

CONVENTION ON WETLANDS (Ramsar, Iran, 1971)
53rd Meeting of the Standing Committee
Gland, Switzerland, 29 May – 2 June 2017

SC53-01 Add.1 Rev.2

53rd Meeting of the Standing Committee Annotated Agenda

The **composition of Working Groups** is listed at www.ramsar.org/about/standing-committee-2015-2018-members.

The **Rules of Procedure** are online at www.ramsar.org/document/ramsar-rules-of-procedure-cop12.

Monday 29 May 2017

08:15 – 09:45 Regional meetings

Through the week, the meetings for each region will be in the following rooms: Americas Red List A; Africa Red List B; Asia and Oceania Think Tank A; Europe Think Tank B.

10:00 – 13:00 Meeting of the Management Working Group

- Working Group on CEPA Implementation (Document SC53-03)
- Proposal of new MOUs (Doc. SC53-04)
- Review of existing Working Groups (Doc. SC53-05)
- Strategy on the use of UN languages (Doc. SC53-06)

The Management Working Group will review the progress report of the Working Group on CEPA Implementation (Doc. SC53-03), the proposal of new MOUs (Doc. SC53-04), existing Working Groups (Doc. SC53-05) and the Strategy on the use of UN Languages (Doc. SC53-06). The Chair of the Management Working Group will present to the plenary Standing Committee the report of the Working Group with recommendations on the above issues at agenda item 5 *Report of the Management Working Group*.

15:00 – 18:00 Meeting of the Sub-group on COP13

- Progress with preparations for COP13 (Doc. SC53-07)
 - Dates and venue of COP13
 - COP theme and logo
 - Timeline in lead up to COP13 including regional pre-COP meetings
 - Document distribution (“paperless COP”)
- COP13 Agenda (Doc. SC53-08)

The Chair of the Sub-group will provide a report from the host country’s perspective. The Sub-group will discuss the current state of preparations for COP13, and the Chair will present the report of the Sub-group at plenary agenda item 6 *Report of the Sub-group on COP13*.

Tuesday 30 May 2017

08:15 – 09:45 Regional meetings

10:00 – 13:00 Meeting of the Sub-group on Finance

Financial matters 2016 (Doc. SC53-20)

Report on outstanding contributions (Doc. SC53-21)

Update on fundraising for COP13 (Pre-COP regional meetings and other priority activities for fundraising)

The Secretariat will make an introduction to the financial matters; the Sub-group will discuss these matters and the Chair of the Sub-group will present the report at plenary agenda item 20 *Report of the Sub-group on Finance*.

13:00 – 15:00 Meeting of the Facilitation Working Group

The Working Group will meet to discuss relevant matters and the co-chairs will present the report at plenary agenda item 19 *Report of the Facilitation Working Group*.

15:00 – 18:00 Meeting of the CEPA Oversight Panel / Meeting of the Working Group on CEPA Implementation

There will be two sessions under this agenda item. First, the Panel and the Working Group will meet in parallel from 15:00 to 16:00 to discuss relevant matters as appropriate. Then from 16:00 to 18:00 the Chairs of the CEPA Oversight Panel and the Working Group on CEPA Implementation will meet, with representatives from both groups.

The Chair of the CEPA Oversight Panel will report at plenary agenda item 12 *Report of the CEPA Oversight Panel*, and the Working Group on CEPA Implementation will report to the Management Working Group.

Wednesday 31 May 2017

08:15 – 09:45 Regional meetings

10:00 – 13:00 Plenary Session of the Standing Committee

1. Opening statements
 - a. Chair of the Standing Committee (Uruguay)
 - b. Director General of IUCN (or her representative)
 - c. Statement on behalf of the six International Organization Partners (IOPs)
 - d. Secretary General of the Ramsar Convention
2. Review and adoption of the Provisional Agenda (Docs. SC53-01, SC53-01 Add.1)
3. Admission of observers (SC53-Inf.Doc.02)

The Secretary General will introduce the list of registered observers whose attendance must be approved by the Standing Committee.

4. Report of the Secretary General (Doc. SC53-02)

The Secretary General will introduce her report highlighting the work of the Secretariat since SC52 (June 2016), with a special focus on activities carried out since 22 August 2016, when the Secretary General appointed at SC52 took office.

5. Report of the Management Working Group
- a. Working Group on CEPA Implementation (Doc. SC53-03)
 - b. Proposal of new MOUs (Doc. SC53-04)
 - c. Review of existing Working Groups (Doc. SC53-05)
 - d. Strategy on the use of UN languages (Doc. SC53-06)

The Chair of the Management Working will present the report with the recommendations to the plenary on items a to d.

15:00 – 18:00 Plenary Session of the Standing Committee

6. Report of the Sub-group on COP13
- a. Progress with preparations for COP13 (Doc. SC53-07)
 - Dates and venue of COP13
 - COP theme and logo
 - Timeline in lead up to COP13 including pre-COP regional meetings
 - Document distribution (“paperless COP”)
 - b. COP13 Agenda (Doc. SC53-08)

The Chair of the Sub-group will provide a report on its progress in the preparation of the meeting, including the logo design and the proposed timetable of events in the lead-up to COP13.

