THE CONVENTION ON WETLANDS

59th Meeting of the Standing Committee

Gland, Switzerland, 21-25 June 2021

**SC59 Doc.13.2**

**Draft list of Resolutions that are effectively defunct**

**Actions requested:**

The Standing Committee is invited:

a) to provide to the Secretariat feedback on the draft list of existing Resolutions and Recommendations, and parts thereof, that may be considered as defunct, attached as Annex 1, and on the draft proposal to the Conference of the Parties in the Annex;

b) to agree that the Resolutions listed as already repealed in Annex 1 (status category 'R') should be excluded from the list of current Resolutions that is to be published by the Secretariat; and

c) to agree that after the comments of the Committee have been taken into account, the list of Resolutions, and parts thereof, considered to be defunct and proposed to be repealed (status categories 'P' and 'A' in Annex 1) should be submitted as Annex 1 of the draft resolution presented in document SC59 Doc.13.1, for approval at the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties.

**Introduction**

1. In Resolution XIII.4, paragraph 25, the Conference of the Contracting Parties requests the Standing Committee, amongst other things, to make a proposal for COP14, including "the retirement of outdated Resolutions and decisions".

2. At the 58th meeting of the Standing Committee (Gland, 2020), the Secretariat presented document SC58 Doc.13, on *Review of all previous Resolutions and Decisions*, recommending a way forward for implementation of the requests in Resolution XIII.4, in light of the magnitude of the task to be done.

3. At that meeting, the Standing Committee adopted Decision SC58-19.i), as follows:

 *The Standing Committee decided that, in consultation with the Standing Committee’s consultative group on the review of Resolutions and Decisions of the Standing Committee, the Secretariat should prepare the following documents for consideration by the Committee at its 59th meeting, and, if appropriate, forwarding for consideration at COP14:*

*i) a draft list of all existing Resolutions that are effectively defunct and that should be removed from a list of valid resolutions ....*

4. In accordance with this instruction, the Secretariat has prepared a list of all Resolutions (including Recommendations) of the Conference of the Parties, indicating:

 - Resolutions that remain current;

 - Resolutions that are defunct and that should therefore be repealed (i.e. deleted from the list of Resolutions);

 - Resolutions that have already been repealed or superseded; and

 - Resolutions in which specified paragraphs are defunct and can be removed.

**Recommendation**

5. The Standing Committee is invited to:

 a) review the draft list, in Annex 1, prepared in accordance with Decision SC58-19, subparagraph i), indicating all existing Resolutions, and parts thereof, that are effectively defunct and that should be removed from a list of valid Resolutions;

 b) consider the draft proposal to the Conference of the Parties in paragraph 6 of Annex 1;

 c) provide feedback to the Secretariat;

 d) agree that the Resolutions listed as already repealed in Annex 1 (status category 'R') should be excluded from the list of current Resolutions that is to be published by the Secretariat; and

 e) agree that after the comments of the Committee have been taken into account, the list of Resolutions, and parts thereof, considered to be defunct and proposed to be repealed (status categories 'P' and 'A' in Annex 1) should be submitted as Annex 1 of the draft resolution presented in document SC59 Doc.13.1, for approval at the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties.

**Annex 1**

**List of Resolutions and Recommendations of the Conference of Contracting Parties to the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands**

**Identification of Resolutions and Recommendations that are Defunct**

**Introduction**

1. The Conference of the Parties to the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands has adopted 337 Resolutions, Recommendations and Subrecommendations.

2. The purpose of the present exercise is twofold:

a) to provide a basis for the Secretariat to maintain a list of Resolutions and Recommendations of the Conference of the Parties that is up-to-date, and includes only the texts to which the Parties need to refer as a basis for implementation of the Convention, and nothing more; and

b) to minimize the number and length of the Resolutions and Recommendations that are to be consolidated in the process of consolidation that has been called for by the Conference of the Parties.

3. The table presented below is the result of a rapid check of all of the Resolutions and Recommendations adopted by the Conference of the Parties, in addition to their separate Annexes, for the sole purpose of identifying:

a) the Resolutions and Recommendations that are defunct (i.e. out of date, no longer current or no longer valid) and that should not be included in the list of current Resolutions and Recommendations; and

b) in the Resolutions and Recommendations that remain current:

the paragraphs, in the operative part, that are apparently defunct and that could be or should be repealed.

**Explanation**

4. In this exercise, only the operative parts of the Resolutions and Recommendations were reviewed. The preambular parts were not examined. Where there was any doubt about the validity or effectiveness of a particular paragraph, it was generally assumed that the paragraph remained valid, so that a more detailed analysis could be conducted during the process of consolidation of Resolutions and Recommendations, which has been called for by the Conference of the Parties. Any departure from this approach is indicated in the comments in the table below.

5. As a follow-up to the present exercise, in cases where some operative paragraphs have been identified as defunct, it is proposed that these be repealed at the same time as the dependent operative paragraphs.

6. It is proposed that:

a) if the Conference of the Parties decides that a Resolution or Recommendation is defunct, it will be removed from the list of current Resolutions and Recommendations. However, it will remain "on the record", and accessible on the Ramsar Secretariat website, as having previously been adopted by the Conference of the Parties;

b) if the Conference of the Parties decides that a part (or parts) of a Resolution or Recommendation is (or are) defunct, the Secretariat will publish a revised version of that Resolution or Recommendation without the parts that the COP agrees are defunct, and edited only to ensure that the sense is retained, and with no other amendment to the substance. In this case, the Resolution or Recommendation will be renumbered with the addition of "Rev. COPXX", where 'XX' represents the number of the meeting at which the amendment of the text was agreed; and

c) in cases where any Resolution is amended and renumbered [as indicated in paragraph b) above], or is repealed and replaced, the Secretariat should be authorized to correct the references to the amended or repealed Resolutions, in any Resolutions that remain in effect at that time. If the repealed Resolution is referred to in another Resolution, the Secretariat should annotate the reference with a footnote to indicate that the Resolution (or paragraph) being referred to was repealed.

7. In this document, the word 'repeal' is used in its common sense. As stated in the Cambridge dictionary: *If a government 'repeals' a law, it causes that law no longer to have any legal force.*  Thus, if a Resolution or paragraph is repealed, this means that it is put aside, and is no longer in effect. Resolutions or paragraphs that are repealed nonetheless remain on the record for reference.

**Results of rapid review of validity of Resolutions and Recommendations**

Key

A = Revision is required. Specific paragraphs are to be repealed from the operative part.
(This may also require consequential editorial corrections and deletions of corresponding preambular text.)

C = Remains current

R = Already repealed or superseded and therefore to be excluded from the list of current Resolutions and Recommendations to be implemented.

P = Proposed for deletion from the list of current Resolutions and Recommendations to be implemented.

NB: Parties may also wish to consult the advice on the 'retiral' of Resolutions and Recommendation in Standing Committee document Doc. SC35-12 on *COP9 Outputs requiring review by SC35: Review of COP Decisions (Resolution IX.17)* ( SC35, 2007).

