

CONVENTION ON WETLANDS (Ramsar, Iran, 1971)

**11th meeting of the Scientific and Technical Review Panel
Gland, Switzerland, 8-11 April 2003**

**DOC. STRP11-1
Addendum 1**

Agenda item 4

**Profiles of STRP International Organization Partner
(IOP) members and observers**

1. For the information of the Panel, brief biographical profiles of the representatives of the International Organization Partner (IOP) members and of some observer organizations, and a short summary of the objectives and work of their organization, are attached.
2. Those observer organizations that have not yet done so are requested to provide the Bureau with similar information so that this can be made available to all STRP participants.

Annex. Profiles of STRP IOP members and observers

IOP members

Organization/body	Organization objectives and work	Representative	Biography
BirdLife International	<p>BirdLife International has a long history of input to policy development in Conventions, pioneering aspects of global guidance as well as elaboration of national policy and legislative frameworks in individual countries. Programmes and projects at local level, through BirdLife's network of Partner Organizations and similar representatives in over 100 countries, include scientific research, conservation management of key sites and ecosystems, education, community participation and wider campaigning initiatives.</p> <p>BirdLife provides support to Convention technical bodies, regional initiatives and national implementation by Parties. In particular it collects and synthesises a variety of data resources to assist with implementation. These include inventories of Important Bird Areas (IBAs) and the World Bird Database, concerning the status and distribution of birds worldwide. BirdLife is also currently developing integrated monitoring and indicator initiatives. BirdLife has participated in several of the STRP's working groups and in one-off or ad hoc working arrangements or workshops associated with the Panel's work programme.</p> <p>Contributions supporting these activities have been made at Technical Sessions of the COP and in regional and sub-regional meetings of the Convention. An expanded role in recent times has involved reflecting the STRP's perspective in other fora, including SBSTTA of CBD, the Scientific Council of CMS, the Technical Committee of AEWFA, the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention, and in joint working arrangements between Ramsar and other Conventions.</p>	<p>David Pritchard International Treaties Adviser, BirdLife International/RSPB</p>	<p>Mr Pritchard has over 20 years' experience in national and international policy and advocacy, from the NGO perspective. His association with Ramsar through most of this period has included previous terms on the STRP, participation in advisory missions, the Standing Committee, various projects, regional meetings, 5 COPs and 12 years on a national committee. Similar work with other MEAs has led to an increasing involvement in collaborations between Conventions.</p>
IUCN – The World Conservation Union	<p>Created in 1948, IUCN - The World Conservation Union brings together 72 states, 107 government agencies, 750-plus NGOs, 34 affiliates, and some 10,000 scientists and experts from 181 countries in a unique worldwide partnership. IUCN's mission is to influence, encourage and assist societies throughout the world to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable.</p>	<p>Dr Jean-Yves Pirot</p>	<p>Jean-Yves Pirot is Head of IUCN's Wetlands & Water Resources Programme. Together with more than 50 colleagues worldwide, he works on the sustainable use of wetlands and water resources, providing support on policy, management and fundraising to the programmes implemented by IUCN members and</p>

