

Notification 2009/ 1

Participation in the work of the Management Working Group

The Secretariat of the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar, Iran, 1971) presents its compliments ...and has the honour to refer to the following:

Introduction

Through Resolution IX.24 (2005), the 9th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties decided to establish a Management Working Group (MWG) to examine and review the various management structures and systems in place within the Convention. Through Resolution X.4, the Conference of the Contracting Parties recognized that the Management Working Group has proved to be a valuable instrument and reaffirmed the establishment of the Working Group, amending the text of Resolution IX.24 to remove time-limitations.

Members

The Management Working Group comprises:

- a) the Chair and Vice Chair of the Standing Committee of the previous triennium;
- b) the Chair and Vice Chair of the Standing Committee established for the forthcoming triennium;
- c) the Chairs of the Subgroup on Finance of the previous and forthcoming Standing Committees;
- d) the Chairs of the Scientific and Technical Review Panel in the previous and forthcoming triennia;
- e) any other interested Contracting Parties, keeping in mind the desirability of equitable regional participation;
- f) a representative of the International Organization Partners (IOPs)
- g) the Secretary General *ex officio*, and;
- h) an appropriate expert on organizational review, as needed, to be determined by the Working Group, subject to there being no implications for the Convention's budget.

In order for the Management Working Group to be able to carry out its tasks as efficiently as possible, the Chair of the Standing Committee proposes that one Contracting Party participate in the Working Group for each region under the Convention. Contracting Parties are therefore invited to consult within their region and with their Standing Committee member(s) and to inform their Senior Advisor within the Secretariat of which Contracting Party will represent the region in the Management Working Group. **Deadline:** it would be appreciated if nominations could be made **by 27 February 2009** at the latest. It should be noted that there is no financial provision to support the participation of participants under items e) and f) above in meetings of the Working Group and, as with

other subgroups and working groups of the Standing Committee, the MWG will work in English.

Transition Committee

Resolution X.4 also established a Transition Committee of the MWG, composed of the outgoing and newly-elected Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the Standing Committee and the Chairs of the Subgroup on Finance, with the Secretary General and Deputy Secretary General *ex officio*, and determined that it will be chaired by the incoming Chair of the SC.

First Meeting of the Transition Committee and the Management Working Group

It is proposed that the Transition Committee and the Management Working Group will meet prior to the 40th meeting of the Standing Committee.

Contracting Parties that may need further information on substantive issues prior to the first meeting of the Management Working Group may contact the Secretary General, Mr Anada Tiega (tiega@ramsar.org).

The Secretariat of the Convention on Wetlands avails itself of this opportunity to renew ... the assurance of its highest consideration.

Gland, 19 January 2009

Encl: Resolution X.4