

## Draft resolution on Ramsar Regional Initiatives 2025-2028

*Prepared by the Secretariat*

### Action requested:

The Standing Committee is invited to review and approve the attached draft resolution for consideration by the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties.

### Introduction

*Resolution XIV.7 on Ramsar Regional Initiatives, adopted at the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP14), consists of two sections:*

- **Part A**, which provides overall guidance on the operations of Ramsar Regional Initiatives (RRIs), including the Operational Guidelines in **Annex 1**; and
- **Part B**, which lists the RRIs endorsed as operating within the framework of the Convention on Wetlands for the period between **COP14** and **COP15**.

*This draft resolution proposes, as instructed, to replace **Part B** of **Resolution XIV.7** with an updated list of RRIs approved to operate for the next intersessional period, from **COP15** to **COP16**.*

*The operational guidance outlined in **Resolution XIV.7** will remain unchanged, with the exception of removing the reference to “Part A” in the title and deleting the current “Part B” upon the adoption of this new resolution.*

*Financial implications of implementation: None*

### Draft resolution XV.x on Ramsar Regional Initiatives – List of the RRIs endorsed as operating in the framework of the Convention on Wetlands for the intersessional period of COP15-COP16

1. RECALLING that Ramsar Regional Initiatives (RRIs) under the Convention on Wetlands, which include regional centres for training and capacity building and regional networks to facilitate cooperation, are intended as an operational means to provide effective support for improved implementation of the Convention and its strategic plan in specific geographic regions, through voluntary international cooperation on wetland-related issues of common concern;
2. RECALLING that the Conference of the Contracting Parties has recognized the importance of RRIs in promoting the objectives of the Convention; and

3. RECALLING that in paragraph 13 of Resolution XIV.7 Part A on *Ramsar Regional Initiatives*, the Conference of the Contracting Parties decides that RRI that satisfy the *Operational Guidelines* are endorsed by the COP or the Standing Committee as operating within the framework of the Convention for the period between two meetings of the COP, and receive the status of a Ramsar Regional Initiative or, if already recognized, will have their status confirmed;

#### THE CONFERENCE OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES

4. DECIDES the endorsement of this list;
5. DECIDES that this list is to be valid until replaced by a new one for the COP16-COP17 period at the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties (COP16); and
6. CONFIRMS that the present Resolution supersedes “Part B” of Resolution XIV.7, which is retired, and INSTRUCTS the Secretariat to publish an updated version of Resolution XIV.7 which will remain unchanged, with the exception of removing the reference to “Part A” in the title and deleting the current “Part B”.

#### ***RRIs endorsed for the intersessional period of COP15-COP16 are:***

Four regional Ramsar centres for training and capacity building:

- Ramsar Centre for Eastern Africa (RAMCEA)
- Ramsar Regional Centre for Training and Research in the Western Hemisphere (CREHO)
- Ramsar Regional Center in Central and West Asia (RRC-CWA)
- Ramsar Regional Center – East Asia (RRC-EA); and

Eighteen Ramsar networks for regional cooperation:

- Ramsar Regional Initiative for West African Coastal Zone Wetlands (WACoWet)
- Ramsar Regional Initiative for the Niger River Basin (NigerWet)
- Ramsar Regional Initiative for the Senegal River Basin (SenegalWet)
- Ramsar Regional Initiative for the Conservation and Wise Use of High Andean Wetlands
- Ramsar Regional Initiative for the Conservation and Wise Use of the Plata River Basin
- Caribbean Wetlands Ramsar Regional Initiative (CariWet)
- Ramsar Regional Initiative for the Conservation and Wise Use of Mangroves and Coral Reefs
- Ramsar Regional Initiative for the Amazon River Basin
- East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP)
- Ramsar Regional Initiative for Central Asia (RRICA)
- Indo-Burma Ramsar Regional Initiative (IBRRI)
- Mediterranean Wetlands Ramsar Regional Initiative (MedWet)
- Carpathian Wetland Ramsar Regional Initiative (CWI)
- Nordic-Baltic Wetlands Ramsar Regional Initiative (NorBalWet)
- Ramsar Regional Initiative on Black and Azov Seas Coastal Wetlands (BlackSeaWet)
- The Southern African Ramsar Regional Initiative (SARRI)
- International Mangrove Centre (IMC)
- Danube WILDisland Ramsar Regional Initiative