

**Communication, capacity building, education, participation
and awareness (CEPA):
Report of the Chair of the CEPA Oversight Panel**

Action requested:

The Standing Committee is invited to:

- i. note the present report of the Chair of the CEPA Oversight Panel; and
- ii. provide guidance on the process for refreshing the Convention on Wetlands logo.

Background

1. This report of the Chair provides an overview of the work which has been carried out by the CEPA Oversight Panel since the 62nd meeting of the Standing Committee.

Work undertaken by the Panel

2. A virtual meeting of the Panel took place on 20 September 2023. During this meeting the workplan of the CEPA Oversight Panel, which was approved in Decision SC62-27, was reviewed with action being taken in the organization of a capacity-building webinar for CEPA practitioners, development of a survey to inform the development of CEPA resources and preparation of the "Future Operations of the CEPA Oversight Panel" document called for in Resolution XIV.8 paragraph 12.
3. A subsequent virtual meeting took place on 6 December 2023. During this meeting the workplan was reviewed, with the Secretariat reporting on the comments received from the Oversight Panel on the first draft of the Future Operations of the CEPA Oversight Panel document, and the Chair reporting on progress of other elements of the workplan. Additionally, the Secretariat presented information materials to support outreach activities for the 2024 World Wetlands Day event.
4. During the meeting the National Focal Point of Austria presented a proposal to refresh the Convention on Wetlands logo. Austria as well as the Secretariat highlighted that the existing logo faces functional limitations due to format and font. The current optical appearance of the logo is perceived as outdated. Members acknowledged that the CEPA Oversight Panel was the most competent body within the Convention to have a view on the utility of a logo refresh. It was agreed that the CEPA Oversight Panel in its report to SC63 would make a recommendation to the Standing Committee to refresh the Convention logo.

5. The Panel met again on 6 February 2024 to review implementation of the workplan, and in particular discuss results and lessons from the 2024 World Wetlands Day event. Panel members shared their various experiences and suggestions for improving the impact of the event in future years. The Chair reported that the number of submissions to the online survey to inform the development of CEPA resources was disappointing, and asked Panel members to take actions to further distribute the survey and encourage submissions. The Panel discussed the proposed capacity-building webinar for CEPA practitioners and agreed on a webinar format, agenda and the date of 3 April 2024.
6. Throughout the meetings, the Scientific and Technical Review Panel has remained actively engaged in collaboration with the CEPA Oversight Panel.
7. The next meeting of the Panel, at which plans for the webinar will be finalized and further discussions on the development of CEPA resources will take place, is scheduled for 18 March 2024.