

Agenda item 9

Draft Resolution X.00

[Danube Delta]

Submitted by Romania

Note from the Secretariat: The Secretariat suggests that this draft Resolution submitted by Romania, in the form approved by Standing Committee during its 37th meeting, should be incorporated into or annexed to the draft Resolution on “The status of sites in the Ramsar List” now proposed under the number DOC. SC37-14. This DR was untitled as submitted.

1. DEPLORING the lack of willingness of certain States to provide detailed information on the status of threatened Ramsar sites under their jurisdiction;
2. RECALLING the provisions of Resolution IX.15 adopted by the 9th meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Wetlands in 2005, in particular paragraph 27 iv) dedicated to the development of the deep water Bystroe navigation channel in the Danube Delta;
3. BEARING IN MIND the repeated requests made by the Standing Committee since 2006 for Ukraine to report on the progress accomplished in implementing the recommendations articulated in Resolution IX.15;
4. NOTING WITH GREAT CONCERN that Ukraine has not taken steps to improve the communication in this respect;

THE CONFERENCE OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES

5. DEEPLY REGRETS that Ukraine has pursued the works aimed at finalizing the project without having previously drawn up a full environmental impact assessment in accordance with international requirements and Resolution VII.16 and, in particular, without having adopted the required mitigation and/or compensation measures;
6. EXPRESSES ITS DISAPPOINTMENT that the recommendations articulated in Resolution IX.15 have not been put into practice by Ukraine;
7. EXPRESSES ITS GREAT CONCERN for the adoption by Ukraine of the “Final decision concerning the Full-scale Implementation of the Danube-Black Sea Navigation Route Project in the Ukrainian part of the Danube Delta” without having previously properly consulted all stakeholders involved, including Romania as a party affected by the transboundary negative effects of the project;

8. URGES Ukraine not to implement the final decision and to resume the dialogue in order to ensure an adequate protection of the ecosystem of the Danube Delta, one of Europe's most important wetlands; and
9. REQUESTS Ukraine to provide full documentation on the project, including measures to reduce and eliminate the transboundary impact, as well as possible alternatives to the proposed activity, including the no-action alternative, in order that that documentation may be examined by international experts, and to report on a regular basis on the evolution of this file in order to jointly identify a positive solution.