

Notification 2010 / 2
41st Meeting of the Ramsar Convention Standing Committee
26 April – 1 May 2010

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

41st Meeting of the Standing Committee

The Secretariat is pleased to inform that, at the invitation of Georgia, the 41st Meeting of the Standing Committee (SC41) will be held in **Kobuleti, near Batumi the capital city of the Autonomous Republic of Adjara in Georgia**, from Thursday 29 April to Saturday 1 May 2010. SC41 will be preceded by a meeting of the Management Working Group, and meetings of the Sub-groups on Finance and on COP11, and an excursion on Wednesday 28 April, as per the attached draft programme. A Draft Agenda and a preliminary programme for the meeting, as well as the lists of voting members of the Standing Committee and the Subgroup members are enclosed.

Contracting Parties that are not members of the Standing Committee are welcome to attend as observers and, as indicated by COP7 Resolution VII.1 (paragraph 13), “countries which are not Contracting Parties but have expressed an interest in joining the Convention may be also admitted as observers”.

The Secretariat would be grateful if Contracting Party members of the Standing Committee and Contracting Parties wishing to attend the meeting as Observers, as well as those non-Contracting Party countries seeking Observer status at the meeting, would notify their intention to participate, together with the names of their delegates, by **26 February 2010**. Working documents will be available from the Ramsar Convention Web site (http://www.ramsar.org/cda/ramsar/display/main/main.jsp?zn=ramsar&cp=1-31-41_4000_0__). Registration forms for the 41st meeting of the Standing Committee are available upon request from: katz@ramsar.org or fax no. +41 22 999 0169.

It should be noted that, due to financial constraints, the working papers for the Standing Committee, with the exception of the draft agenda and programme, are produced in English only. Simultaneous interpretation in the three official languages (English, French and Spanish) will be provided during the plenary sessions on 29 April-1 May, but not at any Subgroup meetings which may be convened.

Likewise, financial constraints prevent the Secretariat from providing financial support to assist Observer States in attending. Such support can only be offered to one delegate from eligible voting members of the Standing Committee, upon request.

Contracting Parties unable to attend the meeting as Observers are invited to offer views and opinions, as appropriate, to the Representative(s) from their region, or to transmit them directly to the Secretariat.

The Secretariat of the Convention on Wetlands respectfully requests that the content of the present Note be communicated to the competent national authorities and avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Mission of ... the assurance of its highest consideration.

Gland, 20 January 2010

Encls: Draft Agenda & Members lists