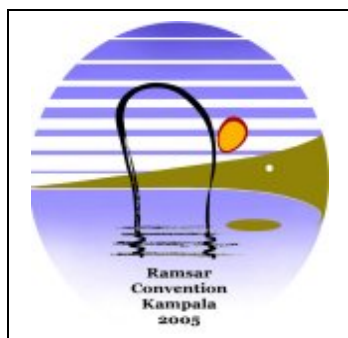


CONVENTION ON WETLANDS (Ramsar, Iran, 1971)

**Meeting of the Standing Committee Subgroup on COP9
Gland, Switzerland, 7-10 March 2005**

DOC. COP9 SG-2

Agenda item 3



**9th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the
Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar, Iran, 1971)**

***“Wetlands and water: supporting life, sustaining
livelihoods”***

Kampala, Uganda 8-15 November 2005

Provisional Agenda and Programme

- I Opening of the Meeting
- II General Statements
- III Adoption of the Agenda
- IV Adoption of the Rules of Procedure
- V Election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons and remarks by the
Chairperson
- VI Appointment of the Credentials Committee and any other committees
- VII Admission of Observers
- VIII Report of the Chairperson of the Standing Committee
- IX Report of the Chairperson of the Scientific and Technical Review Panel
(STRP)
- X Report of the Secretary General and overview of the implementation of
the Convention at the global level
- XI Issues arising from Resolutions and Recommendations of previous
meetings of the Conference of the Contracting Parties
- XII The Convention Strategic Plan 2003-2008: a review of progress
- XIII The Convention's Work Plan 2006-2008
- XIV Financial report and proposed budget for the triennium 2006-2008
- XV Consideration of the draft Resolutions and Recommendations submitted
by Contracting Parties and the Standing Committee
- XVI Report of the Credentials Committee
- XVII Report on the discussions, conclusions and recommendations in the
Administration/Implementation sessions
- XVIII Reports and recommendations of the Technical Sessions
- XIX Adoption of Resolutions and Recommendations
- XX Election of the Contracting Parties that will serve on the Standing
Committee

- XXI Date and venue of the next Ordinary Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties
- XXII Any other business
- XXIII Adoption of the report of the 9th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties
- XXIV Close of the meeting

Monday, 7 November 2005

- 10:00 – 18:00 32nd Meeting of the Standing Committee (thenceforward the Conference Committee)
 09.00 - 18.00 Registration of delegates

Tuesday, 8 November 2005

- 10:00 – 13:00 MedWet/Com VII; Americas regional meeting; Asia regional meeting;
 14:30 – 17:30 Africa regional meeting; Americas regional meeting; Europe regional meeting; Oceania Regional meeting
 18:00 – 21:00 Opening ceremony and welcoming statements
 (includes Agenda items I and II)

Wednesday, 9 November 2005

- 08:00 – 18:00 Registration (continued)
 10:00 – 13:00 **Plenary Session**
 III Adoption of the Agenda
 IV Adoption of the Rules of Procedure
 V Election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons
 Remarks by the Chairperson
 VI Appointment of the Credentials Committee and any other committees
 VII Admission of Observers
 VIII Report of the Chairperson of the Standing Committee
 13:00 – 15:00 Lunch break
 15:00 – 18:00 **Plenary Session**
 Special statement: The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment and its results relating to the Ramsar Convention
 IX Report of the Chairperson of the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP)
 X Report of the Secretary General and overview of the implementation of the Convention at the global level
 XI Issues arising from Resolutions and Recommendations of previous meetings of the Conference of the Contracting Parties:
 Special presentation on wetland conservation and sustainable use in Uganda

Followed by Host Country reception

Thursday, 10 November 2005

- 08:45 – 09:45 Meeting of the Conference Committee
- 10:00 – 13:00 **Plenary Session: Administration/Implementation matters**
- XII The Convention's Strategic Plan 2003-2008: a review of progress
- XIII The Convention's Work Plan 2006-2008: introduction and first general discussion
- XIV Financial report by the Chairperson of the Subgroup on Finance of the Standing Committee and proposed budget for the triennium 2006-2008
- XV Consideration of the draft Resolutions and Recommendations submitted by Contracting Parties and the Standing Committee
- 13:00 – 15:00 Lunch break
- 15:00 – 18:00 **Regional Meetings** to prepare and caucus views for the upcoming Administration/Implementation and Technical Sessions:

Friday, 11 November 2005

- 08:45 – 09:45 Meeting of the Conference Committee
- 10:00 – 13:00 **Plenary Session:** Administration/Implementation matters (continuation from the previous day)
- 13:00 – 15:00 Lunch break
- 15:00 – 18:00 **Plenary Session:** Administration/Implementation matters (continuation from the morning)

Saturday, 12 November 2005

- 08:45 – 09:45 Meeting of the Conference Committee
- 10:00 – 13:00 **Technical Session: The role of wisely managing wetlands in alleviating poverty and promoting human well-being**
1. The role of culture and knowledge in wetland management
 2. Ramsar and integrated water management
- 13:00 – 15:00 Lunch break
- 15:00 – 18:00 **Technical Session: The role of wisely managing wetlands in alleviating poverty and promoting human well-being** (continued)
1. Applying the wise use principle
 2. The role of Ramsar in mitigating natural disasters, such as tsunamis
- 20:30 – 22:00 **Regional meetings** to agree on recommendations to the Plenary Session on Contracting Parties to be elected to serve on the Standing Committee