| Number | Title | Proposed Status | Comments |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **COP13 (Dubai, 2018)** |  |  |
| Resolution XIII.1 | World Wetlands Day | C |  |
| Resolution XIII.2 | Financial and budgetary matters | C | Recommendation:- that at COP14, the Resolution on financial and budgetary matters repeal and replace all previous Resolutions on this subject, which however remain on the record as an indication of the budgets and contributions agreed for previous financial periods; and- that the Resolution on this subject adopted at subsequent meetings of the Conference of the Parties then repeal the Resolution adopted at the previous meeting, which however remains on the record. |
| Resolution XIII.3 | Governance of the Convention | C | NB: Resolution XIII.3, para. 17, indicates expiry of this Resolution after SC59, unless COP14 decides to retain the Effectiveness Working Group.NB: Resolution XIII.3, Annex 1, indicates that the Resource Mobilization Working Group is 'retired' and refers to Resolution XII.7. But Resolution XII.7 does not refer to any such working group. |
| Resolution XIII.4 | Responsibilities, roles and composition of the Standing Committee and regional categorization of countries under the Convention | C |  |
| Resolution XIII.5 | Review of the fourth Strategic Plan of the Ramsar Convention | C |  |
| Resolution XIII.6 | Language strategy for the Convention | C |  |
| Resolution XIII.7 | Enhancing the Convention’s visibility and synergies with other multilateral environmental agreements and other international institutions | C | NB: In para. 32, the reference to "Resolution XII.3" should be corrected to "Resolution XII.3 (Rev. COP13)". Recommendation:The Secretariat should be mandated to make such corrections after each meeting of the Conference of the Parties, as necessary. (For an example of a mandate, see CITES Resolution 4.6 (Rev. CoP18), paragraph 4.a, at <https://cites.org/sites/default/files/document/E-Res-04-06-R18.pdf>).  |
| Resolution XIII.8 | Future implementation of scientific and technical aspects of the Convention for 2019-2021 | C |  |
| Resolution XIII.9 | Ramsar Regional Initiatives 2019-2021 | C |  |
| Resolution XIII.10 | Status of Sites in the Ramsar List of Wetlands of International Importance | C | Recommendation:Resolution XIII.10 remains valid but should be consolidated with other Resolutions on the same subject, potentially including Resolutions VII.11, VIII.8, IX.15, X.13 and XI.4. |
| Resolution XIII.11 | Ramsar Advisory Missions | C |  |
| Resolution XIII.12 | Guidance on identifying peatlands as Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Sites) for global climate change regulation as an additional argument to existing Ramsar criteria | P | As the main purpose of Resolution XIII.12 is to update the *Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance of the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar, Iran, 1971) – 2012 revision*, attached to Resolution XI.8, Annex 2, it is proposed that the relevant part of the more recent Resolution be used to revise the earlier Resolution, as indicated below regarding Resolution XI.8. |
| Resolution XIII.13 | Restoration of degraded peatlands to mitigate and adapt to climate change and enhance biodiversity and disaster risk reduction | C |  |
| Resolution XIII.14 | Promoting conservation, restoration and sustainable management of coastal blue-carbon ecosystems | C |  |
| Resolution XIII.15 | Cultural values and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities and their contribution to climate-change mitigation and adaptation in wetlands | C |  |
| Resolution XIII.16 | Sustainable urbanization, climate change and wetlands | C |  |
| Resolution XIII.17 | Rapidly assessing wetland ecosystem services | C |  |
| Resolution XIII.18 | Gender and wetlands | C |  |
| Resolution XIII.19 | Sustainable agriculture in wetlands (Corrected on 15 February 2019 by addition of footnote) | C |  |
| Resolution XIII.20 | Promoting the conservation and wise use of intertidal wetlands and ecologically-associated habitats | C |  |
| Resolution XIII.21 | Conservation and management of small wetlands | C |  |
| Resolution XIII.22 | Wetlands in West Asia | C |  |
| Resolution XIII.23 | Wetlands in the Arctic and sub-Arctic | C |  |
| Resolution XIII.24 | The enhanced conservation of coastal marine turtle habitats and the designation of key areas as Ramsar Sites | C |  |
| Resolution XIII.25 | Thanks to the Host Country, the United Arab Emirates | P | It seems unnecessary to maintain Resolutions and Recommendations expressing thanks to host countries in the list of current Resolutions & Recommendations. However, the expression of appreciation remains on the record in perpetuity. Recommendation:- Exclude Resolution XIII.25 from the list of current Resolutions & Recommendations after COP14. |
| **COP12(Punta del Este, 2015)** |  |  |
| Resolution XII.1 | Financial and budgetary matters | R | Resolution XIII.2, in para. 38, states that it supersedes Resolution XII.1. |
| Resolution XII.2 | The Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016-2024 | A | Resolution XII.2 remains valid.However paras 26-28 provide steps for a review of the Strategic Plan. These have all been implemented and Resolution XIII.5 provides the modalities for the review. These three paragraphs can therefore be repealed. |
| Resolution XII.3 (Rev. COP13) | Enhancing the languages of the Convention and its visibility and stature, and increasing synergies with other multilateral environmental agreements and other international institutions | C | NB. Resolution XII.3, was already revised by Resolution XIII.6. The current version is Resolution XII.3 (Rev. COP13).NB: Resolution XIII.7, para. 32, reaffirms the invitation to Parties that are considering hosting a COP, in Resolution XII.3 (Rev. COP13), to also consider including a high-level segment. |
| Resolution XII.4 | The responsibilities, roles and composition of the Standing Committee and regional categorization of countries under the Ramsar Convention | R | Resolution XIII.4, para. 31, states that it supersedes Resolution XII.4. |
| Resolution XII.5 | New framework for delivery of scientific and technical advice and guidance on the Convention | A | Resolution XII.5, para. 15, states that it supersedes all previous Resolutions on matters of the STRP. Therefore this Resolution remains valid.However, the following paragraphs are time-bound and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 18, agreeing priority work areas for 2016-2018 (in Annex 3);- para. 20, instructing STRP to establish a work plan for 2016-2018;- para. 21, instructing the Standing Committee to approve the STRP work plan for 2016-2018;- paras. 25 & 26, requesting finalization of the report *The State of the World's Wetlands and Their Services to People*, which was published; and- Annex 3, indicating the priority work areas for 2016-2018.In addition, para. 28 should be amended to remove reference to Annex 3. |
| Resolution XII.6 | The status of Sites in the Ramsar List of Wetlands of International Importance | R | Resolution XIII.10, in para. 24, repeals and replaces Resolution XII.6. |
| Resolution XII.7 | Resource Mobilization and Partnership Framework of the Ramsar Convention | A | Resolution XII.7 remains valid. However, the following paragraphs are time-bound and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 13, specifying tasks for SC50 and SC51;- para. 14 & 15, regarding SC advice to respond to a CBD invitation; an equivalent text is found in Resolution XIII.7, para. 46. |
| Resolution XII.8 | Regional initiatives 2016-2018 in the framework of the Ramsar Convention | C | Several parts of Resolution XII.8 are time-bound, relating to guidelines for regional initiatives for the period 2016-2018 or to tasks to be completed by deadlines that have already passed.However, Resolution XIII.9, para. 30, requires the preparation of a draft consolidated resolution on RRIs, including Resolutions VIII.30, IX.7, X.6, XI.5 and XII.8. Consequently, as this Resolution is to be consolidated with others, no change is proposed here. |
| Resolution XII.9 | The Ramsar Convention’s Programme on communication, capacity building, education, participation and awareness (CEPA) 2016‐2024 | A | Resolution XII.9 remains in effect.However, paragraph 9 is time-bound, calling for actions at SC51 and COP13 and can be repealed.Recommendation:- Revise Resolution XII.9 at COP14 to incorporate all COP recommendations regarding CEPA implementation.NB: In Resolution XIII.3: - the combination of para. 10 and Annex 1 indicate that the CEPA Working Group is 'retired', and refers to Resolution XII.9. But Resolution XII.9 does not refer to any such working group.- paras. 23-29 contain various recommendations and instructions regarding CEPA, to supplement Resolution XII.9.Resolution XIII.5 invites Parties to continue to implement the CEPA programme, referring to Resolution XII.9. |
| Resolution XII.10 | Wetland City Accreditation of the Ramsar Convention | A | Resolution XII.10 establishes the Wetland City Accreditation system and remains valid.However, paragraphs 11 is time-bound, calling for action at COP13, and can therefore be repealed. |
| Resolution XII.11 | Peatlands, climate change and wise use: Implications for the Ramsar Convention | C | Resolution XII.11 remains valid.NB: Resolution XIII.13, para. 22, urges Parties to report in their national reports on implementation of Resolution XII.11. Recommendation:If Resolution XII.11 is retained, any call for reporting on implementation should be in this Resolution. |
| Resolution XII.12 | Call to action to ensure and protect the water requirements of wetlands for the present and the future | C | Resolution XII.12 remains valid. |
| Resolution XII.13 | Wetlands and disaster risk reduction | A | Resolution XII.13 remains valid.However, the following paragraphs are time-bound and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- paras. 25, 27 to 30, calling on the STRP to consider several issues in the development of its work plan. The STRP work plan for 2016-2018 was approved at SC52, and the plan for 2019-2021 at SC57. Both took into account Resolution XII.5. |
| Resolution XII.14 | Conservation of Mediterranean Basin island wetlands | C | Resolution XII.14 remains valid. |
| Resolution XII.15 | Evaluation of the management and conservation effectiveness of Ramsar Sites | L | Resolution XII.15 remains valid |
| Resolution XII.16 | Thanks to the Host Country, Uruguay, and the “Declaration of Punta del Este” | P | It seems unnecessary to maintain Resolutions and Recommendations expressing thanks to host countries in the list of current Resolutions & Recommendations. However, the expression of appreciation remains on the record in perpetuity. |
| **COP11(Bucharest, 2012)** |  |  |
| Resolution XI.1 | Institutional hosting of the Ramsar Secretariat | A | Resolution XI.1 remains valid. However, the following paragraphs are time-bound and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 15, which calls for actions at SC46 and SC47;- paras. 17 and 18 which call for actions by the Standing Committee and a final report at COP12. This was implemented by the Standing Committee. |
| Resolution XI.2 | Financial and budgetary matters | P | Resolution XIII.2 contains all key elements from Resolution XI.2, applying them to the new triennium (2019 – 2021). Resolution XI.2 may therefore be repealed, noting however that it remains on the record as an indication of the contributions due for the period 2013-2015. |
| Resolution XI.3 | Adjustments to the Strategic Plan 2009-2015 for the 2013-2015 triennium | P | As suggested by the title, the provisions of Resolution XI.3 are time-bound and relate only to the Strategic Plan up to 2015. Resolution XI.3 is therefore defunct and can be repealed. |
| Resolution XI.4 | The status of sites in the Ramsar List of Wetlands of International Importance | A | Resolution XI.4 remains valid.However, it should be consolidated with other Resolutions on the same subject, potentially including Resolutions VII.11, VIII.8, IX.15, X.13 and XIII.10.Paras. 22 and 28 contain requests to the Secretariat and the STRP that are out of date and can be repealed.  |
| Resolution XI.5 | Regional initiatives 2013-2015 in the framework of the Ramsar Convention | C | Resolution XIII.9, para. 30, requires the preparation of a draft consolidated resolution on RRIs, including Resolutions VIII.30, IX.7, X.6, XI.5 and XII.8. |
| Resolution XI.6 | Partnerships and synergies with Multilateral Environmental Agreements and other institutions | C | There is considerable overlap between Resolutions VII.4, VIII.5, X.11 and XI.6 and they should be consolidated, to place all recommendations on this subject into a single text.Resolution XIII.7, para. 31, requires the Secretariat to report to the Standing Committee on implementation of Resolution XI.6. Resolution XI.6 therefore remains valid. |
| Resolution XI.7 | Tourism, recreation and wetlands | A | Resolution XI.7 remains valid. Para. 28 is in two parts:- the part under "Encourages" calls on Parties to use the Framework annexed to Resolution XI.9. But as Resolution XI.9 already calls on Parties to use that Framework, the further encouragement in Resolution XI.7 is redundant. This part can be repealed;- the second part is a request to the Secretariat, which appears to remain valid.  |
| Resolution XI.8 | Streamlining procedures for describing Ramsar Sites at the time of designation and subsequent updates | A | Resolution XI.8 remains valid.However the following paragraphs are out of date or redundant and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 18, which instructs the Secretariat to implement Resolution VIII.13, para. 11, re. the Ramsar Information Sheet database RSDB to ensure it captures all data provided by Parties, which was done;- paras. 20, 21 and 22 contain instructions to the STRP and the Secretariat. These were implemented before the launch of the online RSIS.Paras. 15 and 16 are out of date and it is suggested that they be repealed and replaced by paras. 14, 15 and 16 of Resolution XIII.12, and that Annex 2 of that Resolution also be appended. Resolution XIII.12 can then be repealed in its entirety. (see above regarding Resolution XIII.12.)  |
| Resolution XI.8, annex 1 | Ramsar Site Information Sheet (RIS) - 2012 revision | C | (Resolution XI.8 states, in para. 14, that this Information Sheet replaces previous guidance, which would include the guidance in Resolutions 5.3, VI.1 Annex, VI.13, VIII.13, and VIII.21)  |
| Resolution XI.8, annex 2 | Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance of the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar, Iran, 1971) - 2012 revision | A | Appendix E2 of Resolution XI.8, Annex 2, is superseded by Annex 1 of Resolution XIII.12 (see Resolution XIII.12, para. 13). Therefore a revised version of Resolution XI.8 must be published, in which Annex 2, section E2, is replaced by Annex 1 of Resolution XIII.12, as already decided by the Conference of the Parties. |
| Resolution XI.9 | An Integrated Framework for avoiding, mitigating, and compensating for wetland losses | A | Resolution XIII.20, para. 48, encourages Parties to follow the framework and guidelines in Resolution XI.9. Resolution XIII.23, para. 25, encourages Parties to take into account the framework and guidelines in Resolution XI.9.Resolution XI.11 states that urban development should be planned with reference to Resolution XI.9.Resolution XI.9 remains valid.However, paragraph 19 is time-bound and has expired. It can therefore be repealed. |
| Resolution XI.10 | Wetlands and energy issues | A | Resolution XI.10 remains valid.However paras. 19 and 21, contain instructions to the STRP, with deadlines now expired. They may therefore be repealed.Para. 20 also contains instructions to the STRP, presumably still valid. It would be preferable in future to have all instructions to the STRP in one place.  |
| Resolution XI.11 | Principles for the planning and management of urban and peri-urban wetlands | A | Resolution XI.11 remains valid. However, para. 29 contains a request to the STRP (with a related request to Parties) regarding its workplan for 2013-2015. This is out of date and may be repealed. |
| Resolution XI.12 | Wetlands and health: taking an ecosystem approach | C | Resolution XI.13 urges Parties to use the advice in Resolution XI.12, Annex 1.Resolution XI.12 remains valid. |
| Resolution XI.13 | An Integrated Framework for linking wetland conservation and wise use with poverty eradication | A | Resolution XI.13 remains valid.However, para. 16 contains a request to the Secretariat, with a final report to be provided at COP12. This is out of date and may be repealed.NB: Paras. 18 and 19 contain instructions to the STRP that could be interpreted as remaining in effect.  |
| Resolution XI.14 | Climate change and wetlands: implications for the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands | A | Resolution XI.14 remains valid.However, para. 37 contains requests for actions that were implemented. This paragraph is therefore out of date and may be repealed. |
| Resolution XI.15 | Agriculture-wetland interactions: rice paddy and pest control | C | Resolution XI.15 remains valid.NB: para. 24 contains a request to the STRP to review information about impact of agriculture on rice paddies as wetlands. Although agriculture is mentioned among the targets in the current STRP work plan, it is not clear that this issue will be addressed. |
| Resolution XI.16 | Ensuring efficient delivery of scientific and technical advice and support to the Convention | P | Resolution XI.16 is entirely about a review of scientific and technical advice and guidance, to be considered at COP12. It is therefore defunct and can be repealed. |
| Resolution XI.17 | Future implementation of scientific and technical aspects of the Convention for 2013-2015 | P | Resolution XI.17 relates entirely to the scientific and technical work of the Convention for the period 2013-2015 and related matters. It is therefore defunct and can be repealed.  |
| Resolution XI.18 | Adjustments to the modus operandi of the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP) for the 2013-2015 triennium | R | Resolution XII.5, para. 15, states that it supersedes all previous Resolutions on matters of the STRP, which includes Resolution XI.18, listed in paragraph 2 of Resolution XII.5. |
| Resolution XI.19 | Adjustments to the terms of Resolution VII.1 on the composition, roles, and responsibilities of the Standing Committee and regional categorization of countries under the Convention | R | Resolution XII.4 states, in para. 12, that it supersedes Resolution XI.19. |
| Resolution XI.20 | Promoting sustainable investment by the public and private sectors to ensure the maintenance of the benefits people and nature gain from wetlands | A | Resolution XI.20 remains valid.However, there are some paragraphs that could be considered as defunct or redundant, and which might therefore be repealed, as follows:- Para. 10 calls on Parties to develop public-private partnership to invest in wetland conservation "in line with Resolution X.12, paragraph 18". If that latter Resolution is sufficient, para. 10 may be considered redundant;- Para. 11 "Recalls" and repeats Resolution X.26, para. 18. However, that Resolution remains in effect, so that para. 11 is redundant (or should be in the preamble); and- Para. 15 relates specifically to national reports for COP12 and is therefore defunct and can be repealed. |