	<p>IUCN is the world's largest environmental knowledge network and has helped over 75 countries to prepare and implement national conservation and biodiversity strategies. IUCN is a multi-cultural, multilingual organization with 1000 staff located in 42 countries. Its headquarters are in Gland, Switzerland.</p>		<p>partners. He has devoted much of his time to developing the freshwater and coastal wetland programmes in West, Central and Eastern Africa. He holds a PhD in Ecology from Paris University and has written numerous books, papers and training manuals on subjects such as ecological modeling and management, waterfowl ecology, and wetland and water resources conservation.</p>
<p>Wetlands International</p>	<p>Wetlands International is an International Non-Governmental Organization founded in 1995, whose predecessor organizations assisted in the founding of the Ramsar Convention. Since the inception of the STRP, Wetlands International has provided active support and input to the work of the Convention. In recent years we have taken the lead or co-lead in Working Groups concerning wetland inventory, assessment and monitoring, and on peatlands, also contributing work on ecological character, dams, and on restoration. Wetlands International also provided inputs to defining criteria for Listing Sites and in formulating the Ramsar Site Information Sheet</p> <p>The secretariat is in Wageningen, The Netherlands, and about 145 staff are employed in our network of 15 offices in Argentina, Australia, China, Fiji, Guinea-Bissau, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Mali, Russian Federation, Senegal, Thailand and Ukraine. Our members consist of National Delegates from 58 Member Countries, Counsellors of Honour, representatives from Partner Organizations including IUCN, WWF, and BirdLife, and 26 Specialist Group Coordinators. Members provide strategic guidance to Wetlands International's organizational development and priorities.</p> <p>We consider our core work priorities to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • waterbird monitoring activities, associated data management and supra-national analysis and reporting; • design and piloting of regional approaches to wetland inventory, assessment and monitoring; • design of, development and support to a family of regional flyways; 	<p>Dr Doug Taylor</p>	<p>Douglas Taylor, from early 2000, holds the post of International Science Coordinator at Wetlands International, based in Wageningen, the Netherlands, He was trained as a biologist, with a D.Phil. in plant science, and has worked as a university lecturer in East Africa, wetlands advisor to the Ugandan Government, and wetlands officer in Somerset, UK. His main interests are in using strategic inventory, monitoring and assessment tools to enable wise use of wetlands and in the application of stakeholder-led wetland management. With management responsibility for both the Ramsar Sites Database and the STRP Support Service, he also provides programming support to both services and their associated Web sites.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • science-led input to and facilitation of the conservation and wise use of wetlands <p>These priorities carry through into our Strategy (available through www.wetlands.org).</p> <p>In addition to these free-standing commitments, Wetlands International has two service contracts with the Convention. Since inception of the Ramsar List, we or our founding organizations have published Directories of Ramsar Sites, and on behalf of the Bureau, we subsequently established the Ramsar Sites Database in 1990 and the Information Sheet required to collect information about designated Sites. Currently, Wetlands International holds the <i>Ramsar Site Information and Database Technical Support Contract</i>. Secondly, COP8 called for the establishment of the STRP Support Service, which is to be provided by an International Organization Partner. Wetlands International has been provisionally awarded the contract to provide this Service, working in “open and transparent partnership” with the other IOPs.</p>		
<p>Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF)</p>	<p>WWF prioritises both marine and freshwater conservation among its core thematic programmes of work. On freshwater, WWF focuses on work with partner governments and other organizations to establish and manage protected areas (including Ramsar sites) and on river basin management, and to promote efficient use of freshwater. In its marine program, WWF concentrates on human activities threatening the oceans, helping to create new market incentives and penalties, and influence leadership among governments, industry and civil society. Marine and coastal protected areas are promoted as a key tool toward restoring the balance in our world’s oceans and coasts. More information can be found at www.panda.org</p>	<p>Sian Owen</p>	<p>Sian Owen is Coordinator of the Corals Advocacy Initiative of WWF-International’s Endangered Seas Programme. Trained in environmental and development economics, Ms. Owen’s early career was private sector based. Following several years in media and marketing in the UK, Vietnam and the Netherlands, Ms. Owen started consulting in the environmental field. This eventually led to a transition to the non-government sector, working with WWF’s international marine program. Ms. Owen’s contact with the Ramsar Convention is relatively recent, dating to 2002 when WWF took its first serious steps toward expanding its partnership with the Ramsar secretariat into the marine realm.</p>

