

THE CONVENTION ON WETLANDS
63rd Meeting of the Standing Committee
Gland, Switzerland, 3-7 June 2024

SC63 Inf.5

Proposed amendments to SC63 Doc.16.3
Review and consolidation of current Resolutions: Consolidation of
Recommendations and Resolutions on Communication, capacity building,
education, participation and awareness (CEPA)

Actions requested:

The Standing Committee is invited to approve the attached draft consolidation of current Resolutions on "Communication, capacity building, education, participation and awareness (CEPA)" to be submitted for adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its 15th meeting.

1. At its 14th meeting (COP14), the Conference of the Contracting Parties adopted Resolution XIV.5, on *Review of Resolutions and Recommendations of the Conference of the Contracting Parties*. Annex 1 of that Resolution contains a *List of Resolutions and Recommendations of the Conference of the Parties and their status*. Annex 2 of that Resolution specifies the agreed *Categories of Resolutions of the Conference of Contracting Parties to the Convention on Wetlands* as a basis for the preparation of draft consolidated resolutions.
2. Annex 2 of Resolution XIV.5 indicates that, at present, there are eight Resolutions and Recommendations dealing specifically with CEPA and related matters, as follows:
 - Recommendation 4.5 on *Education and training*;
 - Recommendation 5.8 on *Measures to promote public awareness of wetland values in wetland reserves*;
 - Resolution VI.19 on *Education and public awareness*;
 - Resolution VII.9 on *The Convention's Outreach Programme, 1999-2002*;
 - Resolution VIII.31 on *The Convention's Programme on communication, education and public awareness (CEPA) 2003-2008*;
 - Resolution IX.18 on *Establishment of an Oversight Panel for the CEPA activities of the Convention*;
 - Resolution X.8 on *The Convention's Programme on communication, education, participation and awareness (CEPA) 2009-2015*;
 - Resolution XII.9 on *The Ramsar Convention's Programme on communication, capacity building, education, participation and awareness (CEPA) 2016-2024*.
3. At COP14, the Conference of the Parties adopted an additional Resolution that is relevant to this subject:
 - Resolution XIV.8 on *The new CEPA approach*.
4. The Conference of the Parties has decided, in Annex 1 of Resolution XIV.5, that:

- Recommendations 4.5 and 5.8 may be considered as defunct;
- Resolution VI.19 is out of date and can be repealed;
- Resolution VII.9 has been superseded and may be repealed;
- Resolution VIII.31 has been superseded and may be repealed;
- Resolution IX.18 is defunct and can be repealed; and that
- Resolution X.8 has been superseded and may be repealed.

For this reason the texts of those documents are not to be included in any consolidation.

5. Consequently, the only texts to be taken into account in the consolidation of Resolutions on CEPA are Resolutions XII.9 and XIV.8.
6. Taking the above into account, Annex A of the present document contains a draft consolidated resolution on “Communication, capacity building, education, participation and awareness (CEPA)” based on Resolutions XII.9 and XIV.8. In the table in that Annex, the left-hand column shows the existing texts with proposed amendments. The right-hand column indicates the source of the text, together with a comment regarding any proposed change. Some minor changes that were purely editorial have not been indicated. The Annexes to those Resolutions are to be annexed to the draft consolidated resolution.
7. Annex B to the present document contains the clean version of the draft consolidated resolution, taking into account the amendments indicated in Annex A.

