



UNEP



WCMC

Memorandum of Cooperation between the Secretariat of the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar, Iran, 1971) and the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre

The Secretary General of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and the Director of the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC),

CONSCIOUS of the commitment of both the Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention and the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre - hereafter the Parties to this Memorandum of Cooperation - to the conservation and wise use of wetlands and wetland services through local and national actions and international cooperation, as a contribution to achieving sustainable development throughout the world,

RECOGNISING the opportunities the Ramsar Strategic Plan 2009-2014 offers for increased collaboration,

ACKNOWLEDGING UNEP-WCMC's past and present support to both the Ramsar Convention Secretariat and Contracting Parties,

COMMITTED to broaden their collaboration to bear UNEP-WCMC's technical and capacity building expertise on the improved implementation of the Convention,

Hereby AGREE a framework for future collaboration between the Parties to support the implementation of the Ramsar Convention.

Article 1 - Purpose

The purpose of this Memorandum of Cooperation is to provide a flexible framework for collaboration between the Parties, mobilising UNEP-WCMC's technical and capacity-building expertise for an improved implementation of the Ramsar Convention.

Article 2 – Areas of collaboration

The collaboration of the Parties will focus in particular, but not exclusively on the areas listed in the Annex to this Memorandum of Cooperation.

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Article 3 – Implementation agreements

Both Parties commit to develop implementation agreements under the areas of common interest mentioned in Article 2 and other areas as needs arise. These implementation agreements will define the nature and details of the tasks to be carried out.

Article 4 – Status of the partners and their personnel

The Parties acknowledge and agree that both Parties are separate and distinct entities. The employees, personnel, representatives, agents or contractors of one Party including the personnel engaged for carrying out any of the project activities pursuant to this agreement shall not be considered in any respect or for any purposes whatsoever as being employees, personnel, representatives, agents, contractors or other affiliates of the other Party.

Article 5 – Intellectual property, names and logos

The Parties will respect each other's intellectual property at all times and shall consult with one another and agree in advance, under a separate legal instrument pursuant to this Agreement, on the Intellectual Property Rights relating to any project or benefits derived thereof in respect of activities carried out. Nothing in this Agreement shall give one Party any rights in respect of any names or logos used by the other Party, or of the goodwill associated with such names or logos.

Article 6 – Term, amendment and termination

This Agreement shall be effective from the date of signature until 31 December 2012 but may be extended either modified or unmodified in substance as mutually agreed for a further period of 3 years. The Parties may, by written agreement, amend the goals of this Agreement at any time and either Party may terminate this Agreement by giving not less than 30 days written notification.


Article 7 – Dispute settlement

Any dispute between the Parties arising out of the interpretation or execution of this Memorandum of Cooperation shall be settled amicably through consultation or negotiation. If the Parties are unable to reach agreement through such negotiation, the dispute shall be settled through arbitration in accordance with the Arbitration Rules of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) as at present in force.

Signed this fourth day of June 2010 at Gland, Switzerland



Anada Tiéga
Secretary General
Ramsar Convention on Wetlands



Jon Hutton
Director
UNEP-WCMC

Annex to the Memorandum of Cooperation between the Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention and the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre

The following list includes areas of cooperation between the Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention and the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre. The list is not exclusive and can be extended at any time.

- Improved integration of data between the World Database on Protected Areas and other relevant data sets held by UNEP-WCMC and the set of Wetlands of International Importance
- The role of wetlands, both terrestrial and coastal, in climate change mitigation and adaptation and the impacts of climate change on wetlands
- Threats to wetlands, including human-induced threats (additional threats besides climate change)
- Making operational and further developing the Ramsar Indicators of Effectiveness and options for their integration with the 2010 and post-2010 biodiversity indicators of the Convention on Biological Diversity
- Data and information needs of the Ramsar Convention
- Harmonization of national reporting to biodiversity-related Conventions