| Resolution XI.21 | Wetlands and sustainable development | C | Resolution XI.21 conveys a copy of the Tehran Declaration on Wetlands and Sustainable Development, adopted at the Global Forum on Wetland for the Future in 2011, some of which is time-bound. However, the Resolution invites Parties to act upon the points in the declaration to promote actions over the following 40 years. For this reason, it is considered as still in effect. |
| Resolution XI.22 | Thanks to the host country, Romania | P | It seems unnecessary to maintain Resolutions and Recommendations expressing thanks to host countries in the list of current Resolutions & Recommendations. However, the expression of appreciation remains on the record in perpetuity. |
| **COP10(Changwon, 2008)** |  |  |
| Resolution X.1 | The Ramsar Strategic Plan 2009-2015 | P | Through Resolution X.1, the Conference of the Parties adopted the Strategic Plan for 2009-2015, and related requests. This is now defunct and can be repealed. |
| Resolution X.2 | Financial and budgetary matters | P | Resolution X.2 presents the core budget for the period 2008-2012 and related decisions. It is therefore proposed that this Resolution be considered as outdated and that it be repealed. However it remains on the record as an indication of the contributions due for the period covered. |
| Resolution X.3 | The Changwon Declaration on human well-being and wetlands | P | Through Resolution X.3, the Conference of the Parties welcomes the Changwon Declaration on Human Well-being and Wetlands, adopted at COP10 in 2008, noting that it is designed to complement the Strategic Plan 2009-2015. Paragraphs 17 and 18 call for reports to COP11 on the experiences in implementing actions arising from the Declaration.For these reasons, the Resolution may be considered as outdated, and excluded from the list of Resolutions in effect.  |
| Resolution X.4 | Establishing a Transition Committee of the Management Working Group | P | Resolution X.4 does two things:- establishes the Transition Committee of the Management Working Group (MWG); and- revises the mandate of the MWG by amending Resolution IX.24. The Transition Committee of the MWG was retired by Resolution XIII.3; and Resolution  IX.24 has been amended. Consequently Resolution X.4 can now be retired from the list of current Resolutions & Recommendations. |
| Resolution X.5 | Facilitating the work of the Ramsar Convention and its Secretariat | A | Resolution X.5 remains partly valid.It makes several recommendations regarding the administration of the Secretariat, and facilitation of its work. It establishes an Ad Hoc Working Group under the Standing Committee.The subject was discussed at SC41 (2010), SC42 & SC43 (2011) and COP11 (2012); and culminated in the adoption of Resolution XI.1 on 'Institutional hosting of the Secretariat', including creation of a new working group.Consequently, most of the provisions of the Resolution are outdated.However, the following paragraphs remain valid and could be consolidated with others on the administration and functioning of the Secretariat: - para. 9, which asks the Executive Director of UNEP to facilitate the participation of Ramsar Convention representatives in relevanr meetings of UNEP and UNEP-administered agreements; and- para. 10, which requests the Secretariat to seek assistance of Parties to take action in intergovernmental processes to secure participation of Ramsar Secretariat staff, and others with official functions, as representatives of an international treaty. |
| Resolution X.6 | Regional initiatives 2009-2012 in the framework of the Ramsar Convention | C | Resolution XIII.9, para. 30, requires the preparation of a draft consolidated resolution on RRIs, including Resolutions VIII.30, IX.7, X.6, XI.5 and XII.8. |
| Resolution X.7 | Optimizing the Ramsar Small Grants Fund during the period 2009-2012 | P | In Resolution XIII.2, para. 31, the Conference of the Parties agreed to phase out the Small Grants Fund programme upon exhaustion of its current resources. At its 57th meeting (Gland, 2019), in Decision SC57-51, the Standing Committee noted the steps taken to phase out the programme. Consequently, Resolution X.7, is now outdated and can be removed from the list of current Resolutions & Recommendations. |
| Resolution X.8 | The Convention’s Programme on communication, education, participation and awareness (CEPA) 2009-2015 | P | Resolution XII.9, in para. 8, confirms that it incorporates the key recommendations from Resolution X.8.Consequently Resolution X.8 has been superseded and may be repealed.  |
| Resolution X.9 | Refinements to the modus operandi of the Scientific & Technical Review Panel (STRP) | R | Resolution XII.5, para. 15, states that it supersedes all previous Resolutions on matters of the STRP, which includes Resolution X.9, listed in paragraph 2 of Resolution XII.5. |
| Resolution X.10 | Future implementation of scientific and technical aspects of the Convention | R | Resolution X.10 lays out the work of the STRP for the period 2009-2012. Resolution XII.5, para. 15, states that it supersedes all previous Resolutions on matters of the STRP. Therefore, Resolution X.10 is already defunct. |
| Resolution X.11 | Partnerships and synergies with Multilateral Environmental Agreements and other institutions | A | There is considerable overlap between Resolutions VII.4, VIII.5, X.11 and XI.6 and they should be consolidated, to place all recommendations on this subject into a single text.Resolution X.11 remains valid. However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 15, which requires the Secretariat to review its memoranda of cooperation;- para. 23, which calls on various bodies to contribute to the International Year of Biodiversity, 2010;- para. 24, which refers Parties to a website that is now no longer for the purpose indicated; and- para. 26, which calls for support to the work of the STRP indicated in Resolution VIII.26, which relates to the Strategic Plan for 2003-2008. In addition, in para. 13, the words "presently under the 4th Joint Work Plan between the two conventions" is out of date and can be deleted. |
| Resolution X.12 | Principles for partnerships between the Ramsar Convention and the business sector | C | Resolution X.27, para. 24, calls for application of the principles in Resolution X.12.Resolution X.12 remains valid. |
| Resolution X.13 | The status of sites in the Ramsar List of Wetlands of International Importance | A | Resolution X.13 remains valid.However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 27, which contains 14 recommendations to specific countries, and one general. It is not clear whether they have all been implemented. However, as these recommendations recommendations were made in 2008, if any have not been implemented, they could be considered as having having lost their currency; - para. 31, second part, which instructs the Secretariat to contact the Parties listed in Annex 1. This was done; and- Annex 1, referred to in para. 31 and para. 5 (which should be corrected). Annex 2 should then be renumbered as Annex 1 and references to Annex 2 amended accordingly.RecommendationIt is recommended that Resolution X.13 be consolidated with other Resolutions on the same subject, potentially including Resolutions VII.11, VIII.8, IX.15, XI.14 and XIII.10. |
| Resolution X.14 | A Framework for Ramsar data and information needs | A | Resolution X.14 remains valid.However, para. 6 is contains an instruction to the STRP regarding its work plan for the period 2009-2012. This is out of date and can be repealed. |
| Resolution X.15 | Describing the ecological character of wetlands, and data needs and formats for core inventory: harmonized scientific and technical guidance | A | Resolution X.15 remains valid.However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 8, which contains instructions to the STRP regarding its work plan for the period 2009-2012; and- para. 9, which instructs the Secretariat regarding dissemination of the contents of the Resolution and updating the Ramsar Wise Use Handbooks. |
| Resolution X.16 | A Framework for processes of detecting, reporting and responding to change in wetland ecological character | A | Resolution X.26, para. 20, urges Parties "to apply, as appropriate, the guidance adopted through Resolution X.16 and included in COP10 DOC. 27".Resolution X.16 remains valid.However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 7, which contains instructions to the STRP regarding its work plan for the period 2009-2012; and- para. 8, which instructs the Secretariat regarding dissemination of the contents of the Resolution and updating the Ramsar Wise Use Handbooks. |
| Resolution X.17 | Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment: updated scientific and technical guidance | C | Resolution XI.10 encourages Parties to enhance the application of the guidance contained in Resolution X.17.Resolution X.25, para. 15, calls for certain actions "in line with … Resolution X.17".Resolution X.26, paras. 14 and 15, urges Parties to apply the guidance in Resolution X.17.Resolution X.17 remains valid. |
| Resolution X.18 | The application of response options from the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA) within the Ramsar Wise Use Toolkit | A | Resolution X.18 remains valid.However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 14, second part, with a request to the Secretariat that was implemented; and- para. 15, containing a request to the Secretariat, which was implemented in that it took account of all responses in revising the Wise Use Handbooks. |
| Resolution X.19 | Wetlands and river basin management: consolidated scientific and technical guidance | A | Resolution XI.15 refers to Resolution X.19 as containing the Convention's guidance on wetlands and river basin management.Resolution X.26, para. 17, encourages Parties to apply the guidance in Resolution X.19.Resolution X.19 remains valid.However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 8, which contains instructions to the STRP regarding work to be completed before COP12; and- paras. 9 and 10, which contain a request and an instruction to the Secretariat. |
| Resolution X.20 | Biogeographic regionalization in the application of the Strategic Framework for the List of Wetlands of International Importance: scientific and technical guidance | A | Resolution X.16 remains valid.However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 10, which contains a request to the STRP and the Secretariat; - paras. 11 and 12, which contain requests to the STRP; and- para. 13, which instructs the Secretariat regarding dissemination of the contents of the Resolution and updating the Ramsar Wise Use Handbooks. |
| Resolution X.21 | Guidance on responding to the continued spread of highly pathogenic avian influenza | A | Resolution X.21 remains valid.However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 20, which refers to the continuing work of the Scientific Task Force on Avian Influenza and Wild Birds; it is not clear whether the Task Force still exists but in any case the STRP and Ramsar Secretariat are not involved;- para. 21, which requests the STRP to take certain actions for consideration at COP11; and- para. 22, third part, which requests the Secretariat undertake work to be reported at COP11. |
| Resolution X.22 | Promoting international cooperation for the conservation of waterbird flyways | C | Resolution X.22 remains valid. |
| Resolution X.23 | Wetlands and human health and well-being | A | Resolution X.23 remains valid.However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 30, which requests the Secretariat to cooperate with WHO in various ways;- para. 31, which contains instructions for work to STRP; and- para. 32, which invites various bodies to contribute to the work of STRP. |
| Resolution X.24 | Climate change and wetlands | A | Resolution X.24 remains valid.However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 40, which calls for certain activities to be included in the Joint Work Plan of the CBD and the Ramsar Convention for 2002-2010;- paras. 43, 47, 48 and 49 which directs certain work to the STRP; and - paras. 45 and 46, which direct activities to the STRP, the Secretariat and others. Having been adopted in 2008, these have probably lost their currency. |
| Resolution X.25 | Wetlands and "biofuels" | A | Resolution X.25 remains valid.However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 20, which contains instructions for work to STRP; and- para. 23, which calls for certain activities to be included in the Joint Work Plan of the CBD and the Ramsar Convention (for 2002-2010). |
| Resolution X.26 | Wetlands and extractive industries | A | Resolution X.23 remains valid.However, para. 29 contains instructions for work to the STRP. This instruction is out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments. |
| Resolution X.27 | Wetlands and urbanization | A | Resolution X.27 remains valid.However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 18, regarding the role of CEPA, as this has been effectively superseded by Resolution XII.9; - para. 19, which calls for action under the CEPA programme for 2009-2015; and - paras. 26 & 27, which relate to work to be done by the STRP. |
| Resolution X.28 | Wetlands and poverty eradication | A | Resolution X.28 remains valid.However, para. 11 contains instructions for work to be conducted by the STRP. These instructions are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments. |
| Resolution X.29 | Clarifying the functions of agencies and related bodies implementing the Convention at the national level | C | Resolution X.29 remains valid. |
| Resolution X.30 | Small Island States and the Ramsar Convention | A | Resolution X.30 remains valid.However paragraph 6 makes a request to the Secretariat regarding the management of the Small Grants Fund. This out of date as the Conference of the Parties has agreed in Resolution XIII.2, para. 31, to phase out the Small Grants Fund. Paragraph 6 can therefore be repealed, together with any corresponding preambular paragraphs. |
| Resolution X.31 | Enhancing biodiversity in rice paddies as wetland systems | A | Resolution X.31 remains valid.However, para. 18 contains a request to the STRP. This part is out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments. |
| Resolution X.32 | Thanks to the host country, the Republic of Korea | P | It seems unnecessary to maintain Resolutions and Recommendations expressing thanks to host countries in the list of current Resolutions & Recommendations, following the COP after the one at which they were adopted. However, the expression of appreciation remains on the record in perpetuity. |
| **COP9(Kampala, 2005)** |  |  |
| Resolution IX.1 | Additional scientific and technical guidance for implementing the Ramsar wise use concept | A | Resolution IX.1 remains valid.However: - para. 9 contains an instruction to the Secretariat, which is outdated and can be repealed;- para. 6 no longer applies because it approves the adoption of the Strategic Framework in Annex B, which has already been superseded (see below); so that para. 6 can be repealed;- list of Annexes, includes Annex B, which has been superseded; the reference to Annex B should therefore be deleted.These changes may require consequential amendments.NB: para. 5 of this Resolution:CONFIRMS that its definitions of 'wise use' and 'ecological character' supersede all previous definitions of these terms. |
| Resolution IX.1, Annex A | A Conceptual Framework for the wise use of wetlands and the maintenance of their ecological character | C | Resolution IX.1, Annex A remains valid. |
| Resolution IX.1, Annex B | Revised Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance | R | Resolution XI.8, para. 14, confirm that the *Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance of the Convention on Wetlands – 2012 revision*, annexed to that Resolution supersedes the Strategic Framework adopted previously. Consequently Resolution IX.1, Annex B, is no longer in effect.  |
| Resolution IX.1, Annex C | An Integrated Framework for the Ramsar Convention's water-related guidance | C | Resolution IX.1, Annex C, remains valid. |
| Resolution IX.1, Annex Ci | River basin management: additional guidance and a framework for the analysis of case studies | A | Resolution X.19, para. 6:*CONFIRMS that the “Consolidated Guidance for integrating wetland conservation and wise use into river basin management” in the annex to this Resolution updates and wholly supersedes the earlier guidance on this matter adopted as the annex to Resolution VII.18 and as Annex Ci to Resolution IX.1*Recommendation:Until the consolidation is done, probably the best option is to: annotate the title of Annex Ci, to indicate that it has been superseded by the Annex to Resolution X.19; and delete the text of Annex Ci entirely. |
| Resolution IX.1, Annex Cii | Guidelines for the management of groundwater to maintain wetland ecological character | C | Resolution IX.1, Annex Cii, remains valid. |
| Resolution IX.1, Annex D | Ecological "outcome-oriented" indicators for assessing the implementation effectiveness of the Ramsar Convention | C | Resolution IX.1, Annex D, remains valid. |
| Resolution IX.1, Annex E | An Integrated Framework for wetland inventory, assessment and monitoring (IF-WIAM) | C | Resolution IX.1, Annex E, remains valid. |
| Resolution IX.1, Annex Ei | Guidelines for the rapid assessment of inland, coastal and marine wetland biodiversity | C | Resolution IX.1, Annex Ei, remains valid. |
| Resolution IX.2 | Future implementation of scientific and technical aspects of the Convention | P | Resolution IX.2 has only the purpose of approving actions for the STRP for the periods 2006-2011. It is therefore defunct and can be repealed. |
| Resolution IX.3 | Engagement of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands in ongoing multilateral processes dealing with water | A | Resolution IX.3 remains valid.However, paras. 19, 20 and 21 are all time-bound, and relate to actions to be taken in relation to events that are now passed. They are therefore defunct and can be repealed. |
| Resolution IX.4 | The Ramsar Convention and conservation, production and sustainable use of fisheries resources | C | Resolution IX.4 remains valid. |
| Resolution IX.5 | Synergies with other international organizations dealing with biological diversity; including collaboration on, and harmonization of, national reporting among biodiversity-related conventions and agreements | P | Resolution IX.5 makes requests to the Secretary General and to Parties regarding cooperation with IGOs and convention Secretariats and regarding streamlining of reporting. Having been adopted in 2005, this may now be considered to have lost its currency and may be repealed. |
| Resolution IX.6 | Guidance for addressing Ramsar sites or parts of sites which no longer meet the Criteria for designation | A | Resolution IX.6 remains valid.However, the first part of para. 14, under "ALSO INSTRUCTS" is time-bound and out of date, and can be repealed. The second part of para. 14 remains valid. |
| Resolution IX.7 | Regional initiatives in the framework of the Ramsar Convention | C | Resolution XIII.9, para. 30, requires the preparation of a draft consolidated resolution on RRIs, including Resolutions VIII.30, IX.7, X.6, XI.5 and XII.8. |