Annex A

Annotated draft consolidated resolution on Communication, capacity building, education, participation and awareness (CEPA)

Explanatory version

TEXT FROM EXISTING RESOLUTIONS <i>Proposed new text is underlined Proposed deletions are marked with strikethrough.</i>	NOTES [including original source]
<p>RECALLING Recommendation 4.5 on <u>Education and training and Recommendation 5.8 on Measures to promote public awareness of wetland values in wetland reserves</u>, adopted at the fourth and fifth meetings of the Conference of the Contracting Parties respectively;</p>	<p>Proposed new text to recognize the Recommendations being consolidated.</p>
<p>ALSO RECALLING Resolution VI.19 on <u>Education and public awareness</u>, Resolution VII.9 on <u>The Convention's Outreach Programme, 1999-2002</u>, Resolution VIII.31 on <u>The Convention's Programme on communication, education and public awareness (CEPA) 2003-2008</u>, Resolution IX.18 on <u>Establishment of an Oversight Panel for the CEPA activities of the Convention</u>, Resolution X.8 on <u>The Convention's Programme on communication, education, participation and awareness (CEPA) 2009-2015</u>, Resolution XII.9 on <u>The Ramsar Convention's Programme on communication, capacity building, education, participation and awareness (CEPA) 2016-2024</u>, and Resolution XIV.8 on <u>The new CEPA approach</u>, adopted at the 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 12th and 14th meetings of the Conference of the Contracting Parties, respectively;</p>	<p>Proposed new text to recognize the Resolutions being consolidated.</p>
<p>RECALLING that the Contracting Parties through Resolution X.8 adopted the third CEPA Programme for the Convention (for the term 2009-2015) and introduced participation as an important component of CEPA programmes in recognition of the role that participation can play in building awareness, engagement and capacity;</p>	<p>[para.1 of Resolution XII.9] Proposed deletion as Resolution X.8 is recalled above and the programme reference is outdated.</p>
<p>ACKNOWLEDGING that the Ramsar Convention's stakeholders recognize that CEPA has an important role to play in the implementation of the Convention and its Strategic Plan 2016-2024;</p>	<p>[para.2 of Resolution XII.9]</p>
<p>RECOGNIZING that as of 1 June 2014, 129 Contracting Parties had designated Government CEPA Focal Points and 98 Parties had designated national Non-governmental Organization CEPA Focal Points, but CONCERNED that that this represents a reduction in designations since the last triennium, and so limits the opportunities for coordinating CEPA delivery, and indeed broader implementation of the Convention;</p>	<p>[para.3 of Resolution XII.9] Proposed deletion as this is out of date.</p>
<p>CONGRATULATING the 30% of Contracting Parties that which have reported carrying out CEPA activities at Site level and</p>	<p>[para.4 of Resolution XII.9]</p>

particularly those that which have incorporated these into wetland management plans, the 66% of Parties that which have developed wetland centres at some Ramsar Sites and other wetlands, the 70% of Parties that which promote participation in wetland planning and management, and the 90% of Parties that have which reported celebrating World Wetlands Day, but NOTING the number of Parties that still have to make significant progress in many of these areas;	Amended to remove statistics that are no longer valid.
EXPRESSING GRATITUDE to the Danone Group for its continuing sponsorship of outreach activities under the Convention, and particularly the support for the annual World Wetlands Day campaign;	[para.5 of Resolution XII.9]
EXPRESSING APPRECIATION for the work done by the Ramsar <u>Convention</u> Secretariat and the CEPA Oversight Panel in developing the new programme and the Panel's oversight of the implementation of CEPA programmes since 2005;	[para.6 of Resolution XII.9]
RECALLING Resolution IX.18 on Establishment of an Oversight Panel for the CEPA activities of the Convention; Resolution VIII.31 on The Convention's Programme on communication, education and public awareness (CEPA) for 2003-2008; and Resolution XII.9 which includes the communication, capacity building, education, participation and awareness (CEPA) programme for 2016-24;	[para.1 of Resolution XIV.8] Deleted as the specified Resolutions are now cited in para. 2, with all others being consolidated and repealed.
RECALLING Resolution XIII.5 <i>Review of the fourth Strategic Plan of the Ramsar Convention</i> , which instructed the CEPA Oversight Panel to develop a new approach for advising on and supporting CEPA in the Convention;	[para.2 of Resolution XIV.8]
RECOGNIZING that, while there is an active programme of CEPA work underway, there are limitations and lost opportunities associated with a separate CEPA programme and that the closer alignment of CEPA activities with the core work of the Convention will better deliver on its goals and mission;	[para.3 of Resolution XIV.8]
NOTING that the new CEPA approach was has been developed so that it may could be integrated into the current fourth strategic plan of the Convention, for 2016-2024 (SP4), using a thematic annex (see Annex 2 Annex 3) and the new strategic plan (SP5) as appropriate;	[para.4 of Resolution XIV.8] Amendment of tenses to take into account that this draft is to be presented for adoption in 2025. Deletion of abbreviations that are not used in the Resolution. Correction of Annex reference.
RECOGNIZING that Contracting Parties, International Organization Partners and other partners will have different capacities and priorities, and that the new CEPA approach provides flexibility in implementation; <u>and</u>	[para.5 of Resolution XIV.8]
COMMENDING the excellent work already undertaken with very scarce resources by all actors in the Convention's CEPA activities;	[para.6 of Resolution XIV.8]
THE CONFERENCE OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES	Standard text to introduce the operative part of the Resolution.

