected areas managers, local self-governments, business sector and non-governmental sector in relation to cooperation in the implementation of priorities for wetlands conservation.

Seminars and workshops were held in several cities, where studies and elaborates on natural values evaluation of aquatic and swamp ecosystems were discussed.

Trainings were held for representatives of state bodies, local communities, business sector and NGOs concerning preparation of management plans for aquatic ecosystems (lakes, river basins, accumulations and swamps).

Cooperation with media involved in the Convention implementation.

Letters and attachments (materials) were delivered to promote important parts of Ramsar sites Prespa and Dojran Lakes, as well as Ohrid Lake, sections of the river basins of Vardar, Strumica and Crn Drim, in special programmes and reports of electronic media and written articles in the press.

Meetings and public discussions were held with journalists engaged in environmental and nature topics.

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

Economic crisis and over-load of state authorities with economic and social priorities. Issues concerning environment and nature protection have been placed lower on priority list.

Lack of financial resources in the central Budget and budgets of the municipalities to support strategies and participation in international and domestic projects and studies aimed at protection of Ramsar sites and other wetlands.

Insufficient staffing of departments at central and local levels with technical staff to implement the international Ramsar criteria and relevant provisions of the national legislation concerning integrated management of wetlands conservation.

Insufficient communication among relevant departments and communication with the National Coordinator of RCW and President of the MRC.

Low financial ability of business sector to support projects in areas incorporating significant wetlands, through which funds are provided indirectly for the purpose of implementing activities for aquatic ecosystems protection.

Ramsar facility for small grants has not supported a single projects proposed by MRC, although notifications have been received that they will be found (e.g. Ramsar site Prespa Lake, Ezerani reserve, project for Katlanovsko Blato, project for protection of rice fields in the area of Kochani, etc.).

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

Priorities at national level have been adjusted with mid-term and long-term development documents of the Republic of Macedonia. The most important priorities for aquatic ecosystems protection include:

- Finalization of the process of harmonization of the national legislation (laws on environment, waters, pastures, forest protection, hunting, fishing, rural development and nature) with the provisions of the Ramsar Convention and Ramsar criteria;
  - Implementation of protection measures for aquatic ecosystems and species diversity through adoption of a set of bylaws (decrees, decisions, rulebooks);
  - Preparation, adoption and implementation of management plans (MP) for the Ramsar sites Prespa Lake with Ezerani Reserve and Dojran Lake;
  - Preparation, adoption and implementation of management plans for other lakes, river basin, swamps and marshes (protected areas);
- Support to projects aimed at strengthening the capacity at central level: MRC, MEPP, MAFWE, MES, ME, and MLSG, at regional and local levels through staff training and new employments;
- Provision of secured sources (from the central Budget) to fund programme activities and projects of MRC, BSPSM and MEPP on Convention Implementation.

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

There is a need to update the Strategic Plan (2009-2015) and adjust it to the implementation of the UN Global Strategic Goals on biodiversity conservation by 2020, with particular focus on 2012-2015 period.

To establish an expert team to work on the creation of strategic goals and actions in the Ramsar Strategic Plan for the 2016-2020 period.

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

MRC has introduced the practice to invite representatives of the Ramsar Secretariat to assist with ecological problems for Ezerani Reserve degradation. MEPP propose an official delegation from Ramsar Secretariat to visit Ezerani Reserve and Ramsar site Prespa Lake.

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

Based on the past experience of MRC, BSPSM and MEPP, the general recommendation to international organizations-partners to Ramsar Convention- is to undertake more seriously to provide financial support to developing countries, especially to vulnerable regions like Western Balkan through implementation of regional and bilateral projects and projects with domestic partners.

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?

Based on the experience acquired through participation in activities under world summits, international conferences, is a general recommendation to SC, Ramsar Secretariat and other working bodies, to establish closer links with the corresponding committees, secretariats and other working bodies, especially at regional level, and create common goals, work programmes and teams.

- 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)?

MRC and MEPP constantly initiate programme activities in which they involve other sectors and thus contribute to direct linkage with development policies, strategies and plans. In this context, they always insist on consistent application of the principle of sustainable use of water and other natural resources, with priority being given to integrated protection of nature and biodiversity. However, there are cases in which these goals are not achieved sufficiently, or are applied at a slow rate due to hard economic and social conditions in rural environments.

