Draft Resolution on Wetlands and Disaster Risk Reduction

Submitted by the Philippines
Preambular paragraphs:

- Acknowledges the role of wetland ecosystems in reducing disaster risk by acting as natural buffers or protective barriers.

- Recognizes the need to operationalize the role of the Ramsar Convention in the prevention and mitigation of impacts associated with natural phenomena.
Preambular paragraphs:

• Places importance in putting disaster risk reduction in the context of sustainable development

• Expresses concern that natural and human-related disasters have caused major environmental, social and economic impacts
Operative paragraphs:

- Affirms the need to develop management plans that ensure wise use and protection of wetland ecosystems.
- Urges the mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction measures in these management plans and other such policies, action plans and programs.
Operative paragraphs:

- Encourages Parties and the Secretariat to engage in the Hyogo Framework for Action

- Aims to raise the priority of disaster risk reduction in the next Strategic Plan
Operative paragraphs:

- Requests the STRP to **review** the resolution on climate change and wetlands (X.24), and on the implications of climate change on the Convention (XI.14)

- Calls upon Parties to **develop a set of guidelines or a framework** which emphasizes disaster risk reduction in conjunction with the STRP

- Invites the STRP to conduct **an analysis of cross-cutting themes** on wetlands (economics, land and water use management, housing and settlements, livelihoods, transportation, etc.)
Comments on the 1st draft

International:
- STRP
- UNEP
- Wetlands International

Local:
- Society for the Conservation of Philippine Wetlands, Environmental Science for Social Change
- Philippine government agencies
Enhancements: Preamble

- Acknowledges that disaster risk reduction requires wise management of land and the environment.

- Expresses concern that climate change and other human-induced environmental degradation further exacerbate the adverse impacts of natural disasters and increase disaster risk.
Enhancements: Operative Text

- Requests the Secretariat to examine the potential role of wetlands conservation and rehabilitation in disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation

- Highlights the importance of establishing linkages with and further engaging the UNFCCC

- Includes the need for appropriate benchmarks

- Encourages Parties to integrate wetland management plans into land-use plans
Enhancements: Comments so far

- Importance of emphasizing that many wetlands have been lost due to urbanization
- Link between DRR and sustainable land and water management
- Wetlands restoration
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