Commented [JL1]: Might be moved to being first para after para.4 of Resolution XII.9.

<p>ADOPTS the Convention's <i>Programme on communication, capacity building, education, participation and awareness (CEPA) 2016-2024</i> which is at Annex 1 to this Resolution, as an instrument to provide guidance to Contracting Parties, the Ramsar <u>Convention</u> Secretariat, the Convention's International Organization Partners (IOPs), NGOs non-governmental organizations, community-based organizations, and other stakeholders in the development of appropriate actions to engage, enlist and enable people to act for the conservation and wise use of wetlands;</p>	<p>[para.7 of Resolution XII.9]</p>
<p>CONFIRMS that this Resolution and its Annex incorporates the key recommendations from Resolutions VII.9, VIII.31, and X.8;</p>	<p>[para.8 of Resolution XII.9]</p> <p>Proposed deletion as redundant, noting that the second preambular para. indicated that these Resolutions and others are already considered;</p>
<p>REQUESTS the Standing Committee at its 51st Meeting to establish a mechanism of the Contracting Parties and the Secretariat which will guide the communication activities of the Secretariat, including setting priorities and guiding the design of the Secretariat's CEPA Action Plan, monitor the effectiveness of the Plan, and report to the Management Working Group at each of its meetings, and FURTHER REQUESTS that the resulting mechanism work to develop with advice of the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP) a new approach for advising and supporting CEPA in the Convention to be submitted to the 13th meeting of the Conference of Parties (COP13)</p>	<p>[para.9 of Resolution XII.9]</p> <p>Proposed deletion as this paragraph was time-bound and the specified meetings already took place.</p>
<p>CONFIRMS that this Resolution incorporates advice on participation provided in Resolutions VII.8 and VIII.28;</p>	<p>[para.10 of Resolution XII.9]</p> <p>Proposed deletion as redundant, noting that the second preambular para. indicated that these Resolutions and others are already considered;</p>
<p>REQUESTS the CEPA Oversight Panel to continue to monitor and report on CEPA issues at the national level within the Convention and the progress of implementation of the CEPA Programme as established by this Resolution, and to advise the Standing Committee and the Secretariat on the CEPA work priorities at the national and international levels;</p>	<p>[para.11 of Resolution XII.9]</p>
<p>URGES all Contracting Parties that have yet to do so to nominate as a matter of priority suitably qualified Governmental and Non-Governmental Organization Focal Points for wetland CEPA and to inform the Ramsar <u>Convention</u> Secretariat accordingly; and URGES Parties to ensure that the CEPA Focal Points are members of the National Ramsar/Wetlands Committee where these exist;</p>	<p>[para.12 of Resolution XII.9]</p>
<p>INVITES all Contracting Parties, as suggested in Resolutions VII.9, VIII.31, X.8 and in the CEPA Programme 2016-2024, to</p>	<p>[para.13 of Resolution XII.9]</p>