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

There is a need to launch global campaign towards assessment of status of threats against biodiversity in lakes and their basins, river basins, swamps and marshy ecosystems of international importance included in the World Ramsar List. In this way, the Contracting Parties to the Ramsar Convention will be directed towards efficient and high quality implementation of the Convention provisions.

There is a need to reintroduce the practice of preparation of thematic reports on critically endangered wetlands, as well as critically endangered habitats and wild species of fauna and flora.

Regional coordinators should present the Ramsar strategic goals in a much more transparent manner before the national governments, business sector and NGOs in order to attract them as key stakeholders in the process of the Ramsar Convention implementation.

## 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
1.1.1 Additional information: Wtland Inventory in the Republic of Macedonia- natural resources (MRC/BSPSM 2002)	
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
1.1.2 Additional information: Preparation of the Wetland Inventory has been coordinated by Prof.Dr. Branko Micevski, President od MRK and BSPSM. Participants: governmental institutions, scientific institutions, managers of protected areas, local communities and NGOs.	

<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>N - Status deteriorated P - Status improved</p>
<p>1.1.3 a) Additional information: Ramsar site Prespa Lake with reserve Ezerani (negative impacts), Ramsar site Dojran Lake (positive changes of hidrological condition)</p>	
<p>1.1.3 b) Additional information: Changes of hidrological condition in th Lake Matka (total extraction of water resources and clearing of accomulated sediments), rivers Treska and Vardar (negative impact from wasts watwr sediments from clearing of Matka accumulation). Water extraction from marches Monospitovsko Blato and Katlanovsko Blato (negative impact to key natural habitats and endemic flora and fauna species).</p>	

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 1.1 implementation: Total extraction of water resources of small marches of the locality Grcec near river Treska, Golem Chiflik and Vrbnik near Vardar Vallue (Dolno Lisiche), Skopje Region. Degradation of the river basin Pchinja, Bregalnica, Crna Reka, Strumica, Golema Reka (Prespa Region) and Sateska (Ohrid Region).

**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>	<p>D - Planned</p>
<p>1.3.1 Additional information: Acording Law of Nature Protection and Law of Water MEPP will prepared two National Strategies: the National Strategy for Wetland Conservation and the National Strategy for Water Protection.</p>	
<p>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}</p>	<p>D - Planned</p>
<p>1.3.2 Additional information: Annual programme of the Macedonian Governmet for Sustainable Development of rural areas. Seciond Strategic plan for Biodiversity conservation.</p>	

<p>1.3.3 Have wetland issues been incorporated into other national strategies and planning processes, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Poverty eradication strategies</li> <li>b) Water resource management and water efficiency plans</li> <li>c) Coastal and marine resource management plans</li> <li>d) National forest programmes</li> <li>e) National strategies for sustainable development</li> <li>f) National policies or measures on agriculture</li> <li>g) National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans</li> </ul> <p>{1.2.3} KRA 1.3.i</p>	<p>C - Partly D - Planned Z - Not applicable C - Partly A - Yes C - Partly A - Yes</p>
<p>1.3.3 Additional information: Important documents for integral wetlands protection are: National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan and National Environment Action Plan (NEAP 2).</p>	

<p>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</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>
<p>1.3.4 Additional information: Preparation of EIA studies is obligation for all investors (of programmes and plans that may have negative impact of natural ecosystems, especially wetlands), according to Law of Environment and Law of Nature Protection.</p>	

<p>1.3.5 For any project development (new buildings, new roads, extractive industry, etc.) that may affect wetlands, are Environmental Impact Assessments made?</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>
<p>1.3.5 Additional information: EIA studies for new touristic complex in Ohrid and Struga, EIA for new auto-roads in the eastern part of MK (border with Bulgaria, Delchevo to Veles, and central part (Vardar Valley, Demir Kapija to Gevgelija, new auto-road).</p>	

<p>1.3.6 Have any amendments to existing legislation been made to reflect Ramsar commitments?</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>
<p>1.3.6 Additional information: Amendment Law of Environment and Law of Nature Protection (2010, 2011).</p>	

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 1.3 implementation: In process for preparation: EIA studies of projects for touristic complex (Prespa and Doyran Region)

**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.*

<p>1.4.1 Has an assessment been conducted of the ecosystem benefits/services provided by Ramsar Sites? {1.3.1} KRA 1.4.ii</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>
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1.4.1 Additional information: assessment of Ramsar site Prespa Lake and Ramsar site Doyran Lake (MRK and BSPSM)

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

C - Partly

1.4.2 Additional information: Annual Programme of Agricultural Development (2009-2010), Annual Programme for Environment Protection (MEPP, 2009, 2010)

