

THE CONVENTION ON WETLANDS
64th meeting of the Standing Committee
Gland, Switzerland, 20-24 January 2025

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**Proposed draft resolution on promoting sustainable lifestyles for the wise
use of wetlands**

Submitted by India

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.

Secretariat cover note

The draft resolution requests the STRP to submit a compilation of the methods, case studies and evidence base to support the integration of sustainable lifestyles in wetlands management. The Secretariat invited STRP to review the draft resolution and provide a view as to whether the compilation of such sustainable lifestyles cases could be incorporated in the STRP workplan for the next triennium.

Draft Resolution XV.x on promoting sustainable lifestyles for the wise use of wetlands

1. RECALLING the commitment of Contracting Parties of the Ramsar Convention for wise use of wetlands under Article 3 of the convention and *Resolution IX.1 Annex A: A Conceptual Framework for the wise use of wetlands and the maintenance of their ecological character*;
2. CONCERNED about the rapid decline of wetlands and concomitant impacts on biodiversity and human well-being and RECOGNISING the urgency of actions needed at various levels for wetlands conservation through wise use;
3. RECALLING *Resolution XI.12 on Wetlands and health: taking an ecosystem approach* which emphasises the close specific linkages between wetland ecosystems and human livelihoods and improved lifestyles, and which strongly urges the Contracting Parties to adopt an ecosystem approach to health in wetlands and their catchments;
4. RECOGNISING the inclusion of wetlands within the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, specifically in its Targets 2 and 3, and a call for a whole-of-society approach for actions at all levels and by all actors of society to halt and reverse biodiversity loss;
5. RECOGNISING the potential of behavioural changes towards sustainable lifestyles, in contributing to the achievement of wetlands conservation and wise use, and BEING AWARE that more attention has to be paid to the potential of actions to be taken at the individual and community levels;
6. NOTING the work of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Pattern, including the One Planet Network Programme on Sustainable Lifestyles and Education and other international, regional, and national initiatives, and NOTING that successful national initiatives can serve as a model to be replicated;
7. REAFFIRMING the commitment made in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to ensure that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature (Goal 12.8), and RECALLING the recommendation made under Resolution XIV.8 on *The new CEPA approach* to investigate opportunities to improve wetlands conservation by applying techniques drawn from behavioural economics and psychology and undertaking joint projects with behavioural insights teams or “nudge” units;
8. RECALLING Resolution UNEP/EA.6/Res.8 on *Promoting Sustainable Lifestyles* adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly in its sixth session, which recognises the potential of behavioural changes towards sustainable lifestyles in contributing to achieving the three dimensions of sustainable development and calling upon the member states to create the necessary evidence-based enabling conditions, foster public and private collaboration, pursue education at all levels and awareness-raising initiatives in support of empowering citizens to make informed choices, about sustainable lifestyles as referenced in SDG 4.7 Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship;
9. FURTHER RECOGNISING and UNDERSCORING the role of the private sector and industry, local authorities, local communities, and Indigenous Peoples in supporting more sustainable lifestyles, and RECOGNISING that adequate individual education and skills can further accelerate collective efforts for sustainable consumption and production and promote more sustainable lifestyles; and

10. RECOGNISING that each country is best positioned to understand its own national circumstances and priorities to encourage more sustainable lifestyles;

THE CONFERENCE OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES

11. AGREES to integrate sustainable lifestyles-based interventions in wetland management plans, programmes and investments at all levels;
12. AGREES to create enabling conditions, including fostering public and private collaboration, pursuing education at all levels and awareness-raising initiatives in support of empowering citizens to make informed choices about sustainable lifestyles, as referenced in Target 7 of Sustainable Development Goal 4, on education for sustainable development and global citizenship;
13. REQUESTS the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP) to submit a compilation of the methods, case studies and evidence base to support the integration of sustainable lifestyles in wetlands management in the context of, *inter alia*, the diversity of nature's values and approaches, including, as appropriate, eco-centric approaches, of individuals and communities including that of Indigenous Peoples, and local communities, for living in harmony with Nature, or Mother Earth, as recognized by some countries and regions to enable sustainable lifestyles;
14. URGES the International Organisation Partners of the Convention, non-governmental organisations, the private sector and other stakeholders to promote and enhance cooperation, sharing information and best practices, research, and literature, as appropriate, that enable the adoption of more sustainable lifestyles, including sustainable living within wetlands conservation and wise use interventions.