Observer organizations/bodies

Organization/body	Organization objectives and work	Representative	Biography
Observer: Ramsar North America Region	-	Randy Milton Manager, Wildlife Resources, Nova Scotia Dept. of Natural Resources, Canada	Mr Milton has over 25 years' experience in inland and coastal wetlands and wetland species in North America and SE Asia, including policy and legislative development, and management and conservation of wetland biodiversity. He has particular expertise wetland inventory, including remote sensing and GIS, migratory species networks on peatlands. He was STRP alternate member for North America for 1999-2002.
International Mires Conservation Group (IMCG)	<p>The International Mire Conservation Group (IMCG) is a formally constituted NGO that operates within an international network of specialists who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. internationally promote, encourage and, where appropriate, coordinate the conservation of mires and related ecosystems; and b. internationally enhance the exchange of information and experience relating to mires and factors affecting them. <p>The network encompasses a wide spectrum of expertise and interests, from research scientists to consultants, government agency specialists to peatland site managers. The network currently has over 400 contacts in 60 countries. For more information visit the IMCG web site, www.imcg.net</p>	Stuart Brooks	Mr Brooks is an expert in peatland conservation management and policy. He is an Executive Committee and active member of the International Mire Conservation Group and is Chairman of the UK Wildlife Trust's Peatlands Specialist Group.
UNEP- World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC)	The UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre is the biodiversity assessment and policy implementation arm of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the world's foremost intergovernmental environmental organization. UNEP-WCMC aims to help decision-makers recognize the value of biodiversity to people everywhere, and to apply this knowledge to all that they do. The Centre's challenge is to transform complex data into policy-relevant information, to build tools and systems for analysis and integration, and to support the needs of nations and the international community as they engage in joint programmes of action.	Christoph Zöckler	Dr. Christoph Zöckler is representing the UNEP-WCMC on freshwater and wetland issues. He has been working on wetland conservation for more than 10 years with WWF and for 7 years with UNEP-WCMC and has gained extensive expertise in wetland restoration, river restoration and wetland biodiversity, namely in the Arctic, the African – Eurasian Flyway and in wet grasslands

	<p>UNEP-WCMC provides objective, scientifically rigorous products and services that include ecosystem assessments, support for implementation of environmental agreements, regional and global biodiversity information, research on threats and impacts, and development of future scenarios for the living world.</p>		<p>interacting with agriculture.</p>
<p>World Resources Institute (WRI)</p>	<p>The World Resources Institute (WRI) is an environmental think tank that goes beyond research to find practical ways to protect the earth and improve people's lives. WRI's mission is to move human society to live in ways that protect Earth's environment and its capacity to provide for the needs and aspirations of current and future generations. Because people are inspired by ideas, empowered by knowledge, and moved to change by greater understanding, WRI provides -- and helps other institutions provide -- objective information and practical proposals for policy and institutional change that will foster environmentally sound, socially equitable development.</p> <p>Every project undertaken by WRI seeks to contribute to one or more of the following goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Safeguard Earth's climate from further harm due to greenhouse gas emissions and help people adapt to unavoidable climate change. - Protect the ecosystems upon which human well-being depends. - Reduce the use of materials and generation of wastes in the production of the goods and services that improve people's lives. - Guarantee all people's access to environmental information and decisions regarding natural resources and the environment. 	<p>Ms Carmen Revenga</p>	<p>Carmen Revenga is a Senior Associate within the Information Program at the World Resources Institute. Her current work focuses on environmental indicators, water resources, fisheries and species conservation. She is lead author of several WRI reports on freshwater and coastal ecosystems and marine fisheries. Before joining WRI in 1997, she worked as an Environmental Scientist with Science and Policy Associates Inc., an environmental consulting firm in Washington, DC. Her work covered topics in sustainable forestry and climate change. She has a M.S. in Sustainable Development and Conservation Biology from the University of Maryland at College Park, and a B.S. in Zoology from the Universidad Complutense in Madrid, Spain. Her current projects include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Watershed and water scarcity indicators. Using the latest water supply and demand data, working to estimate current and future water scarcity for the world's major river basins, and thereby help make the case for greatest investment in managing the demand for water. - Demystifying Fisheries. Documenting -- in easy-to-understand terms -- how global fishing trends affecting global fish stocks and fishers.