| Resolution IX.8 | Streamlining the implementation of the Strategic Plan of the Convention 2003-2008 | P | Resolution IX.8 all relates to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for 2003-2008. It is defunct and can be repealed. |
| Resolution IX.9 | The role of the Ramsar Convention in the prevention and mitigation of impacts associated with natural phenomena, including those induced or exacerbated by human activities | A | Resolution IX.9 remains valid.However, the following paragraphs may be considered out of date and suitable for repeal:- paras. 15, 19, 21 and 22, which gives instructions to the Secretariat that may have lost their currency;- para. 18, which relates to support for countries affected by the Indian Ocean tsunami of 2004; and- para. 20, which gives instructions to the STRP. |
| Resolution IX.10 | Use of the term and status of the "Ramsar Secretariat" | P | Resolution IX.10 does two things:- determines that the 'Bureau' referred to in the Convention may be called 'the Ramsar Secretariat'; and- instructs the Secretary General to consult about the legal status of the Secretariat and to report through the Standing Committee at COP10.Regarding the first point, the Ramsar Secretariat is now so called as a standard practice. To enable this to continue, the Resolution does not need to remain in the list of Resolutions to be implemented, but remains on the record.Regarding the second point, this was implemented, leading to the adoption of Resolution X.5 and, later, XI.1. Consequently, Resolution IX.10 is now outdated and can be removed from the list of current Resolutions and Recommendations. |
| Resolution IX.11 | Revised modus operandi of the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP) | R | Resolution XII.5, para. 15, states that it supersedes all previous Resolutions on matters of the STRP, which includes Resolution IX.11, listed in paragraph 2 of Resolution XII.5. |
| Resolution IX.12 | Financial and budgetary matters | P | Resolution IX.12 presents the core budget for the period 2008-2012 and related decisions. It is therefore proposed that this Resolution be considered as outdated and that it be repealed. However it remains on the record as an indication of the contributions due for the period covered. |
| Resolution IX.13 | Evaluation of the Ramsar Endowment Fund as a mechanism to resource the Small Grants Fund | P | In Resolution XIII.2, para. 31, the Conference of the Parties agreed to phase out the Small Grants Fund programme upon exhaustion of its current resources. At its 57th meeting (Gland, 2019), in Decision SC57-51, the Standing Committee noted the steps taken to phase out the programme. Consequently, Resolution IX.13, is now outdated and can be removed from the list of current Resolutions & Recommendations. |
| Resolution IX.14 | Wetlands and poverty reduction | A | Resolution X.28, paras. 8, 10 & 11, call for activities in the context of Resolution IX.14.Resolution IX.14 remains valid.However, para. 11 contains instructions to the STRP, which are out of date and can be repealed. |
| Resolution IX.15 | The status of sites in the Ramsar List of Wetlands of International Importance | A | Resolution IX.15 remains valid.However, it should be consolidated with other Resolutions on the same subject, potentially including Resolutions VII.11, VIII.8, X.13, XI.4 and XIII.10.Moreover, the following paragraphs may be considered out of date, so that they can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 27 makes recommendations for action to 11 countries, and one recommendation to a group of countries. It is not clear whether these recommendations have been implemented but, as they were adopted in 2005, they may be considered to have lost their currency;- para. 28, requests Parties to use the Ramsar Information Sheet existing at that time, but that was replaced by the version in Resolution XI.8 Annex 1; it also refers to Resolution IX.1, Annex B, which has been superseded;- para. 30 contains an instruction to the Secretariat, which is out of date, and specifies use of Resolution IX.1, Annex B, which has been superseded; this links to a list of countries in the Annex, which can also be repealed. |
| Resolution IX.16 | The Convention's International Organization Partners (IOPs) | C | Resolution IX.16 remains valid. |
| Resolution IX.17 | Review of the decisions of the Conference of the Contracting Parties | P | This Resolution initiated a review of the Resolutions and Recommendations of the COP. A thorough document reviewing each Resolution and Recommendation was presented at SC35, with further discussions at SC36 and SC37. At the latter meeting, in Decision SC37-18, the Standing Committee noted "the STRP's planned work in taking this project forward". However, it appears that no further action was taken to implement Resolution IX.17. A new process was started with the adoption of Resolution XIII.4, which calls on the Secretariat to review all Resolutions and decisions and to report to the Standing Committee.Resolution IX.17 is therefore outdated and has been superseded, and can be excluded from the list of current Resolutions and Recommendations. |
| Resolution IX.18 | Establishment of an Oversight Panel for the CEPA activities of the Convention | P | Resolution IX.18 instructs the Standing Committee, at SC34, to establish the CEPA Oversight Panel, with related decisions, and the draft Terms of Reference for the Panel.At SC34, in Decision SC34-12, the Standing Committee "approved the establishment of a CEPA Oversight Panel in accordance with the Terms of Reference, membership, and modus operandi outlined in DOC. SC34-11".Consequently, Resolution IX.18 is defunct and can be repealed.  |
| Resolution IX.19 | The importance of regional wetland symposia in effectively implementing the Ramsar Convention | C | Resolution IX.19 is focused on Asian Wetland Symposia, promoting them and using them as a model for other regions. It appears to be still valid. |
| Resolution IX.20 | Integrated, cross-biome planning and management of wetlands, especially in small island developing states | A | Resolution IX.20 remains valid.However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 10, which provides instructions to the STRP in the context of its ongoing work at that time; and- para. 11, which calls for an information paper to CBD CoP8 (March, 2006). |
| Resolution IX.21 | Taking into account the cultural values of wetlands | A | Resolution IX.21 remains valid.However, paragraphs 16, 17 and 18, which give instructions to the Secretariat, to culminate in a report for COP10, are out of date and can be repealed. |
| Resolution IX.22 | Ramsar sites and systems of protected areas | A | Resolution IX.22 remains valid in part.However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- paras. 8 and 9, which relate to a new data field to be included in the Ramsar Information Sheet. This is out of date because a new RIS was provided in Resolution XI.8, Annex 1; and- para. 11, which makes a request to the STRP; and- para. 13, which makes a request to the Secretariat related to CBD Decision VII/28. |
| Resolution IX.23 | Highly pathogenic avian influenza and its consequences for wetland and waterbird conservation and wise use | A | Resolution X.21, para. 12STRONGLY REAFFIRMS the conclusion of Resolution IX.23 Resolution IX.23 remains valid.However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 21, requesting the Secretary General to seek partnerships for funding as soon as possible;- para. 23, requesting input from the STRP; and- para. 24, requesting activities by the Secretariat and the STRP, with a final report at COP10. |
| Resolution IX.24 | Improving management of the Ramsar Convention | A | Resolution IX.24 establishes the Management Working Group and its mandate.Paragraphs 7, 8 and 9 were replaced through the publication of new text in Resolution X.4. The revised version was published with the same number, with the deleted text in appended, but should be renumbered as Resolution IX.24 (Rev. COP10), without the text that was removed by the COP. |
| Resolution IX.25 | Thanks to the host country | P | It seems unnecessary to maintain Resolutions and Recommendations expressing thanks to host countries in the list of current Resolutions & Recommendations. However, the expression of appreciation remains on the record in perpetuity. |
| **COP8(Valencia, 2002)** |  |  |
| Resolution VIII.1 | Guidelines for the allocation and management of water for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands | A | Resolutions VIII.2, VIII.14, IX.4, IX.9 and XI.10 all encourage Parties to take into account or apply the guidelines in Resolution VIII.1.Resolution VIII.1 remains valid.However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 19, with an instruction to the STRP, to report at COP9;- para. 20 and 22, with instructions to the Secretariat; it is not sure that these were implemented but as the instruction was adopted 18 years ago, this may be considered to have lost its currency;- para. 21, which is time-bound; and- the final part of para. 24, requiring a report at COP9. |
| Resolution VIII.2 | The Report of the World Commission on Dams (WCD) and its relevance to the Ramsar Convention | A | Resolution VIII.2 remains valid.However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 15 calls on Parties to participate in the UNEP Dams and Development Project, which no longer exists;- para. 16 requests IUCN and others to undertake certain actions and report at COP9;- para. 17 allocates actions to the STRP, to be reported at COP9;- para. 18 allocates a task to STRP, which is no longer on its work plan; - in para. 19, the second part requires information to be provided in the national reports to COP9. |
| Resolution VIII.3 | Climate change and wetlands: impacts, adaptation, and mitigation | R | Resolution X.24, para. 27, states that it "wholly updates and supersedes Resolution VIII.3. |
| Resolution VIII.4 | Principles and guidelines for incorporating wetland issues into Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) | A | Resolution VIII.14, para. 17, urges Parties to implement Resolution VIII.4.Resolution IX.4, para. 30 urges Parties to take "into account the guidance adopted in Resolutions VIII.1 on water allocation, VIII.4 on Integrated Coastal Zone Management, and VIII.32 on mangrove ecosystems".Resolution XIII.14, para. 12.a, encourages Parties to apply approaches consistent with the principles and guidelines annexed to Resolution VIII.4.Resolution VIII.4 remains valid.However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 15, second part, calls on the STRP to review case studies on integration of wetlands into ICZM; it is not clear whether this was done but it my now be considered out of date or the task should be included in the STRP work plan;- para. 17 calls on Parties to take action and report in their National Reports to COP9;- para. 19 makes a request to the STRP for consideration at COP9;- para. 20 makes a request to the STRP and the Secretariat, and the result was reported at COP9 (resulting in Resolution IX.1, Annex Ei); and- para. 21 requests the Secretariat to take action and report at COP9. |
| Resolution VIII.5 | Partnerships and synergies with Multilateral Environmental Agreements and other institutions | A | There is considerable overlap between Resolutions VII.4, VIII.5, X.11 and XI.6, and they should be consolidated, to place all recommendations on this subject into a single text.Resolution VIII.5 remains valid.However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 15, which calls for actions to implement actions in the Strategic Plan 2003-2008;- para. 23, which directs the STRP to take actions to be reported at COP9; and- para. 24, which directs the Secretariat to take actions, to be reported at COP9. |
| Resolution VIII.6 | A Ramsar Framework for Wetland Inventory | A | There is a lack of clarity regarding the relationship between the Framework in Resolution VIII.6 and the 'Integrated Framework for wetland inventory, assessment and monitoring' in Resolution IX.1, Annex E.Resolution VIII.6 remains valid.However, Resolution X.15, para. 5, "CONFIRMS that the summary description and structure of core data fields for wetland inventory included in the annex to this Resolution update and wholly supersede the earlier guidance on this matter adopted as Table 2 in the annex to Resolution VIII.6". Probably the best solution is to replace Table 2 in Resolution VIII.6 directly with Table 2 under para. 35 of the Annex to Resolution X.15, and to insert a footnote attached to the title, to say "This revised table replaces the original, as stated in Resolution X.15" (or words to that effect). Para. 16 refers to the "priority in the next triennium" and should therefore be updated or repealed. Moreover, paragraphs 21 and 22 call for actions to be undertaken and reported at COP9. These are out of date and can be repealed. |
| Resolution VIII.7 | Gaps in and harmonization of Ramsar guidance on wetland ecological character, inventory, assessment, and monitoring | P | In Resolution VIII.7, most of the operative part is out of date:- para. requests action by the STRP, culminating in a report at COP9;- paras. 16 to 18 request action by the STRP that is no longer in its work plan;- para. 19 to 21 request action by the Secretariat but, being from 2002, have lost their currency; and- para. 22, urging Parties to make available information on the status of ecological character of wetlands, may also be considered to have lost its currency.Consequently, it is suggested that Resolution VIII.7 may be repealed. |
| Resolution VIII.8 | Assessing and reporting the status and trends of wetlands, and the implementation of Article 3.2 of the Convention | A | Resolution VIII.8 remains valid.However, it should be consolidated with other Resolutions on the same subject, potentially including Resolutions VII.11, IX.15, X.13, XI.4 and XIII.10.However, two paragraphs may be out of date and so repealed:- para. 16 requests an analysis by STRP for every COP; this is not in the current STRP work plan but if this task is expected to continue, it should presumably be included in the STRP work plan; and- para. 17 requests guidance from the STRP regarding detecting and responding to changes in ecological character; this has presumably been superseded by Resolutions X.15 and X.16. |
| Resolution VIII.9 | 'Guidelines for incorporating biodiversity-related issues into environmental impact assessment legislation and/or processes and in strategic environmental assessment' adopted by the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), and their relevance to the Ramsar Convention | A | Resolution VIII.9 remains valid.However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 10 urges Parties to make use of the guidelines in the Annex; however Resolution X.17, para. 9, confirms that the guidelines in the Annex to that document supersede the guidelines adopted as the annex to Resolution VIII.9. - para. 14 requests the STRP and the Secretariat to prepare a report for COP9;- paras. 15, 16 and 18 request actions by the STRP relating to impact assessment; there was apparently no report to COP9; however this was perhaps overtaken by the CBD guidance on "Biodiversity-inclusive Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Impact Assessment" that were welcomed in Resolution X.17; the issue in not in the current STRP work plan; and- the Annex is defunct and has been superseded by the Annex to Resolution X.17, as stated in para. 9 of the latter Resolution. Unfortunately, this means that the title of the Resolution no longer reflects the content. |
| Resolution VIII.10 | Improving implementation of the Strategic Framework and Vision for the List of Wetlands of International Importance | A | Resolution VIII.10 remains valid.However, in view of potential duplications and incongruities, this Resolution should be consolidated with others on the same subject, including Resolution VII.11 and Resolution XI.8.The following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed – or amended as appropriate - which may require consequential amendments:- para. 27 calls on Parties to apply the Strategic Framework annexed to Resolution VII.11; but that has been superseded by Resolution XI.8 Annex 2, so the paragraph should be corrected;- para. 30 is time-bound and has expired;- para. 31 requests Parties to use the RIS in Resolution VIII.13, but this has been superseded by the RIS in Resolution XI.8 Annex 1;- para. 34 requests the Secretariat to contact the Parties listed in the Annex;- para. 35 urges Parties to apply the guidance in Resolution VIII.14, and is therefore duplicative;- para. 41 allocates action to the Standing Committee regarding the Small Grants Fund, which is being terminated;- the Annex lists Parties to be contacted by the Secretariat in accordance with para. 34. |
| Resolution VIII.11 | Additional guidance for identifying and designating under-represented wetland types as Wetlands of International Importance | P | Resolution VIII.11 appears to be no longer valid.There are five operative paragraphs, which all appear to be out of date as follows:- para. 5 adopts the guidance contained in the Annex, which appears to have been superseded by Resolution XI.8 Annex 2;- para. 6 calls upon Parties to take into account the Framework in Resolution VII.11; but this has been superseded by Resolution XI.8 Annex 2; therefore this paragraph may be repealed;- para. 7 is time-bound and has expired;- para. 8 instructs the Secretariat to incorporate the Annex into the Framework annexed to Resolution VII.11, which has meanwhile been superseded by Resolution XI.8 Annex 2;- para. 9 gives a time-bound instruction to the STRP and has expired.Consequently it appears that Resolution VIII.11 is defunct. |
| Resolution VIII.12 | Enhancing the wise use and conservation of mountain wetlands | A | Resolution VIII.12 remains valid.However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 15, second part, under "Requests", which calls on the Secretariat to report progress at COP9;  NB: if this implies that the first part is only to be implemented under COP9, then that may also be repealed; and- para. 19 is also time-limited, relating to actions before COP9 and as a follow-up to COP8. |
| Resolution VIII.13 | Enhancing the information on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar sites) | P | Resolution VIII.10, para. 31, requests Parties to use the RIS in Resolution VIII.13.All of the instructions in Resolution VIII.13 have been implemented, and all of the recommendations and guidance have been superseded by Resolution XI.8. The Ramsar Information Sheet in the Annex has been superseded by the sheet in the Annex to Resolution XI.8.Resolution VIII.13 is therefore defunct and can be repealed. |
| Resolution VIII.14 | New Guidelines for management planning for Ramsar sites and other wetlands | A | Resolution VIII.10, para. 32, urges Parties to implement the guidelines in Resolution VIII.14.Resolution IX.4, para. 28, "REQUESTS those responsible for the management of Ramsar sites to incorporate into their management planning processes, in line with Resolution VIII.14 on management planning, measures to maintain the ecological benefits/services of wetlands including sustainable fisheries".Resolution VIII.14 remains valid. However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- paras. 12 and 15 allocate tasks to the Secretariat, which were implemented;- para. 16 allocates a task to the STRP, which is now out of date and not the STRP work plan (Secretariat to confirm).In addition, para. 14 refers to several Resolutions. Following the present exercise, the Secretariat should confirm that the listed Resolutions remain in effect. |