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

C - Partly

1.4.3 Additional information: UND/GEF project for Sustainable Development, Cultural and natural Heritage (Ohrid-Prespa region, Skopje region, Doyran region, Tivesh, Demir Kapija)

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

D - Planned

1.4.4 Additional information (if "Yes" or "Partly", please indicate, if known, how many Ramsar Sites and their names): (see 1.4.3)

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 1.4 implementation:

Project for preparation Physical Plan of Ohrid and Prespa region,  
 Study for natural and cultural heritage in Natural Reserve Tikvesh and Nature Monument kanjon Matka,  
 Project for preparation Physical Plan of Skopje Region,  
 Project for preparation Physical Plan of Doyran Region,  
 Project for preparation National Strategy for Nature Conservation,  
 Project for preparation National Strategy for Water Protection,  
 Project for preparation new National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan,  
 Project for preparation MP for Ramsar site Prespa Lake (Nature Monument)  
 Project for preparation MP for Ramsar site Doyran Lake (Nature Monument)  
 Project for preparation MP for Ohrid Lake (UNESCO site, Nature Monument),  
 Project for preparation MP for march Monospitovsko Blato (Nature Monument).

**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*



<p>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</p>	<p>A - Yes</p>
<p>1.5.1 Additional information: They contributed of preparation of the Yoint triennial and annual programme for Biodiversity conservation and directly of implementation of actions for integral protection of wetlands.</p>	
<p>1.5.2 Have you brought the “Changwon Declaration” (Resolution X.3) to the attention of your:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. head of state</li> <li>b. parliament</li> <li>c. private sector</li> <li>d. civil society</li> </ul>	<p>A - Yes A - Yes A - Yes A - Yes</p>
<p>1.5.2 Additional information: National Focal point of RCW and CMS has sent this document to the Cabinet of the President of RM Dr Dgordgi Ivanov, the Cabinet of the President of Macedonian Parliament Mr Trajko Veljanovski and Parliamentary Comisions for Environment , Education and Science , Agricultrre, Forestry and Water Economy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Education and Science, Ministry of Agryculture, Forestry and Water Economy, Ministry of Economy, Association of private companies, Unite of local communities, Federation of Farmrs, Federation of HanTERS, Federation of Fisheries, the Green Coalition in Macedonia.</p>	
<p>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)?</p>	<p>C - Partly</p>
<p>1.5.3 Additional information: Communication with intenational secretariats (CBD, CMS, RCW), UN Agencies (UNEP, UNESCO, FAO), and via Macedonian diplomatic Mision in UN and diplomatic office (MFA)</p>	
<p>1.5.4 Have you translated and disseminated the “Changwon Declaration” into local languages relevant for your country?</p>	<p>C - Partly</p>
<p>1.5.4 Additional information: in Macedonian and Albanian languages.</p>	



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  
D - Planned

1.6.1 Additional information: National Focal Point for RCW have good cooperation with Scientific institutions (faculty of Natural Science Skopje, Faculty of Forestry, Faculty of Food and Agriculture Skopje, Hydrobiological Institute-Ohrid nad Fish Station Shum- Struga).

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

C - Partly

1.6.2 Additional information: Only for: Draft MP of Ohrid Lake, MP of Mavrovo Lake, MP of Tikvesh Lake and MP of Matka Lake.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 1.6 implementation:

Publications (prospects, posters) and CD-ROM has been prepared from BSPSM (Prespa Lake and Doyran Lake, March Monospitovsko Blato) and Project office of UNDP in Skopje (Matka Lake and Tikvesh Lake).

**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.*

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

D - Planned

1.7.1 Additional information:

National Strategy for Water and Action Plan, MP for tree river basin Vardar, Strumica and Crni Drim

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

D - Planned

1.7.2 Additional information:

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}

D - Planned

1.7.3 Additional information:

National Strategy for Education, National Strategy for Communication

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}

Z - Not applicable

1.7.4 Additional information:

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

D - Planned

1.7.5 Additional information:

New UNDP/GEF project for preparation Action Plan for prevention of negative impact and affect from climate change to wetland and other natural ecosystems.

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

D - Planned

1.7.6 Additional information: UNDP/GEF project include components and actions for agricultural sector and water economy sector (see 1.7.5)

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: MEPP (DN) in cooperation of MRC and BSPSM has made list with priority sites for wetlands restoration: Reservate Ezerani, march Stensko Blato, part of r.site Prespa Lake, r. site Doyran Lake, Studencisko Blato on Ohrid Lake, march Monospitovsko Blato and march Katlanovsko Blato.