<p>formulate their Wetland CEPA Action Plans (at national, subnational, catchment, or local levels) for priority activities that address international, regional, national, and local needs, and as appropriate to provide copies of these to the Ramsar Secretariat as a part of their national reporting, in order for these to be shared as examples of good practice, and INSTRUCTS the Secretariat to provide relevant information to the Regional Initiatives on priorities and activities, to support delivery of the CEPA Programme;</p>	<p>Deletion of reference to texts that are being repealed. Deletion of what is suggested in the Programme because it is now in this Resolution.</p>
<p>ENCOURAGES all Contracting Parties to seek to develop and implement their Wetland CEPA Action Plans and planning as integrated components of their broader environment, biodiversity, wetland and water management, education, health, and poverty reduction policy instruments and mainstreamed in relevant programmes, at decentralized level where appropriate, and to ensure that CEPA is recognized as underpinning the effective delivery of these activities;</p>	<p>[para.14 of Resolution XII.9]</p>
<p>CALLS UPON those Contracting Parties with Wetland CEPA Action Plans to evaluate the effectiveness of those Plans on a regular basis, including how the people are appreciative of the values of wetlands, the challenges they face, and the steps they can take to conserve and use wetlands sustainably, and to amend their priority actions where necessary;</p>	<p>[para.15 of Resolution XII.9]</p>
<p>REITERATES the call to multilateral and bilateral donors and private sector sponsors to support appropriate actions as set out in the Ramsar CEPA Programme 2016-2024;</p>	<p>[para.16 of Resolution XII.9] Deletion because the Programme is now part of this Resolution, so “reiteration” is redundant.</p>
<p>REQUESTS the Secretariat subject to available resources to assist in strengthening the capacity of the CEPA Focal Points through the provision of training, toolkits, and templates for CEPA action planning; and further URGES the Secretariat to provide technical support for CEPA National Focal Points through the establishment of a network for their knowledge sharing;</p>	<p>[para.17 of Resolution XII.9]</p>
<p>REQUESTS the Secretariat to seek improved cooperation between Multilateral Environmental Agreements, through the Biodiversity Liaison Group, to deliver capacity building;</p>	<p>[para.18 of Resolution XII.9]</p>
<p>FURTHER REQUESTS the Secretariat to accelerate its efforts in facilitating the mobilization of resources through its partnership coordination mechanism to ensure adequate resourcing of the implementation of the CEPA Programme;</p>	<p>[para.19 of Resolution XII.9]</p>
<p>RECOGNIZES the growing celebration of World Wetlands Day in a large number of countries; and URGES Contracting Parties to continue, or to begin, to use this occasion to bring attention to their achievements and <u>to the</u> continuing challenges in wetland conservation and wise use;</p>	<p>[para.20 of Resolution XII.9]</p>
<p>ENCOURAGES those Contracting Parties with established, or proposed, wetland education centres and/or similar facilities</p>	<p>[para.21 of Resolution XII.9]</p>