| Resolution VIII.15 | The 'San José Record' for the promotion of wetland management | A | Resolution VIII.15 remains in effect.However, para. 13, calling for a report to COP9, is defunct and can be repealed.Para. 11, calling on the Secretariat to establish procedures for the establishment and maintenance of the San José Record was not implemented but may also be repealed if it is considered to be out of date. |
| Resolution VIII.16 | Principles and guidelines for wetland restoration | A | Resolution VIII.16 remains valid.However, para. 22 specifies tasks for the STRP, with a final report to COP9. If further work is to be done, it would be best to include this in the work plan of STRP. This paragraph can then be repealed.RecommendationConsideration should be given to consolidating this with other relevant decisions of the COP, including Recommendations 4.1 and 6.15 and Resolution VII.17, if they remain in effect. At the same time, some parts can updated or eliminated as necessary, such as the instruction to the Secretariat in the second part of para. 21. |
| Resolution VIII.17 | Guidelines for Global Action on Peatlands | A | Resolution XIII.13, para. 22, urges Parties to report in their national reports on implementation of Resolution VIII.17. Resolution VIII.17 remains valid.However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 20 regarding funding for that plan; and- para. 21 which calls for a progress report to COP9. Regarding para. 18, which calls on the Secretariat to establish a Coordinating Committee for Global Action on Peatlands, in order to prepare an implementation plan, the Committee met but the plan was not finalised, owing to a lack of support. As there have been a number of subsequent Resolutions relating to peatlands, it might be considered this request is no longer current and can be repealed. |
| Resolution VIII.18 | Invasive species and wetlands | A | Resolution IX.4, para. 34, urges Parties to take actions "in line with Resolution VIII.18". Resolution VIII.18 remains valid.However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 17, which relates to the CBD-Ramsar Joint Work Plan 2002-2006; - para. 22, calling on the Secretariat to contribute to the CBD assessment of the impact of invasive species on inland waters, which is time-expired;- para. 23 calling on the Secretariat to conduct awareness raising on African invasive species, which may be considered as time-expired; and- para. 24 calling on GISP, IUCN and others to make available web-based information, which may also be considered to have lost its currency. |
| Resolution VIII.19 | Guiding principles for taking into account the cultural values of wetlands for the effective management of sites | A | Resolution VIII.19 remains valid.However, para. 17 is out of date, as it calls for action with a report to COP9. It can therefore be repealed.  |
| Resolution VIII.20 | General guidance for interpreting "urgent national interests" under Article 2.5 of the Convention and considering compensation under Article 4.2 | C | Resolution X.26, para. 20, urges Parties "where appropriate, to consider compensation in accordance with … Resolution VIII.20". Resolution VIII.20 remains valid. |
| Resolution VIII.21 | Defining Ramsar site boundaries more accurately in Ramsar Information Sheets | R | Resolution VIII.21 contains a number of recommendations and instructions focused on the use of the Ramsar Information Sheet. Resolution XI.8 states, in para. 14, that the attached Information Sheet replaces previous guidance.It therefore appears that Resolution VIII.21 is no longer valid. |
| Resolution VIII.22 | Issues concerning Ramsar sites that cease to fulfil or never fulfilled the Criteria for designation as Wetlands of International Importance | P | Resolution VIII.22 is time-bound. It provides instructions to the Standing Committee to report at COP9. It can therefore be repealed. |
| Resolution VIII.23 | Incentive measures as tools for achieving the wise use of wetlands | A | Resolution VIII.23 remains valid.However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- paras. 11 and 12, which are time-bound instructions to the STRP, calling for a report at COP9; and- para. 13, which calls for funding to support the work of the STRP. |
| Resolution VIII.24 | UNEP's Guidelines for enhancing compliance with multilateral environmental agreements, and Guidelines for national enforcement, and international cooperation in combating violations, of laws implementing multilateral environmental agreements | P | Resolution VIII.24 invites Parties to use the UNEP guidelines specified in the title, adopted by the Governing Council in 2001. A UNEP manual on the subject was published in 2006.The Resolution also calls on the Secretariat to work with the Executive Director of UNEP to include Ramsar Administrative Authorities of developing countries in activities to build capacity in implementation of multilateral environmental agreements. Being adopted in 2002, this Resolution may be considered to have lost its currency. |
| Resolution VIII.25 | The Ramsar Strategic Plan 2003-2008 | P | Resolution VIII.25 is entirely time-bound, being about the Ramsar Strategic Plan 2003-2008. It is therefore defunct. |
| Resolution VIII.26 | The implementation of the Strategic Plan 2003-2008 during the triennium 2003-2005 and National Reports for Ramsar COP9 | P | As the title suggests, Resolution VIII.26 contains a series of recommendations and instructions that are time-limited and that have all expired.Paras. 18 and 21 are not specifically time-bound but as they are part of a Resolution focused on activities before COP9, they may be considered to be no longer current.In this case, Resolution VIII.26 may be repealed in its entirety. |
| Resolution VIII.27 | Financial and budgetary matters | P | Resolution VIII.27 presents the core budget for the period 2003-2005 and related decisions. It is therefore proposed that this Resolution be considered as outdated and that it be repealed. However it remains on the record as an indication of the contributions due for the period covered. |
| Resolution VIII.28 | Modus operandi of the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP) | R | Resolution XII.5, para. 15, states that it supersedes all previous Resolutions on matters of the STRP, which includes Resolution VIII.28, listed in paragraph 2 of Resolution XII.5. |
| Resolution VIII.29 | Evaluation of the Ramsar Small Grants Fund for Wetland Conservation and Wise Use (SGF) and establishment of a Ramsar Endowment Fund | P | Resolution VIII.29 provides further guidance regarding the operation of the Small Grants Fund (SGF) and indicates an agreement to establish "a Ramsar Endowment Fund to resource the SGF".In Resolution IX.13, para. 8, the Conference of the Parties rescinds its decision to establish a Ramsar Endowment Fund. In Resolution XIII.2, para. 31, the Conference of the Parties agreed to phase out the Small Grants Fund programme upon exhaustion of its current resources. Consequently, Resolution VIII.29 is defunct and can be repealed.  |
| Resolution VIII.30 | Regional initiatives for the further implementation of the Convention | A | Resolution XIII.9, para. 30, requires the preparation of a draft consolidated resolution on RRIs, including Resolutions VIII.30, IX.7, X.6, XI.5 and XII.8. In the meantime, Resolution VIII.30 remains valid.However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- paras. 11, 13 and 14 are time-bound and have expired;- para. 12 is partly time-bound but, in any case, relates to the period 2001-2005, so may be considered as no longer current; - Annex II (referred to in para. 11) is time-bound and has expired. |
| Resolution VIII.31 | The Convention's Programme on communication, education and public awareness (CEPA) 2003-2008 | P | Resolution XII.9, in para. 8, confirms that it incorporates the key recommendations from Resolution VIII.31.Consequently Resolution VIII.31 has been superseded and may be repealed. |
| Resolution VIII.32 | Conservation, integrated management, and sustainable use of mangrove ecosystems and their resources | C | Resolution IX.4, paras. 30 and 33 urge Parties to take into account the guidance in Resolutions VIII.32.Resolution VIII.32 remains valid. |
| Resolution VIII.33 | Guidance for identifying, sustainably managing, and designating temporary pools as Wetlands of International Importance | A | Resolution VIII.33 remains valid.However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 10, which calls for Parties to take action and report at COP9; and - para. 11, with an instruction to the Secretariat, which was implemented.  |
| Resolution VIII.34 | Agriculture, wetlands and water resource management | A | Resolution VIII.34 remains valid.However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 25, which allocates work to the STRP, noting that subpara. b) required a report at COP9; - para. 26, which calls for actions to support the work under para. 25;- para. 28, which requests further work of the STRP; if any additional work is required, it would be appropriate to include it in the STRP work plan for the next period;- para. 29, which allocates work to the Secretariat to update the Wise Use Handbooks and to cooperate with the CBD Secretariat; - para. 30, which calls for participation in the "Dialogue on Water, Food and the Environment", which apparently no longer exists; and - para. 31, which invites Parties and others to contribute information to the "Wise Use Resource Centre maintained by the Ramsar Bureau, to the activities of the River Basin Initiative and to the Dialogue on Water, Food and Environment and future meetings of the World Water Forum"; however, only the last-named still exists and the others should therefore be deleted. |
| Resolution VIII.35 | The impact of natural disasters, particularly drought, on wetland ecosystems | A | Resolution VIII.35 remains valid.However, para. 15 calls on Parties to submit information to be considered at COP9. It is therefore out of date and can be repealed. |
| Resolution VIII.36 | Participatory Environmental Management (PEM) as a tool for management and wise use of wetlands | A | Resolution IX.4, para. 37 urges Parties to take into account the provisions of Resolution VII.36, which does not exist. It apparently means Resolution VIII.36.Resolution VIII.36 remains valid.However, paras. 16 and 17 call on the STRP and Parties, respectively, to provide information at COP9. They are thus out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments. |
| Resolution VIII.37 | International cooperation on conservation of migratory waterbirds and their habitats in the Asia-Pacific region | P | Resolution VIII.37 contains five operative paragraphs, all related to the Asia-Pacific Migratory Waterbird Conservation Strategy 2001-2005. It is therefore out of date and can be repealed. |
| Resolution VIII.38 | Waterbird population estimates and the identification and designation of Wetlands of International Importance | A | Resolution VIII.38 remains valid, although it should be consolidated with other Resolutions on overlapping subjects.However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 13 calls for actions related to the designation of Ramsar sites in triennium 2003-2005; it refers to the 1% threshold but this is now captured in the *Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance* in Resolution XI.8 Annex 2;- paras. 14 and 15 call for actions in relation to implementation of the Strategic Plan 2003-2008; and- para. 16 calls for the Waterbird Population Estimates Third Edition to be made widely available; this was done and further editions have been published. |
| Resolution VIII.39 | High Andean wetlands as strategic ecosystems | A | Resolution VIII.39 remains valid.However, paras. 15 and 16, call on the Secretariat to implement specific actions;this was done and these paragraphs can be repealed. |
| Resolution VIII.40 | Guidelines for rendering the use of groundwater compatible with the conservation of wetlands | A | Resolution VIII.40 remains valid.However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 15, third part, under 'PROPOSES', which calls for action by the STRP for consideration at COP9; and- para. 19, which relates to action in line with the Strategic Plan 2003-2008. |
| Resolution VIII.41 | Establishment of a Regional Ramsar Centre for Training and Research on Wetlands in Western and Central Asia | C | Resolution VIII.41 remains valid. |
| Resolution VIII.42 | Small Island Developing States in the Oceania Region | A | Resolution VIII.42 remains valid.However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 15 calls on the Secretariat to work with SPREP to implement their Joint Work Plan; it appears that this does not exist;- para. 16, which calls for action by the Secretariat by COP9; - para. 17, which calls on the Secretariat to provide the accession kit to countries in Oceania; and- para. 19, which refers to a regionally-based Ramsar Coordinator in Oceania, a position that does not currently exist. |
| Resolution VIII.43 | A subregional strategy of the Ramsar Convention for South America | C | Resolution VIII.43 remains valid. |
| Resolution VIII.44 | New Partnership for Africa´s Development (NEPAD) and implementation of the Ramsar Convention in Africa | C | Resolution VIII.44 appears to remain valid. |
| Resolution VIII.45 | Operation of the Conference of the Contracting Parties and the effectiveness of Ramsar Convention Resolutions and Recommendations | P | Resolution VIII.45 contains recommendations and instructions dealing with the effectiveness of the Convention, the review of Resolutions and Recommendations, the Rules of Procedure of the COP, the drafting of Resolutions and the role of the Standing Committee, and related issues. These recommendations are now out of date as there have been significant developments in all areas in the 18 years since the Resolution was adopted and it can no longer be considered as current. It is therefore recommended that Resolution VIII.45 be repealed. |
| Resolution VIII.46 | Thanks to the people and governments of Spain | P | It seems unnecessary to maintain Resolutions and Recommendations expressing thanks to host countries in the list of current Resolutions & Recommendations. However, the expression of appreciation remains on the record in perpetuity. |
| **COP7(San José, 1999)** |  |  |
| Resolution VII.1 | Regional categorization of countries under the Convention, and composition, roles and responsibilities of the Standing Committee, including tasks of Standing Committee members | R | Resolution XI.19, in para. 8, confirms that it supersedes Resolution VII.1, "which is retired". |
| Resolution VII.2 | Composition and modus operandi of the Convention’s Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP) | R | Resolution XII.5, in para. 15, states that it supersedes all previous Resolutions on matters of the STRP, which includes Resolution VII.2, listed in paragraph 2 of Resolution XII.5. |
| Resolution VII.3 | Partnerships with international organizations | C | Resolution IX.16, in para. 5, "REAFFIRMS the rules established in the Annex to Resolution VII.3 for conferring the status of International Organization Partner… "Resolution VII.3 remains valid. |
| Resolution VII.4 | Partnerships and cooperation with other Conventions, including harmonized information management infrastructures | A | There is considerable overlap between Resolutions VII.4, VIII.5, X.11 and XI.6 and it would be appropriate to consolidate them, to place all recommendations on this subject into a single text.Meanwhile, Resolution VII.4 remains valid.However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 10, which endorses the Joint Work Plan with CBD for 1998-1999;- para. 11, which is an extension of para. 10;- para. 15 is time-bound, calling for a report at COP8, and has expired; and- paras. 16 & 17 allocate tasks to the Secretariat on implementation of recommendations from WCMC on harmonizing information management, and is now out of date. Annex I, is time-bound and has expired, and should also be repealed.Para. 12 remains valid but now appears out of place with the disappearance of the paras. relating to CBD.Para. 13 has expired because it specifies the priority for the Secretariat "for the next triennium", i.e. 1999-2002. However, this is the only paragraph that mentions Annex II, the 'Memorandum of Cooperation with the Convention to Combat Desertification', and Annex III, the Memorandum of Understanding between UNESCO, as represented by the World Heritage Centre, and the Bureau (Secretariat) of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. These two memoranda remain in effect. Moreover: this paragraph calls on the Secretariat to develop a Memorandum of Cooperation with the UNFCCC, which has not been done; and the paragraph refers to cooperation with the Convention on Migratory Species, and a Memorandum of Cooperation with that Convention was signed in 2002. It is therefore proposed that para. 13 be amended follows:Marked-up version (additions underlined, deletions crossed-out)*ENDORSES ~~REQUESTS the Ramsar Bureau to give priority in its programme of work for the next triennium, as resources allow, to the development of joint actions with the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), the implementation of~~ the Memoranda of Cooperation signed with the Secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the World Heritage Centre (WHC), as appended in Annexes I and II ~~and III~~ respectively, and REQUESTS the Secretariat to develop ~~the development of~~ a Memorandum of Cooperation with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).*Clean version*ENDORSES the Memoranda of Cooperation signed with the Secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the World Heritage Centre (WHC), as appended in Annexes I and II respectively, and REQUESTS the Secretariat to develop a Memorandum of Cooperation with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).*Annexes II and III would then be renumbered as I and II respectively. |
| Resolution VII.5 | Critical evaluation of the Convention’s Small Grants Fund for Wetland Conservation and Wise Use (SGF) and its future operations | P | This Resolution relates to the evaluation and operation of the Small Grants Fund.In Resolution XIII.2, para. 31, the Conference of the Parties agreed to phase out the Small Grants Fund programme upon exhaustion of its current resources. Consequently, Resolution VII.5 is now defunct and can be repealed. |
| Resolution VII.6 | Guidelines for developing and implementing National Wetland Policies | C | Resolution IX.4, para. 24, urges Parties to review their policy frameworks and institutional arrangements, in line with Resolutions VII.6.Resolution VII.6 remains valid.RecommendationHowever, para. 12 refers to several Resolutions and needs to be updated to take into account any repeals following the present exercise. |
| Resolution VII.7 | Guidelines for reviewing laws and institutions to promote the conservation and wise use of wetlands | C | Resolution VII.6, para. 10, Resolution VII.17, para. 13, Resolution IX.4, para. 24, and Resolution X.26, para. 19, call on Parties to apply or take into account the guidance adopted in Resolution VII.7. Resolution VII.7 remains valid. |