1.8.2 Have wetland restoration/rehabilitation programmes or projects been implemented? {1.5.1} KRA 1.8.i	D - Planned
1.8.2 Additional information: State budget, budget of MEPP and budgets of local municipalities in Resen, Doyran, Ohrid, Struga, Strumica, Novo Selo, Petrovec-Skopje are very restricted- lack of financial resorces.	

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}	C - Partly
1.8.3 Additional information:	

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 1.8 implementation:  
Implementation of key projects for wetlands restavration/rehabilitation is planned with financial assistance of private sector and international donors.

**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	D - Planned
1.9.1 Additional information: New project for preparation National inventory of IAS.	

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: Annual programme on National Park Galicica (island Golem Grad on Prespa Lake), National Park Mavrovo (rivers and Mavrovo Lake) and National Park Pelister (two glacial lakes Golemo and Malo Ezero, river Brajcinska Reka), Ornithological reservate Ezerani, Ornithological reservate Tikvesh, marches Belchishko Blato, Monospitovsko Blato, Katlanovsko Blato, Nature Monument Kanjon Matka (Lake Matka) , rivers Treska and Pchinja.	

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 1.9 implementation: several targets and actions has been included in the SAP of Biodiversity (MEPP).

**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

C - Partly

1.10.1 Additional information: Macedonian Government, MEPP, MAFWE and Ministry of Economy are implement project of stimulated measures for supporting private sector. Several pilot-projects has been imlemented from farmers and other private stakeholders for good praktice and wise use of naural resources in wetlands.

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  
D - Planned

1.10.2 Additional information: Local municipalities of Ohrid, Struga, Resen, Doyran, Strumica, Bosilovo, Kavadarci, Veles, Petrovec, Saraj-Skopje have programmes for sustainable development of wetland. Private companies will implement separated projects for sustainable use of natural resources in wetlands.

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: MRC/BSPSM, MEPP, MAFWE and UNDP, Project office in Skopje are distributed materials (prospets) to local municipalities and private companies.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 1.10 implementation: Information Center on Ornithological reserve Ezerani (managed by BSPSM) has organized workshops and traenig-cources for private sector (farmers, companies).

**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
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1.11.1 Additional information:

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	D - Planned
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1.11.2 Additional information:

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 1.11 implementation:  
MRC, BSPSM has implemented annual programme by voluntary contribution of chouls, students, local communities nad NGOs.

## 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	D - Planned
2.1.1 Additional information: Only Draft-List of proposed wetlands for new Ramsar sites (MEPP, MRC, BSPSM, 2011)	
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	B - No
2.1.2 Additional information: /	
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	6 sites
2.1.4 Additional information (please indicate the anticipated year of designation): Review with planed wetlands in MK (for 2011-2015) has been sent to the the MEPP, MFA and Secretariat of RCW.	

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 2.1 implementation: Proposed wetlands for 6 ramsar sites: Ohrid Lake, Belcisko Blato, Monospitovsko Blato, Katlanovsko Blato, Bel Kamen, Bukri (fish pont).

**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: users: MEPP/DN, MRK and BSPSM.	

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 2.2 implementation:  
Study of evaluation of biodiversity in the Belasica and Monospitovsko Blato (BSPSM, 2010-2011)

**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	B - No
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2.3.1 Additional information: /

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 2.3 implementation: Management plans will be prepared by the management body of r. site Prespa Lake (local municipality of Resen) and MB of r. site Doyran Lake (local community of Doyram). MP for Ohrid Lake is in process of preparation by MEPP, Hidrobiological Institute of Ohrid and local municipalities Ohrid, Struga and Debarca. MP for march Monospitovsko Blato will be prepared by management body of local communities Strumica and Bosilovo.

**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	0 sites
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2.4.2 For those Ramsar Sites with a management plan, for how many is the management plan being implemented? KRA 2.4.i	0 sites
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2.4.3 How many Ramsar Sites have a management plan in preparation? KRA 2.4.i	2 sites
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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	0 sites
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2.4.1 – 2.4.4 Additional information: MP for Ramsar site Presp Lake and MP for r. site Doyran Lake.

