



**10<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the  
Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar, Iran, 1971)**

*“Healthy wetlands, healthy people”*

**Changwon, Republic of Korea,  
28 October-4 November 2008**

**Resolution X.32**

**Thanks to the host country, the Republic of Korea**

1. HAVING MET for the first time in 15 years in the Asia region, in the Republic of Korea (Changwon City);
2. FULLY AWARE of the significant effort required for the organization of a meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties (COP), with, on this occasion, more than 1,620 participants from 129 Contracting Parties and 2 observer States;
3. RECOGNIZING the Republic of Korea’s visionary low-carbon Green Growth Initiative championed by His Excellency Lee Myung-bak, President of the Republic of Korea; and
4. NOTING the launch of the Ramsar Cultural Centre by the Mayor of Changwon City on 2 November 2008;

**THE CONFERENCE OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES**

5. EXPRESSES its gratitude to His Excellency Lee Myung-bak, President of the Republic of Korea, for his outstanding commitment to and support for wetland conservation;
6. RECORDS its thanks to the President, the Alternate President and the Vice-Presidents of COP10 for their efficient and effective chairing of the plenary sessions;
7. ALSO RECORDS its thanks and appreciation to the Republic of Korea, and in particular to the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs, for their efficient, comprehensive and thorough preparations which ensured the smooth running of the COP and all its associated events, as well as for the secondment of an officer to assist the Secretariat in the preparations for COP10;
8. FURTHER RECORDS its gratitude to the government of Gyeongnam Province for its exceptional hospitality and generous support;
9. FEELS INDEBTED to the mayor and people of Changwon City for their warm and gracious welcome, and for their efforts made to fully engage and mobilize the local community both before and during the COP in support of wetland conservation;
10. EXPRESSES its admiration for and utmost appreciation of the crucial role played by the COP10 volunteers that have contributed to so many aspects of the COP’s success;

11. GREATLY APPRECIATES the numerous side events and cultural exhibitions that provided a wonderful opportunity for technical and cultural exchanges between delegates and Korean citizens;
12. COMMENDS the Republic of Korea's support for the Ramsar Convention and wetland conservation and wise use through:
  - a) its commitment to promoting implementation of the Changwon Declaration;
  - b) its generous contribution to the Ramsar Small Grants Fund;
  - c) its hosting of the drafting workshop for the Changwon Declaration and of the intersessional technical meeting of the STRP on wetlands and health, which made a significant contribution to the theme of COP10; and
  - d) the generous support by Changwon City for production of the new Ramsar promotional video;
13. WELCOMES in particular the Republic of Korea's plan to inaugurate the *Ramsar Regional Centre for East Asia* to enhance implementation of the Ramsar Convention; and
14. LOOKS FORWARD to working ever more closely with the government and people of the Republic of Korea to harness the interest and energy generated by COP10 for the benefit of wetland conservation locally, nationally, and internationally.