| Resolution VII.8 | [Guidelines for establishing and strengthening local communities’ and indigenous people’s participation in the management of wetlands](http://archive.ramsar.org/cda/en/ramsar-documents-resol-resolution-vii-8/main/ramsar/1-31-107%5E20736_4000_0__) | A | Resolution VII.16, para. 12, Resolution VIII.2 and Resolution X.26, para. 19, call on Parties to use or take into account the guidelines in Resolution VII.8.Resolution XII.9, para. 10, states that it incorporates advice on participation provided in Resolutions VII.8. It is not clear whether this is intended to mean that Resolution XII.9 replaces Resolution VII.8. However, Resolution XII.9 certainly does not provide all of the advice contained in Resolution VII.8. It appears that Resolution VII.8 remains valid.However, paras. 24 and 25 are time-bound, requiring actions for COP8 and COP9 and should therefore be repealed. |
| Resolution VII.9 | The Convention’s Outreach Programme, 1999-2002 | P | Resolution VII.6 encourages Parties to take account of the Convention’s Outreach Programme in Resolution VII.9. Resolution XII.9, in para. 8, confirms that it incorporates the key recommendations from Resolution VII.9.Consequently Resolution VII.9 has been superseded and may be repealed. |
| Resolution VII.10 | Wetland Risk Assessment Framework | A | Resolution VII.16, para. 13, Resolution VIII.3, para. 17, Resolution VIII.10, para. 39, Resolution VIII.18, para. 15, Resolution X.13, para. 19, and Resolution XIII.10, para. 17, all in different ways call on Parties to take account of the Framework in Resolution VII.10.Resolution VII.10 remains valid.However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 11, which provides definitions of 'ecological character' and 'change in ecological character', which have been superseded by definitions in Resolution IX.1 Annex A;- para. 14, which 'encourages' the STRP to provide a report; Standing Committee document DOC. SC35-12 states that although the STRP did not provide a report, it completed the task in other ways. |
| Resolution VII.11 | Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance | R | Resolutions VIII.4, para. 18 and VIII.10, para. 27 call on Parties to apply the framework in Resolution VII.11. Resolution X.22, para. 21, refers to Resolution VII.11 "as amended".Resolution XI.8, para. 14, states that the *Ramsar Site Information Sheet (RIS) – 2012 revision* and the *Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance of the Convention on Wetlands - 2012 revision* annexed to that Resolution "supersede and replace the previously *adopted Strategic Framework*, RIS and other associated guidance for completing the RIS".Resolution VII.11 is therefore no longer in effect. |
| Resolution VII.12 | Sites in the Ramsar List of Wetlands of International Importance: official descriptions, conservation status, and management plans, including the situation of particular sites in the territories of specific Contracting Parties | P | Resolution VII.12 was adopted in 1999, and is about the status of Ramsar sites and of information submitted at that time. It may be considered to have lost its currency in its entirety and could be repealed, in particular as there is generally an updated Resolution on this subject at each COP. In consequence they should be time-bound and the previous Resolution/s on this subject may be repealed at each COP.The decision to rename the "Management Guidance Procedure" as "Ramsar Advisory Mission" nonetheless remains on the record to explain the use of this term. |
| Resolution VII.12.1 | Greek Ramsar Sites | P | Resolution VII.12.1 records appreciation of efforts by Greece and provides further encouragement. It seems unnecessary to maintain Resolutions and Recommendations expressing appreciation. Resolution VII.12.1 could therefore be repealed but remains on the record in perpetuity. |
| Resolution VII.13 | Guidelines for identifying and designating karst and other subterranean hydrological systems as Wetlands of International Importance | R | Resolution VII.13 is defunct. It has been superseded by Resolution XI.8, and the Guidelines in Resolution VII.13 have been superseded by Appendix E of Resolution XI.8 Annex 2 (Rev.CoP13).  |
| Resolution VII.14 | Invasive species and wetlands | A | Resolution VII.14 remains valid.However, the following paragraphs were implemented, are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 16 directs activities to the STRP, no longer part of its work programme;- para. 17, calls for funding for work by the STRP and the Secretariat. |
| Resolution VII.15 | Incentive measures to encourage the application of the wise use principle | A | Resolution VII.6 and Resolution VII. 17, para. 13, call on Parties to take account of Resolution VII.15.Resolution VII.15 remains valid.However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 15 allocating a task to the STRP and the Secretariat, is outdated; Standing Committee document Doc. SC35-12 notes that the conclusions were presented at COP8; and- para. 16 is time-bound, requiring a report at COP8. |
| Resolution VII.16 | The Ramsar Convention and impact assessment: strategic, environmental and social | A | Resolution VII.6, Resolution VII.17, para. 13, Resolution VIII.3 and Resolution X.25, para. 15, all call on Parties to take account of Resolution VII.16 in various ways.Resolution VII.16 remains valid.However, para. 16, which allocates a task to the STRP is outdated and could be repealed.  |
| Resolution VII.17 | Restoration as an element of national planning for wetland conservation and wise use | A | Resolution VII.17 remains valid.However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 15, which is time-bound, calling for reports to COP8; and- para. 16, which calls on the Secretariat to develop guidelines, which were provided in Resolution VIII.16. |
| Resolution VII.18 | Guidelines for integrating wetland conservation and wise use into river basin management | R | Resolution VII.16, para. 14, Resolution VIII.2, para. 11, and Resolution VIII.14, para. 17, call on Parties to take account of Resolution VII.18 in different ways.Resolution X.19, para. 6, confirms that the “Consolidated Guidance for integrating wetland conservation and wise use into river basin management” in its annex wholly supersedes the earlier guidance adopted as the annex to Resolution VII.18 and as Annex Ci to Resolution IX.1 Resolution XII.12, para. 12, refers to Resolution VII.18, and has a footnote stating "Replaced by Resolution X.19 as the guidance in the annex wholly supersedes VII.18". This indicates that Resolution VII.18 is defunct and should be excluded from the list of Resolutions and Recommendations in effect. |
| Resolution VII.19 | Guidelines for international cooperation under the Ramsar Convention | A | Resolution VII.6, paras. 12 and 13, Resolution VII.7, para. 9, Resolution VII.16, para. 14, Resolution VII.20, para. 14, Resolution VIII.10, para. 29, and Resolution XIII.7, para. 30, call on Parties to take account of, or implement, the Guidelines in Resolution VII.19. Resolution VII.19 remains valid.However, para. 13, calls for contributions to the Small Grants Fund, which is being phased out. This paragraph should therefore be repealed. In addition, para. 14, calls for the Secretariat to disseminate model codes of conduct for 'the business sector'. This might be considered out of date following the adoption of the *Principles for partnerships between the Ramsar Convention and the business sector*, in Resolution X.12. In this case, para. 14 can be repealed.The repeal of these two paragraphs may require consequential amendments. |
| Resolution VII.20 | Priorities for wetland inventory | A | Resolution VII.17, para. 11, and Resolution VII.22, para. 7, call on Parties to take into account Resolution VII.20.Resolution VII.20 remains valid in part.However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 11 specifies 'the highest priority in the next triennium", and is more-or-less repeated in Resolution VIII.6. para. 16;- para. 13 has in effect been superseded by the Annex to Resolution VIII.6;- para. 14 encourages Parties to take into account Resolution VII.19 and is therefore redundant;- para. 15 is time bound, calling for a report to COP8;- para. 17 calls for funding for Wetlands International to develop protocols for handling wetland inventory information, and to update the information, and is out of date;- para. 18 is repeated in Resolution VIII.6, para. 24;- para. 19 relates to projects submitted to the Small Grants Fund, which is being phased out. |
| Resolution VII.21 | Enhancing the conservation and wise use of intertidal wetlands | A | Resolution IX.4, para 32, urges Parties to take certain actions "in line with Resolution VII.21"Resolution VII.21 remains valid.However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 13 calls on Parties to take certain actions and report the results at COP8; and- para. 14 urges Parties to take actions "as encouraged by Resolution VII.11", which is no longer in effect. |
| Resolution VII.22 | Collaborative structure for Mediterranean wetlands | A | Resolution VII.22 remains valid.However, para. 8, regarding a MedWet Team established by the Secretary General is out of date and can be repealed. |
| Resolution VII.23 | Issues concerning the boundary definitions of Ramsar sites and compensation of wetland habitats | A | All of the recommendations or operative parts of Resolution VII.23 are time-bound, relating to considerations at COP8 or to Standing Committee considerations before 30 September 1999. Resolution VII.23 is therefore defunct and can be repealed. |
| Resolution VII.24 | [Compensation for lost wetland habitats and other functions](http://archive.ramsar.org/cda/en/ramsar-documents-resol-resolution-vii-21-21534/main/ramsar/1-31-107%5E21534_4000_0__) | A | Resolution X.26, para. 20, urges Parties "where appropriate, to consider compensation in accordance with … Resolution VII.24".Resolution VII.24 remains valid.However, para. 13 is time-bound, specifying work to be submitted for approval at COP8. It is therefore outdated and can be repealed. |
| Resolution VII.25 | Measuring environmental quality in wetlands | A | Resolution VII.25 remains valid.However, para. 7 specifies a task for the STRP and is outdated as it is no longer in the STRP programme of work. It can therefore be repealed. |
| Resolution VII.26 | Creation of a Regional Ramsar Centre for Training and Research on Wetlands in the Western Hemisphere | P | Resolution VII.26 is entirely focused on supporting the creation of a Regional Ramsar Centre for Training and Research on Wetlands in the Western Hemisphere. The Centre was created and the Resolution is therefore now defunct and can be repealed, but remains on the record to reflect the support of the Conference of the Parties. |
| Resolution VII.27 | The Convention Work Plan 2000-2002 | P | The operative part of Resolution VII.27 is focused on approving and implementing the Convention Work Plan 2000-2002, and tasks to be completed by COP8. Paragraphs 15, 17, 19 and 20 are not obviously time-bound but are outdated and in some cases echo other decisions of the COP. It is therefore recommended that Resolution VII.27 be repealed in its entirety. |
| Resolution VII.28 | Financial and budgetary matters | P | Resolution VII.28 presents the core budget for the period 2000-2002 and related decisions. It is therefore proposed that this Resolution be considered as outdated and that it be repealed. However it remains on the record as an indication of the contributions due for the period covered. |
| Resolution VII.29 | Thanks to the host country | P | It seems unnecessary to maintain Resolutions and Recommendations expressing thanks to host countries in the list of current Resolutions & Recommendations to be implemented. However, the expression of appreciation remains on the record in perpetuity. |
| Resolution VII.30 | Status of Yugoslavia in the Ramsar Convention | P | This Resolution calls on Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to submit instruments of succession to the Convention, following the dissolution of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in 1992. Bosnia and Herzegovina became a Party in 1992.The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia dissolved with the creation of Serbia and Montenegro as a single State. Serbia and Montenegro became independent States in 2006. Serbia became a Party to the Convention in 1992, and Montenegro in 2006.Resolution VII.30 is therefore defunct and can be repealed.  |
| Recommendation 7.1 | A global action plan for the wise use and management of peatlands | P | Resolution VIII.17 and its annexed *Guidelines for Global Action on Peatlands* supersede Recommendation 7.1 and its annexed *Draft Global Action Plan for the Wise Use and Management of Peatlands*. Recommendation 7.1 is therefore defunct and can be repealed. |
| Recommendation 7.2 | Small Island Developing States, island wetland ecosystems, and the Ramsar Convention | A | Recommendation 7.1 remains valid.However, para. 14, lists 26 countries that are encouraged to accede, 13 of which have done so. This paragraph therefore needs to be updated.Also, para. 16 requests action by the Standing Committee, which was implemented at SC24 and SC25. The paragraph is therefore out of date and can be repealed. As a consequence, para. 17 would need to be amended; for example the words "FURTHER REQUESTS, in response to the above review of the Barbados Programme of Action by the Standing Committee" could be replaced by the word "REQUESTS". |
| Recommendation 7.3 | Multilateral cooperation on the conservation of migratory waterbirds in the Asia-Pacific region | A | Recommendation 7.3 appears to remain partly valid. Para. 14 first part is outdated in calling for support of the *Asia-Pacific Migratory Waterbird Conservation Strategy 1996-2000,* and may be repealed. The second part remains valid.Para. 15 and 16 are imprecise but appear to promote the Strategy '1996-2000', in which case they are outdated and may be repealed.The remaining text could be consolidated with Recommendation 6.4 and Resolution VIII.37. |
| Recommendation 7.4 | The Wetlands for the Future Initiative | P | While acknowledging the existence of the Wetlands for the Future Initiative, the operative part of Recommendation 7.4, merely urges Parties and organizations to initiate and support similar programmes in other parts of the world. As this was adopted in 1999, it may have lost its currency and is proposed to be removed from the list of Resolutions and Recommendations to be implemented. |
| **COP6(Brisbane, 1996)** |  |  |
| Resolution VI.1 | Working definitions of ecological character, guidelines for describing and maintaining the ecological character of listed sites, and guidelines for operation of the Montreux Record | A | Resolution VIII.10, para. 39, Resolution X.13, para. 19, and Resolution XIII.10, para. 17, refer to Resolution VI.1 for an example of an assessment & monitoring regime. Resolution VII.10, para. 11, refers to the definitions in Resolution VI.1, and provides definitions of 'ecological character' and 'change in ecological character'.Resolution VI.1 remains valid in part.It has four operational paragraphs and an Annex.- para. 9, and section 1 of the Annex (in definitions) establish the definitions of 'ecological character' and 'change in ecological character. These have been superseded, most recently by Resolution IX.1 Annex A, and should be repealed.- para. 9, also accepts the annexed 'guidelines for describing and maintaining ecological character' (section 2.1 – 2.8 of the Annex). It appears that these have been superseded by Resolution X.16 Annex and should be repealed.- para. 10 calls on Parties to implement the annexed procedure for the operation of the Montreux Record (section 3 of the Annex). This is still in effect except for the Montreux Record Questionnaire, which has apparently been superseded by the Questionnaire in Annex 1 to Resolution XIII.10. The latter does not specify this but, as the most recent decision on this subject, it is presumed to be the decision in effect.- para. 11 (on early warning systems) has been effectively superseded by Resolution VII.10 (para. 13 & Annex) and could be repealed.- para. 12 is time-bound and has expired, and should be repealed.Regarding the Annex:- re sections 1 and 2.1-2.8: see above re para. 9 - these can be repealed;- section 2.9 (on the RIS) has been superseded by Resolution XI.8 Annex 1, and can be repealed;- re section 2.10: Standing Committee document Doc. SC35-12 makes the point that this text is reproduced almost in its entirety in Resolution IX.1 Annex E. "There are one or two sentences of the VI.1 Annex (in paras 2.10.2-3) that may not appear elsewhere (on monitoring not needing to be sophisticated), but which would be an insignificant loss if this were retired". |
| Resolution VI.2 | Adoption of specific criteria based on fish for identifying Wetlands of International Importance | P | Resolution VI.2 has been superseded by Resolution XI.8 Annex 2, and can therefore be repealed. |
| Resolution VI.3 | Review of the Ramsar Criteria for identifying Wetlands of International Importance and the accompanying guidelines | P | Resolution VI.3 is a time-bound mandate for STRP to revise the criteria and guidelines for identifying wetlands of international importance. This was done and the Resolution can be repealed. |
| Resolution VI.4 | Adoption of population estimates for operation of the specific criteria based on waterfowl | A | Resolution VI.4 remains valid in part.Paragraph 8 is time-bound, requiring a report to be presented at COP7. This can be repealed. However, this requires a consequential amendment to para. 9, to explain 1% thresholds, as referred to in para. 8.Para. 10 has effectively been superseded by Resolution XI.8 Annex 2, which specifies the criteria for identifying wetlands of international importance.It would be appropriate to consolidate the remaining text with Resolution XI.8 Annex 2 during the consolidation process. |
| Resolution VI.5 | Inclusion of subterranean karst wetlands as a wetland type under the Ramsar Classification System | A | Resolution VI.5 decides on the inclusion of karts and cave hydrological systems in the Ramsar wetland classification system, and urges Parties to consider their designation,This is effectively superseded by the criteria and guidelines in Resolution XI.8 Annex 2, *Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance of the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar, Iran, 1971) – 2012 revision,* which incorporates consideration of karst and other subterranean hydrological systems. Resolution VI.5 can therefore be repealed. |
| Resolution VI.6 | The Wetland Conservation Fund | P | In Resolution VI.6, the Conference of the Parties decides to rename the 'Wetland Conservation Fund' as the 'Small Grants Fund', and provides recommendations for its operation.In Resolution XIII.2, para. 31, the Conference of the Parties agreed to phase out the Small Grants Fund programme upon exhaustion of its current resources. Consequently, Resolution VI.6 is now defunct and can be repealed. |
| Resolution VI.7 | The Scientific and Technical Review Panel | R | Resolution VII.2, para. 7, states that it repeals Resolution VI.7.  |
| Resolution VI.8 | Secretary General matters | P | Resolution VI.8 expresses appreciation to all concerned in relation to the change of Secretary General in 1995.This is now outdated and can be excluded from the list of current Resolutions and Recommendations to be implemented. |