2.4.5 Do the Ramsar Site management plans establish the maintenance of the ecological character as a management objective? KRA 2.4.ii	C - Some sites
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2.4.5 Additional information: Reserve Ezerani, part of r. site Prespa Lake (1994), Ramsar site Doyran Lake (MRK, 2007)

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

1 sites

2.4.6 Additional information (If at least "1 site", please name the site(s)): Ramsar site Prespa Lake (1995)

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

2 sites

2.4.7 Additional information (If at least "1 site", please give the site(s) name and official number): Ramsar site Prespa Lake, Reserve Ezerani (MRC 1994), Ramsar site Doyran Lake (MRC 2007).

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): Ramsar Site Prespa lake, Reservate Ezerani (Prof.Dr. Branko Micevski, MRC, BSPSM, 2009-2011), Ramsar site Doyran Lake (Prof.Dr. B. Micevski, MRS, BSPSM, 2009-2011).

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 2.5 implementation: Sumary of two assesments has been sent to the Cbinet of the Ministry of Environment.

**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): President of MRC and BSPSM has sen informations to the Macedonian Government, MFA and MEPP of negative affects and changes of ecological character in Reservate Ezerani, part of r. site Prespa Lake and r. site Doyran Lake. National Fokal Point for RCW and MRK has organised tree meetings with representtives by the Environment Administration, State Environment Inspectorate and State Inspectorate for Forestry and Hanting. Nation FP for RCW has sent information to MFA, MEPP and to local government in Resen and Dojran comunities.	

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	A - Yes
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): Strict Natural Reservate Ezerany, part of r. site Prespa Lake, r. site Doyran Lake (see National Report of MK to R COP 10 and document of MOP7, 2011).	

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	B - No
2.6.3 Additional information (if "Yes", please indicate the actions taken): Letter from the Ministry of Environment have not been sent to the Ramsar Secretariat.	

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 2.6 implementation: National FP for RCW and MRC in October 2010 has organised special meeting for this issue. Concludions from MRC has been distributet to the MFA, MEPP (Cabinet of Minister, EA, SIE), MAFWE (SIFH).

**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
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2.7.1 Additional information: MEPP (DN), MRC, BSPSM has made information for several internationally important wetlands and ecological characters.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 2.7 implementation: Propised wtlands for new ramsar sites: Ohrid Lake, March Studencista, march Belchishko Blato, march Monospitovsko Blato, march Katlanovsko Blato, Tikvesh Lake.

### GOAL 3. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

**STRATEGY 3.1 Synergies and partnerships with MEAs and IGOs.** *Work as partners with international and regional multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) and other intergovernmental agencies (IGOs).*

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

3.1.1 Additional information: MEPP is the Administrative Authority responsible for CBD, RCW, CMS, AEWA, EUROBATS, CITES, FCCC, UNCD, BC/CE.

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

C - Partly

3.1.2 Additional information: National focal point for RCW is also NFP for CMS, AEWA, EUROBATS. President of MRC has invited other National focal points (of MEAs) to participate in meetings of the MRC.

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

C - Partly

3.1.3 Additional information: MEPP, Department of cooperation and projects coordination has communicated with UN agencies and agreements with assistance by the MFA.

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

Z - Not applicable

3.1.4 Additional information:

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 3.1 implementation:

Annually has been organised young meeting for national focal points at the MEPP and representatives from relevant departments of MFA.

**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): Mediteranean Wetlands (MedWet), Mediteranean region, Balcan Green Belt (IUCN), Balkan Region.

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): Information Center of Strict Nature Reservate Ezerani, in village Asamati, r. site Prespa Lake (Prespa Park). Education trening center of BSPSM in the Faculty of Natural Sciences, Institute of Biology, Skopje.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 3.2 implementation: MRC is member of MedWet since R COP 6 (Brisbene, Australia). MEPP (DN) participate of European Green Belt/ Balkan Green Belt since 1999 (IUCN inisiative). tree natural lakes Ohrid, Prespa and Doyran and Vardar-Axios river basin has been includet in the framework of Balkan Green Belt (transboundary cooperation with Albanian and Greec Ministry of Environment, regional and local management authority of protected areas).

**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

Z - Not applicable

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

Z - Not applicable

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}

B - No

3.3.3 Additional information (If “Yes”, please indicate from which countries/agencies since COP10):

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}

C - Partly

3.4.1 Additional information (If “Yes” or “Partly”, please indicate the networks and wetlands involved): MRC and BSPSM has coordinate activities for knowledge sharing and training of local groups and students for integral protection of wetlands in MK and Mediteranean Region.