to support the development of those centres as key places of learning and training about wetlands and wetland-related CEPA and to support their participation in global networks of such centres; and RECOGNIZES the importance of adequate human resources in successful implementation of CEPA Programme not only via such centres, but also <u>through</u> other means (e.g. interpretation programmes); and further REQUESTS the Secretariat to compile a list of global networks and make it available on the Ramsar <u>Convention</u> website;	
ALSO ENCOURAGES Contracting Parties to utilize and support the capacity of the Ramsar Regional Centres in wetland training in their respective regions, for their staff, other wetland professionals and <u>for</u> a wider public audience;	[para.22 of Resolution XII.9]
INVITES the IOPs, Ramsar Regional Initiatives, and other organizations with which the Ramsar <u>Convention</u> Secretariat has collaborative agreements, to support the implementation of the CEPA Programme at the global, regional, national or local levels, as appropriate, with the expertise, networks, skills and resources they have at their disposal;	[para.23 of Resolution XII.9]
INVITES the Ramsar CEPA National Focal Points and the CEPA Oversight Panel to promote synergies with other conventions' CEPA programmes and with programmes and initiatives of other governmental and non-governmental actors at the international, regional, national and local levels;	[para.24 of Resolution XII.9]
INVITES those Parties with other national and local languages than the three official languages of the Convention to consider translating key Ramsar <u>Convention</u> guidance and guidelines as well as communication, capacity building and educational materials as appropriate into those languages in order to make them more widely available through, for example, the Ramsar Regional Centres and the Ramsar <u>Convention</u> website; and INVITES the IOPs and Ramsar Regional Centres also to make a contribution to such translations;	[para.25 of Resolution XII.9]
REQUESTS the Secretary General to improve the current Ramsar official website in cooperation with Standing Committee and other interested Parties and bodies of the Convention to serve the purpose of the different targeted audiences including, for example, the bodies of the Convention, the Regional Centres, Site managers and donor organizations;	[para.26 of Resolution XII.9] Proposed deletion as this has been implemented and the website has been thoroughly revised.
REQUESTS the Secretary General to report on the progress of improving the Ramsar website to the Standing Committee and to COP13.	[para.27 of Resolution XII.9] Deletion because this request was timebound and was implemented.
AGREES TO the new communication, capacity building, education, participation and awareness (CEPA) approach as described in Annex 1 <u>Annex 2</u> of the present Resolution, and encourages its implementation by Parties, International Organization Partners and other partners, noting that it is	[para.7 of Resolution XIV.8]

designed to recognize and be complementary to existing CEPA activities;	
ENCOURAGES Contracting Parties to cooperate, using their CEPA National Focal Points to increase the impact of each of their CEPA activities;	[para.8 of Resolution XIV.8]
ENCOURAGES Contracting Parties to make efforts to integrate, as appropriate, the implementation of the Strategic Plan with the new CEPA approach described in the Annexes 2, 3 and 4 to the present Resolution;	[para.9 of Resolution XIV.8] Correction of the reference to the Annexes.
INSTRUCTS the Secretariat to initiate the nomination process for the CEPA Oversight Panel following the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties (COP14) to enable the Standing Committee to take an intersessional decision on the composition of the Oversight Panel for the following triennium;	[para.10 of Resolution XIV.8] Deleted because this instruction is to be implemented before CoP15, where this draft resolution is to be presented for adoption.
INSTRUCTS the CEPA Oversight Panel to develop a work plan for the next triennium to be presented to the 62nd meeting of the Standing Committee (SC62) for its information;	[para.11 of Resolution XIV.8] Deleted because this instruction is timebound and SC62 already took place.
INSTRUCTS the Secretariat, in collaboration with the CEPA Oversight Panel, and in consultation with Parties, to prepare for SC63 a proposal on the future operations of the Oversight Panel to support the new approach, including the nomination procedure, using the terms of reference contained in Annex 3 as general guidance;	[para.12 of Resolution XIV.8] Deleted because this instruction is timebound and SC63 already took place.
INSTRUCTS the Secretariat to assign an additional Communications Officer to underpin implementation of the new approach, within existing resources; INSTRUCTS the Ramsar Convention Secretariat to assign an additional Communications Officer to underpin implementation of the new approach, within existing resources;	[para.13 of Resolution XIV.8] Proposed for deletion as this instruction is inconsistent with Resolution XIV.1 on Financial and budgetary matters, which makes no provision for the additional staff member.
FURTHER INSTRUCTS the Secretariat to include in its work programme provisions detailing how it will support the Contracting Parties in the implementation of the new CEPA approach; FURTHER INSTRUCTS the Secretariat to include in its work programme provisions detailing how it will support the Contracting Parties in the implementation of the new CEPA approach;	[para.14 of Resolution XIV.8] Proposed for deletion as the Secretariat is already identifying how it will support Parties in implementing the new CEPA approach.
Encourages the CEPA Oversight Panel, in cooperation with the Strategic Plan Working Group, to integrate into the fifth Strategic Plan, as appropriate, the CEPA new approach drawing on Annex 2 of the present Resolution, for consideration at COP15;	[para.15 of Resolution XIV.8] Deleted because this instruction is to be implemented before CoP15, where this draft resolution is to be presented for adoption.
REPEALS the following Recommendations and Resolutions: - Recommendation 4.5 on <i>Education and training</i> ;	New text to recognize the status of Recommendations and

