

Notification 2013/7

47th Meeting of the Standing Committee of the Ramsar Convention 24-28 March 2014

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:

The Secretariat is pleased to inform Contracting Parties that the 47th Meeting of the Standing Committee (SC47) will be held at Secretariat headquarters in Gland, Switzerland, from Wednesday 26 March to Friday 28 March 2014. SC47 will be preceded by meetings of the Management Working Group and the Strategic Plan Working Group on Monday 24 March, and of the Subgroup on COP12 and the Subgroup on Finance on Tuesday 25 March. A draft agenda and additional information on the membership of the Standing Committee and the subgroups are enclosed.

Contracting Parties which are not members of the Standing Committee are welcome to attend as observers. Countries which are not Contracting Parties but have expressed an interest in joining the Convention (Resolution XI.19, Annex 1, paragraph 12) may also be admitted as observers.

The Secretariat requests that members of the Standing Committee, Contracting Parties wishing to attend as observers and non-Contracting Party countries seeking observer status at the meeting register by **15 February 2014**. Registration forms are available on request from: loetscher@ramsar.org or fax no. +41 22 999 0169.

Working documents will be available from the Convention web site (www.ramsar.org/sc47-docs). It should be noted that the working papers with the exception of the draft agenda are published in English only. Simultaneous interpretation in the three official languages (English, French and Spanish) will be provided during the plenary sessions, but not at any sub-group meetings.

The Secretariat may be able to offer financial support to one delegate representing an eligible voting member of the Standing Committee, upon request. However, financial constraints prevent the Secretariat from providing support to help observer states attend.

Contracting Parties unable to attend the meeting as observers are invited to communicate their position on issues, to the Standing Committee representative(s) of their region or 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, 17 December 2013

Enclosed: Draft agenda; list of memberships.