Sunday, 13 November 2005

- 08:45 – 09:45 Meeting of the Conference Committee
- 10:00 – 13:00 **Contact groups** to consider those draft Resolutions where issues remain to be agreed

Field visits organised by Uganda

Monday, 14 November 2005

- 08:45 – 09:45 Meeting of the Conference Committee
- 10:00 – 13:00 **Plenary Session**
- XVI Report of the Credentials Committee
- XVII Report on the discussions, conclusions and recommendations in the Administration/Implementation sessions
- 13:00 – 15:00 Lunch break
- 15:00 – 18:00 **Plenary Session**
- XVII Report on the discussions, conclusions and recommendations in the Administration/Implementation sessions (continued)
- XVIII Reports and recommendations arising from the Technical Session

Tuesday, 15 November 2005

- 08:45 – 09:45 Meeting of the Conference Committee
- 10:00 – 13:00 Plenary Session**
- XIX Adoption of Conference Resolutions and Recommendations
- 13:00 – 14:00 Lunch break
- 15:00 – 18:00 Plenary Session**
- Presentation of the Ramsar award*** (provisional)
- XX Election of the Contracting Parties that will serve on the Standing Committee
- XXI Date and venue of the next Ordinary Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties

- XXII Any other business
- XXIII Adoption of the report of the 9th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties
- XXIV Close of the meeting

Evening 33rd Meeting of the Standing Committee

Wednesday, 16 November 2005

Possible High-level Segment; to be organised by the Government of Uganda

NOTES ON SOME SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS:

- III Adoption of the Agenda
The Conference will consider document **Ramsar COP9 DOC. 1: Provisional Agenda and Programme** and adopt the Agenda and Programme for this meeting.
- IV Adoption of the Rules of Procedure
The Conference will consider document **Ramsar COP9 DOC. 2: Rules of Procedure** and will adopt the Rules for the 9th Meeting. Note: The Rules have been adopted by Ramsar COP8 and any changes proposed by Standing Committee 31 would need to be proposed here, as Article 6.4 of the Convention texts stipulates that the COP “shall adopt rules of procedure for each of its meetings”.
- V Election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons
Pursuant to the Rules of Procedure, the Conference will elect the Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons for the meeting on the basis of proposals made by the Conference Committee.
- VI Appointment of the Credentials Committee and any other committees
Pursuant to the Rules of Procedure, the Conference will appoint a Credentials Committee on the basis of proposals made by the Conference Committee, and may establish any other committees necessary to enable the Conference to carry out its functions. The COP may wish to establish a Committee on the Work Plan 2006-2008; a Committee on finances and budget; and a Committee on content and duration of future Ordinary Meetings of the Conference of the Contracting Parties.
- VII Admission of Observers
Provisions have always been made for the participation in the Meetings of the Conference of the Contracting Parties of international agencies or bodies, and national governmental and non-governmental agencies or bodies, provided the Parties present do not decide otherwise (a COP document with the list of registered observers will be tabled at the meeting).

- VIII Report of the Chairperson of the STRP/Standing Committee
For Standing Committee, this will be a summary of the previously circulated document setting out the key challenges for the future. For STRP, this will briefly review operations of the STRP and then introduce the draft “Technical Resolution” on additional guidance for wise use, for immediate adoption by the COP. This assumes that this draft Resolution has been through thorough preparatory and consultative processes.
- XI Issues arising from Resolutions and Recommendations of previous meetings of the Conference of the Contracting Parties:
This item will clarify the programme for the following days in terms of which items should be addressed through the Administration and Implementation sessions and which through the Technical session.
- XV Consideration of the draft Resolutions and Recommendations submitted by Contracting Parties and the Standing Committee
A COP document will contain the proposals approved by the Standing Committee at its 31st Meeting (June 2005) for consideration by Ramsar COP9, as well as the proposals submitted by Contracting Parties at least 60 days before the opening of Ramsar COP9 (i.e., by 7 September 2005). In this Plenary Session there will be a first discussion of the proposals, to allow the search for consensus to begin before the final drafts of the decisions are submitted for approval on the last day of the Conference. (Note: Contracting Parties will be able to submit new proposals during the meeting to the Conference Committee, provided that those new proposals deal with: a) urgent issues resulting from the debates during the meeting; and/or b) new developments that it was not possible to foresee in advance.)
- XVI Report of the Credentials Committee
A Ramsar COP9 document will be tabled at the meeting. As on past occasions, the Credentials Committee will require that the credentials of the delegates of Contracting Parties be presented in English, French or Spanish, on the appropriate letterhead, and be **signed by the Head of State or Government and/or the Minister of Foreign Affairs, or by an official legally empowered by the State concerned to accredit representatives at international meetings.**
- XX Election of the Contracting Parties that will serve on the Standing Committee.
On the basis of the proposals presented by the six Ramsar regions, the Conference will elect the countries that will serve on the Standing Committee from the close of the 9th Meeting of the COP until the close of the 10th Meeting. (The new Standing Committee will meet immediately after the close of Ramsar COP9 and, on the basis of the Rules of Procedure, will designate the countries that will act as Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee, as well as the countries that will serve on its Subgroup on Finance and any other subgroup that may have been established.)