7. Secretariat Work Plan for the 2016-18 triennium and annual plan for 2017 (Doc. SC53-09)

The Secretary General will introduce the Secretariat Work Plan for 2016-2018 and annual plan for 2017, prepared according to Standing Committee Decisions SC52-12 and SC52-13, for Standing Committee consideration.

8. Report of the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (Doc. SC53-10)

The Chair of the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP) will introduce his report on the activities of the Panel since SC52.

18:00 Reception

Thursday 1 June 2017

08:15 – 09:45 Regional meetings

10:00 – 13:00 Plenary Session of the Standing Committee

9. Report of the Working Group on the Ramsar Regional Initiatives (Doc. SC53-11)

The Chair of the Working Group on Ramsar Regional Initiatives will present the report of the Working Group prepared according to Standing Committee Decisions SC52-16, SC52-18, and SC52.19.

10. Update on the Ramsar Regional Initiatives (Doc. SC53-12)

The Secretariat will introduce Doc. SC53-12 with the updated report on Ramsar Regional Initiatives and will present to the Standing Committee the proposal to allocate funds from the Ramsar core budget to newly-established Initiatives for their activities in 2017.

11. Strategy on the use of UN languages (Doc. SC53-06)

The Secretariat will introduce Doc. SC53-06 with the progress report on the development of a strategy on the use of UN languages prepared according to Decision SC52-21.

13:00 – 15:00 Meeting of the Sub-group on Finance (continued)

15:00 – 18:00 Plenary Session of the Standing Committee

12. Report of the CEPA Oversight Panel

The Chair of the Panel will present the report of the activities undertaken since SC52.

13. Secretariat report on CEPA-related activities

- a. Implementation of Secretariat CEPA action plan (Doc. SC53-03)
- b. Report on World Wetlands Day 2017
- c. Theme for World Wetlands Day 2018
- d. The Ramsar Wetlands Conservation Awards 2018 (Doc. SC53-13)
- e. Update on the MAVA project “Conservation of the natural and cultural heritage in wetlands” (Doc. SC53-14)

The Secretariat will introduce Doc. SC53-03 on Implementation of Secretariat CEPA action plan and Doc. SC53-13 on the Ramsar Wetlands Conservation Awards 2018. Oral reports will be presented on the activities and outcomes of World Wetlands Day 2017 and theme for World Wetlands Day 2018 for Standing Committee consideration. The Secretariat will also present an updated report on the MAVA project “Conservation of the natural and cultural heritage in wetlands” (Doc. SC53-14).

14. Progress on implementing Resolution XI.6 on partnership and synergies (Doc. SC53-15)

The Secretariat will introduce Doc SC53-15 and report on the progress on partnership and synergies with Multilateral Environment Agreements and other institutions. Some of the key issues for Standing Committee consideration relate to the seventh replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund annexed to CBD Decision XIII/21 and Sustainable Development Goals.

15. Progress report on implementation of the Wetland City Accreditation (Doc. SC53-16)

In this agenda item the Secretariat will present a progress report on the implementation of the Wetland City Accreditation and propose ways forward for Standing Committee consideration.

Friday 2 June 2017

08:15 – 09:45 Regional meetings

10:00 – 13:00 Plenary Session of the Standing Committee

16. Report on national and regional targets of the Strategic Plan (Doc. SC53-17)

The Secretariat will present a report on the national and regional targets submitted by Contracting Parties in line with the targets set in the Strategic Plan and paragraph 22 of Resolution XII.2 *The Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016-2024*.

17. The status of the List of Wetlands of International Importance (Doc. SC53-18) and update on the Ramsar Sites Information Service (RSIS).

In this agenda item the Secretariat will introduce Document SC53-18 with the updated report on the status of Sites on the List of Wetlands of International Importance. The Standing Committee is requested to advise on activities to be undertaken by regional representatives on the Standing Committee and instructs the Secretariat as appropriate on specific measures to be taken on the longest-running Article 3.2 files.

15:00 – 18:00 Plenary Session of the Standing Committee

18. Options for holding future meetings of the Standing Committee in Geneva (Doc. SC53-19)

According to Decision SC52-25, the Secretariat will present the report on the possibility of holding future meetings of the Committee in Geneva for Contracting Parties consideration.

19. Report of the Facilitation Working Group

The co-chairs (USA and Uruguay) will present a progress report on the activities of the Working Group.

20. Report of the Sub-group on Finance

- a. Financial matters 2016 (Doc. SC53-20)
- b. Report on outstanding contributions (Doc. SC53-21)
- c. Update on fundraising for COP13 (Pre-COP regional meetings and other priority activities for fundraising)

The chair of the Sub-group on Finance will present the report of the Sub-group with recommendations on financial matters for Standing Committee consideration.

21. Other matters

- a. Date and venue of the 54th Meeting of the Standing Committee
- b. Adoption of the report of the 53rd Meeting
- c. Any other business
- d. Closing remarks