

**List of the Intersessional Decisions of the Standing Committee
subsequent to its virtual 58th meeting,
September 2020 – May 2021¹**

Note by the Secretariat:

This is a list of the decisions taken intersessionally since the virtual 58th meeting of the Standing Committee held from 23 to 25 June 2020, in accordance with the Executive Team's recommendation to the Standing Committee for its continuing activities.

This document will be updated with any further intersessional decisions of the Standing Committee.

28 September 2020:

Post-SC58 Intersessional Decision 01: The Standing Committee decided to cancel SC58, and to address at its 59th meeting (SC59) in 2021 the outstanding agenda items that were not addressed at the intersessional meetings held on 22 and 24 June 2020.

Post-SC58 Intersessional Decision 02: The Standing Committee decided that decisions that are required by the Rules of Procedure to enable the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties (COP14) to take place as planned should be taken intersessionally, namely: 1) to approve the dates and provisional agenda for COP14; 2) to approve the process for preparing draft resolutions; and 3) to approve the dates for SC59 in 2021.

Post-SC58 Intersessional Decision 03: The Standing Committee stressed that Working Groups and the Secretariat are to continue working under the existing mandates and that the Working Groups can, when so needed, consult with the Standing Committee including through information meetings, and that written reports on progress of the Working Groups would be appreciated. The financial situation of the Secretariat will continue to be monitored by the Standing Committee with reports and recommendations from its Subgroup on Finance.

3 February 2021:

Post-SC58 Intersessional Decision 04: The Standing Committee acknowledged the status of assessed contributions as at 31 December 2020 presented in table "Status of assessed contributions as of 31 December 2020".²

¹ Updated 27 May 2021.

² See the status of assessed contributions as of 31 December 2020:

https://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/library/status_contributions_end2020_efs.pdf

12 February 2021:

Post-SC58 Intersessional Decision 05: The Standing Committee approves the remaining budgeted allocation of CHF 10,000 from the original proposal of CHF 25,000 to two of the four eligible Ramsar Regional Initiatives (RRIs) in the context of Decision SC58-28, for their activities in 2020, from the core budget line D “Support to Regional Initiatives”. The two RRIs are the Regional Ramsar Initiative for Central Asia and the Indo-Burma Ramsar Regional Initiative.³

18 February 2021:

Post-SC58 Intersessional Decision 06: The Standing Committee approved for SC59 to be held in Gland, Switzerland on 21-25 June 2021.

Post-SC58 Intersessional Decision 07: The Standing Committee approved the use of the same Ramsar Wetlands Conservation Awards criteria and process used during the 2016-2018 triennium for selecting winners for COP14.

26 February 2021:

Post-SC58 Intersessional Decision 08: The Standing Committee approved the COP14 provisional agenda with amendments provided by Standing Committee members.⁴

16 March 2021:

Post-SC58 Intersessional Decision 09: The Standing Committee approved an additional allocation of up to CHF 17,000 from the carry-forward of the 2020 approved budget line Legal Services to conduct a financial and procedural analysis of options identified in the “Independent analysis on the legal status of the Secretariat of the Convention on Wetlands”, to supplement the amount of CHF 15,000 previously allocated as requested by the Standing Committee’s Observer Status Working Group, albeit noting there were divergent views within the Subgroup regarding the timing and level of funding requested.

29 March 2021:

Post-SC58 Intersessional Decision 10: The Standing Committee approved the process for the preparation and review of draft resolutions presented in the amended document SC58 Doc.20.4 Rev. 5 updated with comments reflecting the inputs of the consultative group on the review of Resolutions and Decisions of the Standing Committee, as well as input from members of the Standing Committee.⁵

20 May 2021:

Post-SC58 Intersessional Decision 11: The Standing Committee instructed the Secretariat to inform Contracting Parties immediately that SC59 will not take place physically in June 2021, that a

³ See the report of the Subgroup on Finance meeting of 13 January 2021:

https://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/library/report_subgroup_on_finance_20210113_e.pdf

⁴ See the amended COP14 provisional agenda:

https://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/library/cop14_provisional_agenda_e.pdf

⁵ See <https://www.ramsar.org/document/guidance-note-on-preparation-of-submissions-for-draft-resolutions-as-annex-1-of-document>

process for SC59 agenda issues is being developed, and that a possible new timeline for the submission of Draft Resolutions will be communicated as part of the revised process for COP14.

27 May 2021:

Post-SC58 Intersessional Decision 12: The Standing Committee noted the ongoing consultations of the Subgroup on COP14 on new dates for COP14 in the fourth quarter of 2022. The Standing Committee expected COP14 dates as soon as possible.

Post-SC58 Intersessional Decision 13: The Standing Committee instructed the Secretariat to work with the Executive Team to propose: a process to determine the SC59 agenda items that are time-sensitive and need to be addressed such as budget and workplan; the issues that could be postponed; regional pre-COP virtual meetings, a possible physical session of the Standing Committee in 2022; and a possible new timeline for the submission of Draft Resolutions. This proposal will be submitted to the Standing Committee for its consideration and decision.

Post-SC58 Intersessional Decision 14: The Standing Committee requested the Secretariat to work with the Executive Team to analyse possible legal aspects and consequences that the suggested changes may have on other governance issues and suggest processes to address them.