Commented [JL2]: Should be kept as a wish from the CPs. A future resolution on budget may give the possibility to have more staff members. A deletion might be against the process decided.

Commented [JL3]: Keeps this, it might be of interest to have it included in future work programmes as well.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Recommendation 5.8 on Measures to promote public awareness of wetland values in wetland reserves;</u> - <u>Resolution VI.19 on Education and public awareness;</u> - <u>Resolution VII.9 on The Convention's Outreach Programme, 1999-2002;</u> - <u>Resolution VIII.31 on The Convention's Programme on communication, education and public awareness (CEPA) 2003-2008;</u> - <u>Resolution IX.18 on Establishment of an Oversight Panel for the CEPA activities of the Convention;</u> - <u>Resolution X.8 on The Convention's Programme on communication, education, participation and awareness (CEPA) 2009-2015; and</u> - <u>Resolution XII.9 on The Ramsar Convention's Programme on communication, capacity building, education, participation and awareness (CEPA) 2016-2024.</u> 	<p>Resolutions indicated in Resolution XIV.5 and to repeal the Recommendations and Resolutions that are covered by this consolidation.</p>
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NB: The Annexes to this draft consolidated resolution are:

- Annex 1 is Annex 1 of Resolution XII.9 *Programme on communication, capacity building, education, participation and awareness (CEPA) 2016-2024;*
- Annex 2 is Annex 1 of Resolution XIV.8 on *The new approach to CEPA has the following characteristics;*
- Annex 3 is Annex 2 of Resolution XIV.8 on *The new CEPA approach and integration into the Strategic Plan;*
- Annex 4 is Annex 3 of Resolution XIV.8 on *Terms of reference of the CEPA Oversight Panel as part of the new CEPA approach.*

Annex B

Draft consolidated resolution on Communication, capacity building, education, participation and awareness (CEPA): Clean version

1. RECALLING Recommendation 4.5 on *Education and training* and Recommendation 5.8 on *Measures to promote public awareness of wetland values in wetland reserves*, adopted at the fourth and fifth meetings of the Conference of the Contracting Parties respectively;
2. ALSO RECALLING Resolution VI.19 on *Education and public awareness*, Resolution VII.9 on *The Convention's Outreach Programme, 1999-2002*, Resolution VIII.31 on *The Convention's Programme on communication, education and public awareness (CEPA) 2003-2008*, Resolution IX.18 on *Establishment of an Oversight Panel for the CEPA activities of the Convention*, Resolution X.8 on *The Convention's Programme on communication, education, participation and awareness (CEPA) 2009-2015*, Resolution XII.9 on *The Ramsar Convention's Programme on communication, capacity building, education, participation and awareness (CEPA) 2016-2024*, and Resolution XIV.8 on *The new CEPA approach*, adopted at the 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 12th and 14th meetings of the Conference of the Contracting Parties, respectively;
3. ACKNOWLEDGING that the Ramsar Convention's stakeholders recognize that CEPA has an important role to play in the implementation of the Convention and its Strategic Plan 2016-2024;
4. CONGRATULATING the Contracting Parties that have reported carrying out CEPA activities at Site level and particularly those that have incorporated these into wetland management plans, the Parties that have developed wetland centres at some Ramsar Sites and other wetlands, the Parties that promote participation in wetland planning and management, and the Parties that have reported celebrating World Wetlands Day; but NOTING the number of Parties that still have to make significant progress in many of these areas;
5. EXPRESSING GRATITUDE to the Danone Group for its continuing sponsorship of outreach activities under the Convention, and particularly the support for the annual World Wetlands Day campaign;
6. EXPRESSING APPRECIATION for the work done by the Ramsar Convention Secretariat and the CEPA Oversight Panel in developing the new programme and the Panel's oversight of the implementation of CEPA programmes since 2005;
7. RECALLING Resolution XIII.5 *Review of the fourth Strategic Plan of the Ramsar Convention*, which instructed the CEPA Oversight Panel to develop a new approach for advising on and supporting CEPA in the Convention;
8. RECOGNIZING that, while there is an active programme of CEPA work underway, there are limitations and lost opportunities associated with a separate CEPA programme and that the closer alignment of CEPA activities with the core work of the Convention will better deliver on its goals and mission;
9. NOTING that the new CEPA approach was developed so that it could be integrated into the fourth strategic plan of the Convention for 2016-2024 using a thematic annex (see Annex 3) and the new strategic plan as appropriate;