| Resolution VI.9 | Cooperation with the Convention on Biological Diversity | A | Resolution VI.9 has effectively been superseded or updated by subsequent decisions of the COP, including Resolutions VII.4, VIII.5, IX.5, X.11 and XI.6 and it would be appropriate to consolidate it with those Resolutions.In the meantime, it remains valid.However, paras. 11, 12 and 14 are outdated and could be repealed. |
| Resolution VI.10 | Cooperation with the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and its implementing agencies: the World Bank, UNDP and UNEP | A | It would be appropriate to consolidate Resolution VI.10 with others that touch the same subject, notably Resolutions VII.4, VIII.5 and X.11.In the meantime it remains valid.However, para. 11 calls for implementation of the Strategic Plan 1997-2002, so should be updated or repealed. |
| Resolution VI.11 | Consolidation of Recommendations and Resolutions of the Conference of the Contracting Parties | P | Resolution VI.11 records the 1996 decision of the COP to conduct a consolidation of Resolutions and Recommendations, and provides the mandate. The result was reported at COP7. Moreover it has been superseded by similar decisions for review and consolidation of Resolutions and Recommendations in Resolutions IX.17 and XIII.4. Resolution VI.11 is therefore defunct and can be repealed. |
| Resolution VI.12 | National Wetland Inventories and candidate sites for listing | C | Resolution VI.2 has only two short operative paragraphs. Their substance overlaps with the substance of subsequent decisions (including Resolutions VII.20, para. 11, VIII.6, para. 16 and potentially XI.8). It seems appropriate to consolidate the text with the later Resolutions.In the meantime, Resolution VI.12 remains valid. |
| Resolution VI.13 | Submission of information on sites designated for the Ramsar List of Wetlands of International Importance | A | Resolution VIII.8, para. 15, recognizes that "reporting under Article 3.2 of the Convention does not substitute for the requirement as adopted by Resolution VI.13 for Contracting Parties to provide a fully updated Ramsar Information Sheet for each of their designated Ramsar sites at intervals of not more than six years".Resolution VI.13 appears to be valid in part.- para. 7: first part calls for submission of maps and RISs by 31 December 1997 and is defunct; second part calls for updated information every six years, which is repeated in Resolution XI.8 Annex 2, section 8, so is redundant; and- para. 8 calls on Parties: to "fulfil Article 3.2", which is already an obligation; and "to fulfil ... Resolution 5.3" which is thus a repetition, and may thus be considered redundant.These two paragraphs could therefore be repealed. |
| Resolution VI.14 | The Ramsar 25th Anniversary Statement, the Strategic Plan 1997-2002, and the Bureau Work Programme 1997-1999 | P | Resolution has four brief operative paragraphs: - para. 12 adopts the "Ramsar 25th Anniversary Statement", which is not annexed to the Resolution; it may be considered to have lost its currency, in which case it can be repealed;- para. 13 approves the Strategic plan 1997-2002 and is therefore defunct;- para. 14 records the decision to rename the Ramsar "Monitoring Procedure" as the "Ramsar Management Guidance Procedure"; this has been superseded by Resolution VII.12, para 39, (which changed the name again) and is therefore defunct.It is therefore proposed that Resolution VI.4 be repealed in its entirety. |
| Resolution VI.15 | Amendment of the Rules of Procedure as of the 7th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties | P | Resolution VI.15 contains various amendments to the Rules of Procedure. It is not clear why these were contained in a Resolution. The text of the Convention, in Article 6, para. 4, states that "The Conference of the Contracting Parties shall adopt rules of procedure for each of its meetings." This is therefore an obligation. Rules must be adopted at each meeting of the COP and no Resolution is needed for this purpose. Resolution VI.15 is defunct and can be repealed. |
| Resolution VI.16 | Accession procedures | P | In para. 5 of Resolution VI.16, the Conference of the Parties 'decides' that, notwithstanding Resolution 4.5, the boundaries of each listed wetland, together with a map, shall be provided at the time of a State adhering to the Convention. However, this requirement is not contained in the text of the Convention.The ratification and accession protocol is set out in Article 9.3 and the requirement re designation is set out in Article 2.4. Contracting Parties CPs are bound by the text of the Convention, which is a source of international law and which states:- in Article 2.4, that: "Each Contracting Party shall designate at least one wetland to be included in the List when signing this Convention or when depositing its instrument of ratification or accession, as provided in Article 9"; and - in Article 9.3, that: "Ratification or accession shall be effected by the deposit of an instrument of ratification or accession with" the Depositary. The competences of the Conference of the Parties are listed in Article 6, and do not include a power to add requirements for signature, ratification or accession. It therefore appears that the decision in para. 5 of Resolution VI.16 may have been beyond the competence of the Conference of the Parties. Moreover, as already said in document Doc. SC35-12, it appears that the decision in para. 5 of Resolution VI.16 is inconsistent with Resolution 4.5, which 'recommends' that a State be considered as having met the requirements to be considered a Party if it designates a wetland for the List of Wetlands at the time of adhesion.Further regarding the operative part of Resolution VI.16:- in para. 6, the Conference decides that, for subsequently designated wetlands, a description of boundaries and a map are also required; and para. 7 invites Parties to provide an information sheet for each designated wetland. These paragraphs are effectively superseded by Resolution XI.8, and the Information Sheet in its Annex 1; - para. 8 invites Parties and non-party States to consult informally with the Secretariat in case of need. This is now standard practice.It appears that Resolution VI.16 is defunct and can be repealed.  |
| Resolution VI.17 | Financial and budgetary matters | A | In Resolution XIII.2, para. 12, the COP "*DECIDES that the Subgroup on Finance will be continued and operate under the aegis of the Standing Committee and with the roles and responsibilities specified in Resolution VI.17 on Financial and budgetary matters*" thus requiring this Resolution to remain valid. However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- paras. 6, 7, 8 and 9, together with Annexes I and II, are time-bound and have expired;- para. 10 has in effect been superseded by subsequent decisions on financial and budgetary matters, most recently Resolution XIII.2, paras. 33 & 34; and- para. 11.a, has been superseded by Resolution XIII.2, as stated in para. 38 of the latter. RecommendationIt is recommended that, in future, the roles and responsibilities for the Subgroup on Finance be annexed to the latest Resolution on financial and budgetary matters, in order to avoid having multiple current Resolutions on the same subject. |
| Resolution VI.18 | Establishment of the Ramsar Wetland Conservation Award | A | Resolution VI.18 remains valid.However, para. 5 is time-bound and has expired. It can therefore be repealed. |
| Resolution VI.19 | Education and public awareness | P | Resolution VI.19 affirms that a programme on education and public awareness should be organized, foresees a role for Wetlands International and other "networks operated by the partners" and urges support for the initiative.In the meantime, the CEPA programme was created and elaborated, most recently in Resolution XII.9. Decisions on further support and development are provided in Resolution XIII.5.As a result, Resolution VI.19 is out of date and can be repealed. |
| Resolution VI.20 | Thanks to the people and governments of Australia | P | It seems unnecessary to maintain Resolutions and Recommendations expressing thanks to host countries in the list of current Resolutions & Recommendations. However, the expression of appreciation remains on the record in perpetuity. |
| Resolution VI.21 | Assessment and reporting on the status of wetlands | P | Resolution VI.21 has two operative paragraphs:- para. 2 is time-bound, requesting action in the following triennium (1997-2002). It has expired and may therefore be repealed; and- para. 3 seeks to develop ways for community groups and local NGOs can assist in achieving the mission of the Convention. It is effectively superseded by the *Guidelines for establishing and strengthening local communities' and indigenous peoples' participation in the management of wetlands* in Resolution VII.8. Consequently Resolution VI.21 may be considered as defunct. |
| Resolution VI.22 | Consideration of overall cost reduction and in particular of possible relocation of the Ramsar Bureau and its operations | P | Resolution VI.22 directed the Standing Committee to conduct various tasks related to analysis of costs and the location of the Secretariat. This was done and the Resolution is now defunct and can be repealed. |
| Resolution VI.23 | Ramsar and water | A | Resolution VII.18, para. 12, calls on Parties to implement Resolution VI.23.Resolution VI.23 remains valid in part.However, para. 6, regarding the membership and activities of the STRP has been superseded by subsequent decisions, most recently Resolution XII.5, which sets out the new *modus operandi* and responsibilities of the STRP; that paragraph may therefore be repealed. |
| Recommendation 6.1 | Conservation of peatlands | A | Recommendation 6.1 remains valid.However, para. 9 has been repeated by para. 8 of Recommendation 7.1 and could be repealed.Moreover there are now several Resolutions and Recommendations relating to conservation and wise use of peatlands, which would benefit from being consolidated. |
| Recommendation 6.2 | Environmental Impact Assessment | P | Recommendation 6.2 appears to have lost its currency, and has been mostly superseded in its effect by subsequent Resolutions on this subject, notably Resolutions VII.16, VIII.9 and X.17. However, if it is considered that some parts remain valid, paragraph 7 can nonetheless be repealed as it is time-bound and has expired. |
| Recommendation 6.3 | Involving local and indigenous people in the management of Ramsar wetlands | A | An analysis will probably show that Recommendation 6.3 is outdated and has been overtaken by more recent Resolutions on this subject, notably Resolutions VII.8 and XIII.15.While it remains valid, - para. 13 is time-bound, calling for a report at COP7, and can be repealed. |
| Recommendation 6.4 | The "Brisbane Initiative" on the establishment of a network of listed sites along the East Asian-Australasian Flyway | C | Recommendation 6.4 appears to remain valid. It could be consolidated with Recommendation 7.3 and Resolution VIII.37. |
| Recommendation 6.5 | Establishment of further wetland manager training programmes | P | Recommendation 6.5 contains several provisions to promote training of wetland managers, and one provision regarding use of the Small Grants Fund.Regarding training, the Ramsar Convention's Programme on communication, capacity building, education, participation and awareness, in Resolution XII.9, provides more recent and comprehensive guidance from the Conference of the Parties and may be considered as superseding Recommendation 6.5 (and other earlier decisions).Regarding the Small Grants Fund, this is being phased out, as decided in Resolution XIII.2.Consequently, Recommendation 6.5 may be considered as defunct. |
| Recommendation 6.6 | Appointment of regionally-based Ramsar liaison officers | P | Recommendation 6.6 provides direction for Parties, the Standing Committee and the Secretariat regarding establishment and maintenance of regionally-based Ramsar Liaison Officers. In the 24 years since this was adopted, much has changed; there are currently no such officers and the Management Working Group has responsibility to advise the COP on the operation of the Secretariat.Recommendation 6.6 may be considered outdated and removed from the list of current Resolutions and Recommendations to be implemented. |
| Recommendation 6.7 | Conservation and wise use of coral reefs and associated ecosystems | P | Recommendation 6.7 appears to have lost its currency:The first operative paragraph urges Parties to designate suitable coral reefs as Ramsar sites. Meanwhile, through Resolution XI.8 Annex 2, coral reefs are now integrated into the *Strategic Framework and Guidelines for the Future Development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance ... 2012 revision*. The remaining four paragraphs are all requests to the Secretariat, or the Secretariat and the STRP. One (para. 12) is time-bound, relating to implementation of the Strategic Plan 1997-2002. And all touch on issues for which there are more recent decisions of the COP (fostering wise use, encouraging accession, cooperation with UNEP).It is therefore proposed that Recommendation 6.7 be repealed. |
| Recommendation 6.8 | Strategic planning in coastal zones | P | Recommendation 6.8 has been effectively superseded by Resolution VIII.4 in which the COP urges Parties to implement the *Principles and guidelines for incorporating wetland issues into Integrated Coastal Zone Management*, annexed to that Resolution.Recommendation 6.8 can therefore be repealed. |
| Recommendation 6.9 | Framework for National Wetland Policy development and implementation | P | As stated in Standing Committee document DOC. SC35-12, Recommendation 6.9 "entirely concerns the brief for work which was subsequently delivered as Res VII.6 and its Annex, so the Recommendation can therefore be retired."Recommendation 6.9 can therefore be repealed. |
| Recommendation 6.10 | Promotion of cooperation on the economic valuation of wetlands | C | Recommendation 6.10 remains valid. |
| Recommendation 6.11 | Continuing collaboration for Mediterranean wetlands | A | Recommendation 6.11 is mostly outdated.Paragraph 12 is time bound, requiring a report at COP7, and is therefore defunct.Standing Committee document DOC. SC35-12, "The remaining operative paras, with one exception, have been superseded either by events or mainly by Res VII.22 and could also be retired."The paragraph that remains valid is para. 13, which calls on Parties in the Mediterranean to designate Ramsar sites that meet the criteria, although this might be considered to have lost its currency. |
| Recommendation 6.12 | Conservation and wise use in private and public funded activities | C | Recommendation 6.12 remains valid. |
| Recommendation 6.13 | Guidelines on management planning for Ramsar sites and other wetlands | P | As stated in Standing Committee document DOC. SC35-12,- para. 9 is time-bound, requiring a report at COP7 and can be repealed;- "the other operative parts of the Recommendation, namely the two lines of paras 7-8 which encourage management planning, could be regarded as taken over and further developed by Resolutions VII.12 (especially para 19) and VIII.14, and hence the whole Recommendation could be retired."Recommendation 6.13 may therefore be repealed. |
| Recommendation 6.14 | Toxic chemicals | A | Recommendation 6.14 remains valid.However, para. 8, requesting the STRP to report at COP7, has expired and can be repealed. |
| Recommendation 6.15 | Restoration of wetlands | A | Aspects of Recommendation 6.15 are subsumed in Resolutions VII.17 and VIII.16. Therefore a consolidation would be appropriate.Meanwhile, Recommendation 6.15 remains valid.However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- para. 9, which allocates a task to the STRP, with a report to the Standing Committee, so that this is no longer current; and- para. 11, which is time-bound, with a report at COP7, and has expired. |
| Recommendation 6.16 | Conservation and wise use of wetlands in bilateral and multilateral development cooperation programmes | P | Recommendation 6.16 establishes a process for Parties to comment to the Standing Committee, which was instructed to report at COP7. Recommendation 6.16 is therefore defunct and can be repealed. |
| Recommendation 6.17 | Ramsar sites in the territories of specific Contracting Parties | P | Recommendation 6.17 contains 23 provisions in the operative part, many of which are welcoming, appreciating or noting actions taken and can be considered as no longer required. The others are calling on specific Parties to consider or undertake specific actions relating to specific wetland sites. Some of these are known to have been implemented. If there are others that were not, it might be considered that, after nearly a quarter of a century, this Recommendation has lost its currency and that it is not useful to include it in the list of current Resolutions and Recommendations.  |
| Recommendation 6.17.1 | Greek Ramsar sites | P | These five Recommendations (or sub-Recommendations) all contain requests – usually addressed to the country concerned – for specific actions in relation to all sites in a country or to specific sites. It is not clear whether all of the requested actions were undertaken. However, after nearly a quarter of a century, it may be considered that these Recommendations have lost their currency and that it is not useful to include them in the list of current Resolutions and Recommendations. |
| Recommendation 6.17.2 | National Reserve of Paracas and the national strategy for the conservation of wetlands in Peru | P |
| Recommendation 6.17.3 | Azraq Oasis, Jordan | P |
| Recommendation 6.17.4 | Australian Ramsar sites | P |
| Recommendation 6.17.5 | The Lower Danube Basin | P |
| Recommendation 6.18 | Conservation and wise use of wetlands in the Pacific Islands region | A | Recommendation 6.18 has some overlap with Recommendation 7.2 and Resolution VIII.42 (which refer to Recommendation 6.18 in their preambles). It would therefore be appropriate to consider their consolidation.In the meantime, Recommendation 6.18 remains valid.However, paras. 12, 13 and 15 all allocate tasks to the Secretariat related to providing support in various ways to Pacific Island countries. As these tasks were identified 24 years ago, it might be considered that they have lost their currency and can be repealed. |
| **COP5(Kushiro, 1993)** |  |  |
| Resolution 5.1 | The Kushiro Statement and the framework for the implementation of the Convention | P | Resolution 5.1 records the adoption of the priorities for 1994-1996 (Annex 1) and a programme overview for the Secretariat for 1994-1996 (Annex 3), which are obviously defunct and can be repealed. The Resolution also notes an attached *Framework for the Implementation of the Ramsar Convention* (Annex 2). That document is also out of date in many important respects and can not therefore be considered a guiding document for the Parties in its current form.Finally it instructs the Secretariat to instruct annual work plans for 1994-1996.Consequently the whole Resolution is out of date and can be repealed. |