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 2002/2003 MRC/BSPSM has prepared The Macedonian Wetlands Inventory (publication in macedonan and english language and CD ROM). In 2007 MRC/BSPSM has prepared documet of ramsar site Doyran Lake. Information of two r.sites is available a web site of MEPP and RCW.

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:

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 3.4 implementation: The Macedonian Wetlands Inventory. Nomination of Ramsar site Doyran Lake. Draft-List of proposed wetlands of MK for International important wetlands (Ramsar List).

**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: Joint Programme for Biodiversity conservation (MRC/RCW, MBC/CMS and MCB/CBD).

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

D - Planned

3.5.2 Additional information (if "Yes" or "Partly", please indicate for which wetland systems such management is in place):

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: MRC and BSPSM participate in regional network for important wetlands and routes of migratory species (water birds and bats).

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 3.5 implementation: President of MRC and BSPSM, Prof. Dr. Branko Micevski is coordinator of these activities.

<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>D - Planned D - Planned C - In progress C - In progress</p>
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<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): Ntional focal point for RCW, Governmental National fp for CEPA and NGO National fp for CEPA, members od MRC are fill involved of this process.</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>2 centres</p>
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<p>4.1.2 Additional information (If centres are part of a national or international network, please describe the network(s)): Information Center of Strict Natural Reserve Ezerani, part of r. site Prespa Lake (Prespa Park), Education Center in the BSPSM, part of BirtLife International, WWF (FNSC.IB, Skopje).</p>	
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<p>4.1.3 Does the Contracting Party:</p>	
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- |  |  |
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| <p>a) promote public participation in decision-making with respect to wetland planning and management<br/>b) specifically involve local stakeholders in the selection of new Ramsar Sites and in Ramsar Site management?</p> |  |
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	<p>A - Yes</p>
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	<p>A - Yes</p>
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<p>{4.1.3} KRA 4.1.iii</p>	
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<p>4.1.3 Additional information (if "Yes" or "Partly", please provide information about the ways in which local communities are involved): Local communities of Resen, Doyran, Ohrid, Struga, Kavadarci, Petrovec, Saraj, Skopje.</p>	
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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	D - Planned
4.1.4 Additional information: MEPP, MRC and BSPSM	
4.1.5 How many opportunities for wetland site manager training have been provided since COP10? {4.10.3} KRA 4.1.iv	0 opportunities
4.1.5 Additional information (including whether the Ramsar Wise Use Handbooks were used in the training):	
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): Macedonian Ramsar Committee has ben established in January 1994.</p> <p>a) Membership: MFA, MEPP, MAFWE, FNS/IB, FFA, BSPSM.</p> <p>b) Annual special meeting (WWD on 02.02), tematic session, meeting of governmental institutions, scientific institutions, local municipalities, managment authorities of protected areas, buseniss sector and media.</p> <p>c) MRC is responsible for coordination of activities on scientific assesments, analisses and monitoring of implementation of Ramsar convention in MK.</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> <p>a. Ramsar Sites managers?</p> <p>b. other MEA national focal points?</p> <p>c. relevant ministries, departments and agencies?</p> <p>{4.4.3} KRA 4.1.vi</p>	<p>C - Partly</p> <p>C - Partly</p> <p>C - Partly</p>
4.1.7 Additional information (If "Yes" or "Partly", please describe what types of mechanism are in place): Communication and change of relevant information and document of UN MEAs, UN agencies, International organisation and Regional office of RCW, MedWet Committee and Prespa Park Committee.	
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: MEPP, MRC and BSPSM has organise special meeting for celebrate WWD and other activities with NGOs and media.	



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): Training courses, workshops, communication with NGOs, local communities and media for raise awareness of the importance of wetlands for biodiversity conservation and sustainable development of our best future.

Additional information on any other aspects of Strategy 4.1 implementation:  
Joint Programme, RCW, CMS and CBD, and Annual Programme (2009, 2010, 2011) is available on the MEPP web site and MRC, BSPSM e-data base.

**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

B - No

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

Since 1995 this operation (payment) has been executed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This year obligation to pay Ramsar contribution have MEPP. In December 2011 Department for budget will pay contribution for 2010 and 2011.

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): MEPP, DN, MAFWE, MECs, ME has used relevant information and data from electronic set of previous National Ramsar Reports monitoring of implementation RCW and resolutions of COPS.

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:

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): IUCN, Birdlife International, Wetlands International, WWF, EURONATUR, REC.

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): IUCN, BLI, WI, WWF, WMC

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).