10. RECOGNIZING that Contracting Parties, International Organization Partners and other partners have different capacities and priorities, and that the new CEPA approach provides flexibility in implementation; and
11. COMMENDING the excellent work already undertaken with very scarce resources by all actors in the Convention's CEPA activities;

THE CONFERENCE OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES

12. ADOPTS the Convention's *Programme on communication, capacity building, education, participation and awareness (CEPA) 2016-2024* which is at Annex 1 to this Resolution, as an instrument to provide guidance to Contracting Parties, the Ramsar Convention Secretariat, the Convention's International Organization Partners (IOPs), non-governmental organizations, community-based organizations, and other stakeholders in the development of appropriate actions to engage, enlist and enable people to act for the conservation and wise use of wetlands;
13. REQUESTS the CEPA Oversight Panel to continue to monitor and report on CEPA issues at the national level within the Convention and the progress of implementation of the CEPA Programme as established by this Resolution, and to advise the Standing Committee and the Secretariat on the CEPA work priorities at the national and international levels;
14. URGES all Contracting Parties that have yet to do so to nominate as a matter of priority suitably qualified Governmental and Non-Governmental Organization Focal Points for wetland CEPA and to inform the Ramsar Convention Secretariat accordingly; and URGES Parties to ensure that the CEPA Focal Points are members of the National Ramsar/Wetlands Committee where these exist;
15. INSTRUCTS the Secretariat to provide relevant information to the Regional Initiatives on priorities and activities, to support delivery of the CEPA Programme;
16. ENCOURAGES all Contracting Parties to seek to develop and implement their Wetland CEPA Action Plans and planning as integrated components of their broader environment, biodiversity, wetland and water management, education, health, and poverty reduction policy instruments and mainstreamed in relevant programmes, at decentralized level where appropriate, and to ensure that CEPA is recognized as underpinning the effective delivery of these activities;
17. CALLS UPON those Contracting Parties with Wetland CEPA Action Plans to evaluate the effectiveness of those Plans on a regular basis, including how the people are appreciative of the values of wetlands, the challenges they face, and the steps they can take to conserve and use wetlands sustainably, and to amend their priority actions where necessary;
18. REQUESTS the Secretariat subject to available resources to assist in strengthening the capacity of the CEPA Focal Points through the provision of training, toolkits, and templates for CEPA action planning; and further URGES the Secretariat to provide technical support for CEPA National Focal Points through the establishment of a network for their knowledge sharing;
19. REQUESTS the Secretariat to seek improved cooperation between Multilateral Environmental Agreements, through the Biodiversity Liaison Group, to deliver capacity building;

