

Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar, Iran, 1971)
4th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties
Montreux, Switzerland
27 June – 4 July 1990

Resolution 4.3: A Wetland Conservation Fund

RECOGNISING that measures necessary to assure the conservation and wise use of wetlands may often require resources beyond those available to developing countries;

THE CONFERENCE OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES

DECIDES to establish a Wetland Conservation Fund (the Fund), which shall operate according to the following principles:

- (a) the Fund shall be administered by the Bureau under the supervision of the Standing Committee, pursuant to the Terms of Reference for the Financial Administration of the Convention;
- (b) the Fund shall include such revenues as may be allocated in the budget approved by the Contracting Parties, and any additional revenues received as voluntary contributions;
- (c) the Fund shall be used only to provide assistance to developing countries, upon official request from a competent national authority, for activities in furtherance of the purposes of the Convention;
- (d) all applications for allocations from the Fund shall be reviewed and decided by the Standing Committee, under such procedures as it may prescribe;
- (e) any developing country that is a Contracting Party may apply for an allocation from the Fund to support wetland conservation activities, including:
 - i) activities that will improve management of listed sites, such as inventories, monitoring, investigation of threats, preparation of management plans, training of site managers, and public education programmes;
 - ii) activities required for the designation of sites, such as surveys, boundary delineation, evaluation of hydrological factors, and identification of threats; and
 - iii) activities that will promote "wise use" of wetlands, such as providing seed money for preparation of proposals to be submitted to development assistance agencies and multilateral development banks; and
- (f) any developing country that is seeking to accede to the Convention may apply for a grant from the Fund to support activities necessary for the identification, delineation, and mapping of a site to be included on the List of Wetlands of International Importance.