



Memorandum of Cooperation
between
The Secretariat of the Convention on Wetlands
and
Ducks Unlimited, Inc.

Preamble

Recalling the 2001 Memorandum of Cooperation between the Bureau of the Convention on Wetlands and Ducks Unlimited;

Reaffirming the important role of non-governmental organizations in the implementation of the Convention on Wetlands;

Considering the strong, active and significant contribution that Ducks Unlimited, Inc. (hereafter Ducks Unlimited) continues to make after 75 years of active support for the sustainable use of natural resources and more recently the implementation of environmental conventions;

Noting the need to actively promote awareness and education of the value of wetland resources to the public;

Recognizing the conservation aims of Ducks Unlimited and the aims expressed in the text of the Convention on Wetlands (hereafter the Ramsar Convention) are fully compatible;

Emphasizing the value of coordinating and collaborating to enhance global efforts to conserve and sustainably use wetland resources; and

Seeking to reaffirm and formalize in an explicit and enduring manner a joint commitment to a productive partnership collaboration to enhance actions by the Ramsar Convention and Ducks Unlimited to advance the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands worldwide.

Article I - Cooperation

The Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and Ducks Unlimited agree that:

1. Ducks Unlimited will endeavour to promote through its networks, partners, representatives, Associate Organizations and individual experts, the mission of the Ramsar Convention, contributing to the implementation of the Strategic Plan of the Ramsar Convention, especially through management and restoration of Wetlands of International Importance (commonly called Ramsar Sites).
2. The Ramsar Convention Secretariat will endeavour to promote the conservation efforts of Ducks Unlimited, in line with the text of the Ramsar Convention, including through the involvement of its networks of partners, its Contracting Parties and the Scientific and Technical Review Panel, to contribute to the implementation of the Ducks Unlimited Strategic Plan through supporting and assisting, as appropriate, the work and conservation priorities of Ducks Unlimited.
3. Ducks Unlimited and the Ramsar Secretariat will seek to assess how the terms of their respective strategic plans relate as a basis for identifying the framework of common action and to coordinate and collaborate as possible.
4. The parties will coordinate and collaborate, as applicable (i) on the sharing of training or workshop modules and materials for wetlands managers, habitat conservation or on other related topics, (ii) on communication and outreach materials targeted for raising public awareness of wetland values, (iii) on wetland education tools, projects or programmes, and (iv) through communication channels unique to each organization.
5. Ducks Unlimited and the Ramsar Convention Secretariat will identify programmes and projects for cooperation centered on the conservation and sustainable use of highest priority wetlands within four (4) months of the signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation. The plan will be considered as an annex to the Memorandum and updated every three (3) years from the date of completion of the Annex.
6. Ducks Unlimited will be invited to participate as observer in formal and informal meetings of bodies of the Ramsar Convention, as appropriate, including the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP) and at other informal meetings or groups as a member or expert.
7. The Ramsar Convention Secretariat and Ducks Unlimited will seek to regularly share information and data, including monitoring and evaluation results of wetland areas, trends, issues and other emerging topics, on the status of wetland sites to the greatest extent possible, and seek to develop new data methodologies or parameters for data collection, as agreed, particularly with respect to the objectives of the management, maintenance and restoration of wetland habitats and the economic value of wetland ecosystem services, and strategies to engage citizens and public officials in wetland policy, conservation and sustainable use.

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8. Ducks Unlimited will seek to promote and support the designation of Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Sites) and will provide special recognition to the sites or candidate sites that support, for example, water bird species and populations, and help raise awareness, particularly in the Americas, of the special status of these sites.

9. The Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands acknowledges the independent right of Ducks Unlimited to voice its policy position on any matter within the scope of the Convention's work.

Article II. Review

The parties to this Memorandum of Cooperation agree to meet regularly, in person or via teleconference or video conference, at least one time per year, in order to review the implementation of the Memorandum and any Annexes, to share information and work undertaken that is mutually beneficial and helpful in promoting the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands.

Article III: Amendments, Disclaimer Termination

1. Any amendment or addition to this Memorandum of Cooperation shall be agreed by the parties in writing.

2. This Memorandum may be reviewed at the request of either party and modified upon written agreement by both parties.

3. This Memorandum of Cooperation constitutes an expression of shared objectives towards the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands. However, each party's actions will be considered to be that party's sole and separate action, and neither party shall claim to be acting on behalf of, or as agent for the other party to this Memorandum of Cooperation.

4. The Memorandum can be terminated by either party upon communication by the other party to withdraw from the Memorandum sent in writing electronically and by registered mail with a confirmed registered receipt, at least three (3) months prior to the date for which the termination is requested

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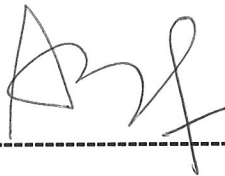
Article IV: Entry into Force

1. The present Memorandum of Cooperation, drawn up in English, shall enter into force upon signature by the parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, the duly authorized representatives of the parties have signed the present agreement in English in two copies.

**For the Secretariat of the
Ramsar Convention**

For Ducks Unlimited


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Anada Tiega

Dale Hall

Secretary General

Chief Executive Officer

Place: New York City, New York, USA

Place: New York City, New York, USA

Date: 02 - 02 - 2012

Date: Feb 2, 2012