20. FURTHER REQUESTS the Secretariat to accelerate its efforts in facilitating the mobilization of resources through its partnership coordination mechanism to ensure adequate resourcing of the implementation of the CEPA Programme;
21. RECOGNIZES the growing celebration of World Wetlands Day in a large number of countries; and URGES Contracting Parties to continue, or to begin, to use this occasion to bring attention to their achievements and to the continuing challenges in wetland conservation and wise use;
22. ENCOURAGES those Contracting Parties with established, or proposed, wetland education centres and/or similar facilities to support the development of those centres as key places of learning and training about wetlands and wetland-related CEPA and to support their participation in global networks of such centres; and RECOGNIZES the importance of adequate human resources in successful implementation of CEPA Programme not only via such centres, but also through other means (e.g. interpretation programmes); and further REQUESTS the Secretariat to compile a list of global networks and make it available on the Ramsar Convention website;
23. ALSO ENCOURAGES Contracting Parties to utilize and support the capacity of the Ramsar Regional Centres in wetland training in their respective regions, for their staff, other wetland professionals and for a wider public audience;
24. INVITES the IOPs, Ramsar Regional Initiatives, and other organizations with which the Ramsar Convention Secretariat has collaborative agreements, to support the implementation of the CEPA Programme at the global, regional, national or local levels, as appropriate, with the expertise, networks, skills and resources they have at their disposal;
25. INVITES the Ramsar CEPA National Focal Points and the CEPA Oversight Panel to promote synergies with other conventions' CEPA programmes and with programmes and initiatives of other governmental and non-governmental actors at the international, regional, national and local levels;
26. INVITES those Parties with other national and local languages than the three official languages of the Convention to consider translating key Ramsar Convention guidance and guidelines as well as communication, capacity building and educational materials as appropriate into those languages in order to make them more widely available through, for example, the Ramsar Regional Centres and the Ramsar Convention website; and INVITES the IOPs and Ramsar Regional Centres also to make a contribution to such translations;
27. AGREES TO the new communication, capacity building, education, participation and awareness (CEPA) approach as described in Annex 2 of the present Resolution, and encourages its implementation by Parties, International Organization Partners and other partners, noting that it is designed to recognize and be complementary to existing CEPA activities;
28. ENCOURAGES Contracting Parties to cooperate, using their CEPA National Focal Points to increase the impact of each of their CEPA activities;
29. ENCOURAGES Contracting Parties to make efforts to integrate, as appropriate, the implementation of the Strategic Plan with the new CEPA approach described in Annexes 2, 3 and 4 to the present Resolution; and

30. REPEALS the following Recommendations and Resolutions:

- Recommendation 4.5 on *Education and training*;
- Recommendation 5.8 on *Measures to promote public awareness of wetland values in wetland reserves*;
- Resolution VI.19 on *Education and public awareness*;
- Resolution VII.9 on *The Convention's Outreach Programme, 1999-2002*;
- Resolution VIII.31 on *The Convention's Programme on communication, education and public awareness (CEPA) 2003-2008*;
- Resolution IX.18 on *Establishment of an Oversight Panel for the CEPA activities of the Convention*;
- Resolution X.8 on *The Convention's Programme on communication, education, participation and awareness (CEPA) 2009-2015*; and
- Resolution XII.9 on *The Ramsar Convention's Programme on communication, capacity building, education, participation and awareness (CEPA) 2016-2024*.

[NB: The Annexes to this draft consolidated resolution are:

- Annex 1 is Annex 1 of Resolution XII.9 *Programme on communication, capacity building, education, participation and awareness (CEPA) 2016-2024*;
- Annex 2 is Annex 1 of Resolution XIV.8 on *The new approach to CEPA has the following characteristics*;
- Annex 3 is Annex 2 of Resolution XIV.8 on *The new CEPA approach and integration into the Strategic Plan*;
- Annex 4 is Annex 3 of Resolution XIV.8 on *Terms of reference of the CEPA Oversight Panel as part of the new CEPA approach*.]