Recommendation 3.9: Change in ecological character of Ramsar sites

WELCOMING the increased number of wetlands included in the Ramsar List;

APPLAUDING Contracting Parties which have employed Ramsar listing as a means of securing protection for previously unprotected sites;

ACKNOWLEDGING the efforts made by Contracting Parties to ensure that listed internationally important wetlands within their territory are protected;

NOTING WITH REGRET that, notwithstanding protective measures instituted to implement the requirements of the Convention, a number of listed sites have been severely damaged or are under imminent threat of degradation;

COMMENDING Contracting Parties for bringing such information to the attention of the Convention Bureau and the Conference of the Contracting Parties to assist the work of the Convention;

THE CONFERENCE OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES

URGES all Contracting Parties to take swift and effective action to prevent any further degradation of sites and to restore, as far as possible, the value of damaged sites; and

REQUESTS IN PARTICULAR that Contracting Parties in whose territory are located the sites identified in Conference Document C.3.6 as having incurred or being threatened by damage, to report to the Convention Bureau the actions undertaken to safeguard these sites.