| Resolution 5.2 | Financial and budgetary matters | A | Like previous Resolutions on financial and budgetary matters, in Resolution XIII.2, para. 11, the COP "*DECIDES that the Terms of Reference for the Financial Administration of the Convention contained in Annex 3 to Resolution 5.2 on Financial and budgetary matters (1993), shall be applied in toto to the 2019-2021 triennium*".Consequently, for the time being, Resolution 5.2 remains valid.However, the following paragraphs are out of date and can be repealed, which may require consequential amendments:- paras. 1, 2 and 3, as well as Annexes 1 and 2, are time bound and have expired;- para. 5 is superseded by Resolution XIII.2, para. 30, for the current triennium;- para. 6 reminds Parties of three previous Recommendations and may be considered redundant;- para. 8 urges Parties to accept the amendment to the Convention of 28 May 1987, which is now in effect;- para. 9 is superseded by Resolution XIII.2, para. 21; and- para. 11 is time-bound and has expired.Regarding para. 7, this remains valid in principle. If it is retained, it needs to be updated as follows:- the reference to 'the Monitoring Procedure' should be amended to 'Ramsar Advisory Missions'; and- the reference to 'the Wetland Conservation Fund' should be deleted. The name of this fund was later changed to the Small Grants Fund, and the COP has decided that it will be phased out.It is suggested that, in future, the Terms of Reference for the financial administration of the Convention be included in the latest Resolution on financial and budgetary matters, in order to avoid having multiple current Resolutions on the same subject.  |
| Resolution 5.3 | Procedure for initial designation of sites for the List of Wetlands of International Importance | P | All parts of Resolution 5.3 appear to have been superseded:- first operative para., under 'URGES': superseded by the criteria in Resolution XI.8 Annex 2;- second operative para., under 'FURTHER REQUESTS': superseded by the guidelines on submission of RIS in Resolution XI.8 Annex 1;- third operative para., under 'URGES': effectively superseded by Resolution XI.8 Annex 2, para. 44;- fourth operative para., under 'COMMENDS': effectively superseded by Resolutions VIII.6 and IX.1 (esp. Annex E); - fifth operative para., under 'INSTRUCTS': superseded by Resolution IX.6.Resolution 5.3 is therefore defunct and can be repealed. |
| Resolution 5.4 | The record of Ramsar sites where changes in ecological character have occurred, are occurring, or are likely to occur ("Montreux Record") | P | Resolution 5.4 is entirely focused on the procedure for the operation of the Montreux Record. However, it is superseded by Resolution VI.1 Annex on *Working definitions, guidelines for describing and maintaining the ecological character of listed sites, and Guidelines for operation of the Montreux Record*.Resolution 5.4 can therefore be repealed. |
| Resolution 5.5 | Establishment of a Scientific and Technical Review Panel | P | Resolution XII.5, para. 15, states that it supersedes all previous Resolutions on matters of the STRP. Resolution 5.5 is therefore defunct and can be repealed. |
| Resolution 5.6 | The wise use of wetlands | P | Resolution 5.6 has four operative paragraphs:- first operative para: calls on Parties to implement the wise use guidelines from COP4, but this may be considered to have been superseded by the latest decision of the COP on this subject, in the *Conceptual framework for the wise use of wetlands and the maintenance of their ecological character*, which is Annex A to Resolution IX.1;- second operative para: notes the annexed *Additional guidance for the implementation of the wise use concept*, which may be considered to have been superseded for the same reason;- third operative para: invites Parties to strengthen cooperation between developed and developing countries in the context of wise use. With this focus, it may be considered to have been overtaken by several Resolutions, perhaps especially the Annex to Resolution XI.13 on *An integrated framework for linking wetland conservation and wise use with poverty eradication*; and- fourth operative para: allocates to STRP the guidance on wise use, which was done.Resolution 5.6 may therefore be considered as outdated or redundant and be repealed. |
| Resolution 5.7 | Management planning for Ramsar sites and other wetlands | P | Resolution 5.7 is focused on promoting the development of management plans for Ramsar sites, with appropriate legal and administrative structures and funding. It calls on Parties to use the annexed *Guidelines on management planning for Ramsar and other wetland sites*. The most recent decision of the COP on this subject, is contained in the more comprehensive Resolution VIII.14, with an Annex containing the *New Guidelines for management planning for Ramsar sites and other wetlands*, which may be considered to have superseded Resolution 5.7.For this reason, Resolution 5.7 may be repealed. |
| Resolution 5.8 | Future funding and operation of the Ramsar Wetland Conservation Fund | P | As stated in Standing Committee document DOC. SC35-12, "It would seem that all elements of this Resolution have been either superseded or carried forward by subsequent decisions (including by preambular citing of some of the specific elements), and that this Resolution can thus be entirely retired." |
| Resolution 5.9 | Application of the Ramsar Criteria for Identifying Wetlands of International Importance | P | All parts of Resolution 5.9 are either out of date or have been superseded by subsequent Resolutions in particular regarding criteria for designating Ramsar sites. Resolution 5.9 can therefore be repealed. |
| Recommendation 5.1 | Ramsar sites in the territories of specific Contracting Parties | P | Recommendation 5.1 contains multiple requests or expressions of appreciation or concern, regarding Ramsar sites in range of countries. It is not clear whether all of the requested actions were undertaken. However, after nearly a quarter of a century, it may be considered that this Recommendation has lost its currency and that it is not useful to include it in the list of current Resolutions and Recommendations. |
| Recommendation 5.1.1 | Greek Ramsar sites | P | These three Recommendations contain requests addressed to a range of countries, seeking specific actions in relation to Ramsar sites. It is not clear whether all of the requested actions were undertaken. However, after nearly a quarter of a century, it may be considered that these Recommendations have lost their currency and that it is not useful to include them in the list of current Resolutions and Recommendations. |
| Recommendation 5.1.2 | Cuare, Venezuela | P |
| Recommendation 5.1.3 | Lower Danube Basin | P |
| Recommendation 5.2 | Guidelines for interpretation of Article 3 ("ecological character" and "change in ecological character") | P | Recommendation 5.2 'emphasizes the need for studies on 'ecological character' and 'change in ecological character and instructs the Secretariat to report at COP6. Meanwhile COP6 passed and guidance has been adopted, most recently in Resolutions X.15 and X.16. Recommendation 5.2 is therefore defunct and can be repealed. |
| Recommendation 5.3 | The essential character of wetlands and the need for zonation related to wetland reserves | C | Recommendation 5.3 seeks recognition of the "essential character of wetlands", and seeks zoning and protection measures. There are overlaps with other Resolutions but, without conducting a thorough analysis, it appears that the specific substance of Recommendation 5.3 remains valid. |
| Recommendation 5.4 | The relationship between the Ramsar Convention, the Global Environment Facility and the Convention on Biological Diversity | P | Recommendation 5.4 is now outdated and has been overtaken by decisions in a number of subsequent Resolutions, including elements of Resolutions VI.9, VI.10, VII.4, VIII.5, IX.5, X.11, XIII.7, etc.Recommendation 5.4 may therefore be repealed. |
| Recommendation 5.5 | Inclusion of conservation and wise use of wetlands in multilateral and bilateral development cooperation programmes | C | The subject matter of Recommendation 5.5 overlaps with that of a number of other Resolutions and it would be beneficial to consolidate them.Meanwhile, however, Recommendation 5.5 remains valid. |
| Recommendation 5.6 | The role of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the Ramsar Convention | C | The substance of Recommendation 5.6 overlaps with that of some other decisions with which it could possibly be consolidated, notably Resolution VII.8. Meanwhile, however, Recommendation 5.6 remains valid. |
| Recommendation 5.7 | National Committees | C | Elements of Recommendation 5.7 are found in Resolution X.29, which states that it is in addition to Recommendation. However, it would be appropriate to consolidate these two texts. Meanwhile, Recommendation 5.7 remains valid. |
| Recommendation 5.8 | Measures to promote public awareness of wetland values in wetland reserves | P | Recommendation 5.8 makes three calls for action to improve public awareness. The Ramsar Convention's Programme on communication, capacity building, education, participation and awareness, in Resolution XII.9, can be considered as superseding Recommendation 5.8 in this connection. Consequently, this Recommendation can be considered as defunct. |
| Recommendation 5.9 | Establishment of Ramsar guidelines on Wetlands of International Importance as fish habitat | P | Recommendation 5.9 calls for the development of criteria and guidelines on the importance of wetlands for fish and a presentation of results at COP6. This work was completed and Recommendation 5.9 can be repealed. |
| Recommendation 5.10 | The 25th anniversary wetland campaign for 1996 | P | Recommendation 5.10 calls for actions to implement a public awareness campaign in 1996. Consequently, it has expired and can be repealed.  |
| Recommendation 5.11 | The new Bureau headquarters in Switzerland | P | This Recommendation only expresses thanks and satisfaction.It seems unnecessary to maintain Resolutions and Recommendations that only express thanks in the list of current Resolutions & Recommendations, following the COP after the one at which they were adopted. However, the expression of appreciation remains on the record in perpetuity. |
| Recommendation 5.12 | Thanks to the Japanese hosts | P | It seems unnecessary to maintain Resolutions and Recommendations expressing thanks to host countries in the list of current Resolutions & Recommendations. However, the expression of appreciation remains on the record in perpetuity. |
| Recommendation 5.13 | Promotion and strengthening of the Ramsar Neotropical Region | C | Recommendation 5.13 has probably lost its currency in the intervening 27 years but, as there are elements that remain valid, no action is proposed at this stage. |
| Recommendation 5.14 | Collaboration for Mediterranean Wetlands | L | Recommendation 5.14 welcomes the creation of MedWet, encourages participation and requests a progress report at COP6. It has been overtaken by subsequent decisions such as Resolution VII.22 and XII.14. It is therefore now outdated but remains on the record as an indication of support. |
| Recommendation 5.15 | Working languages of the Conference of the Contracting Parties | P | Recommendation 5.15 makes calls for several actions regarding working languages at meetings of the Conference of the Parties. The current decisions of the Conference of the Parties regarding languages are reflected in the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of the Parties, and in the most recent Resolution on this subject, Resolution XIII.6. These texts supersede Recommendation 5.15, which can be considered as defunct. |
| **COP4(Montreux, 1990)** |  |  |
| Resolution 4.1 | Interpretation of Article 10 bis Paragraph 6 of the Convention | A | Resolution 4.1 remains valid.However, the third operative paragraph, with a task allocated to the Standing Committee from 1990, appears no longer current and is proposed to be repealed. |
| Resolution 4.2 | Working languages of the Conference of the Contracting Parties | P | Resolution 4.2 states only that Spanish is a working language of the Conference of the Contracting Parties. This decision is now reflected in the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of the Parties and the Resolution is defunct. |
| Resolution 4.3 | A Wetland Conservation Fund | P | In Resolution 4.3, the Conference of the Parties decides to establish the Wetland Conservation Fund. In Resolution VI.6, that fund was renamed as the 'Small Grants Fund'. In Resolution XIII.2, para. 31, the Conference of the Parties agreed to phase out the Small Grants Fund programme upon exhaustion of its current resources. Consequently, Resolution 4.3 is now defunct. |
| Resolution 4.4 | Implementation of Article 5 of the Convention | P | Resolution 4.4 allocates tasks to the Secretariat regarding wetlands and water systems shared between two Parties, the results to be reported at COP5. Consequently Resolution 4.4 is defunct. |
| Resolution 4.5 | Accession requirements | C | Resolution 4.5 recommends that, when a State takes the necessary steps to adhere to the Convention, it be considered as having fulfilled the conditions for accession if it has designated at least one site for inclusion in the List of Wetlands of International Importance. It implies that the acceding State is not considered a Party if it has not designated a wetland for inclusion in the List but this implication would be inconsistent with the text of the Convention. The protocols regarding ratification and accession are set out in Article 9.3 of the Convention, which states simply that:"*Ratification or accession shall be effected by the deposit of an instrument of ratification or accession with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (hereinafter referred to as "the Depositary").*"It is therefore clear that, notwithstanding the non-binding recommendation of Resolution 4.5, the designation of a site for inclusion in the List of Wetlands is not a prerequisite for a State to become a Contracting Party.Article 2.4 of the Convention states that:"*Each Contracting Party shall designate at least one wetland to be included in the List when signing this Convention or when depositing its instrument of ratification or accession, as provided in Article 9.*"Designation of a wetland at the time of signing or adhering to the Convention is therefore an obligation and failure to designate a wetland in accordance with Article 2.4 would be in breach of the Convention, but this is a separate issue from the requirement for adhesion to the Convention.Resolution 4.5 also recommends that, if a description of the boundaries, and a map, are not provided to the Depositary at the time of adhesion, they should be provided to the Secretariat as soon as possible afterwards. It appears to be inconsistent with Resolution VI.16, which it is suggested may be defunct (see above). However Resolution 4.5 remains valid. |
| Annex to DOC.C.4.12 | Resolution on the Framework for the implementation of the Convention and priorities for attention 1991-1993 | P | The unnumbered Resolution annexed to document DOC.C.4.12 has four operative paragraphs.The first takes note of an attached *Framework for Implementation of the Convention*, which has been overtaken by subsequent frameworks adopted in Resolutions.The other three are all time bound and have expired.The Resolution in the Annex to document DOC.C.4.12 can therefore be repealed. |
| Annex to DOC.C.4.13 | Resolution on financial and budgetary matters | P | The unnumbered Resolution annexed to document DOC.C.4.13 presents the core budget for the period 1991-1993 and other recommendations related to financing, as well as an urging to Parties to accept the amendment of 28 May 1987. As the Resolution is clearly outdated, it is proposed to be repealed. |
| Annex to DOC.C.4.14 | Resolution on the Standing Committee | P | The unnumbered Resolution annexed to document DOC.C.4.14 records the decision of the Conference of the Parties to establish a Standing Committee, specifying its functions and the principles for its composition and procedures to be followed.It has been superseded by subsequent Resolutions updating the decision of the COP on the Standing Committee, most recently Resolution XIII.4 on *Responsibilities, roles and composition of the Standing Committee and regional categorization of countries under the Convention*. Consequently the Resolution in the Annex to document DOC.C.4.14 can be repealed.  |
| Annex to DOC.C.4.15 | Secretariat matters | A | The unnumbered Resolution in the Annex to document DOC. C.4.15 contains the decision of the Conference of the Parties regarding the location and administration of the Secretariat. Parts of it are out of date, and can be repealed, as follows:- para. 1.b), requesting IUCN to enter a cooperative agreement with the International Waterfowl and Wetlands Research Bureau (IWRB), for the provision of scientific and technical and scientific services for the Secretariat (referred to as the Bureau); - para. 2, which approves a memorandum of agreement between IUCN and IWRB, on the provision of secretariat services (referred to as Bureau services).Correspondingly, the 2nd, 3rd, 5th, 6th and 7th paragraphs of the preamble can be repealed.If these corrections are agreed, the term 'Bureau' can also be updated in the text to 'Secretariat' and the grammatically incorrect use of 'comprised' can be corrected to 'composed' in para. 1.d) (affects the English version only). |
| Recommendation 4.1 | Wetland restoration | A | Recommendation 4.1 appears to remain valid.However, the third operative paragraph, with a task allocated to the Standing Committee is presumably no longer current and may be repealed.  |
| Recommendation 4.2 | Criteria for identifying wetlands of international importance | P | Recommendation 4.2 contains the recommendation of the Conference of the Parties to use the *Criteria for identifying wetlands of international importance*, in Annex I, as the basis for identifying wetlands to be designated as Ramsar sites. It draws attention to but does not adopt nor recommend the document in Annex II, *Designation of wetlands for the list and subsequent action.* These Annexes have been superseded by subsequent Resolutions, in particular Resolution XI.8 Annex 2 on *Strategic framework and guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance of the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar, Iran, 1971) - 2012 revision*, which, being the most recent decision of the Conference of the Parties on this subject, may be understood as replacing previous guidance.Recommendation 4.2 may therefore be repealed. |
| Recommendation 4.3 | National reports | P | Recommendation 4.3 only urges Parties to submit their National Reports at least six months before each COP. This is only a repetition of what is recommended in Recommendation 2.1, which has an additional recommendation. It is therefore unnecessary to retain Recommendation 4.3 in the list of current Resolutions and Recommendations and it can be repealed. |
| Recommendation 4.4 | Establishment of wetland reserves | A | Recommendation 4.4 appears to remain valid in part.The third operative paragraph urges Parties to compile national wetland inventories. This is repeated in subsequent Resolutions, although generally specifying a specific triennium. However, it is suggested that this be considered to have been superseded by the combination of Resolution VII.20 *Priorities for wetland inventory*, Resolution VIII.6 *A Ramsar Framework for Wetland Inventory* and Resolution X.15 *Describing the ecological character of wetlands, and data needs and formats for core inventory ...*, as well as Resolution XII.2 *The 4th Strategic Plan 2012-2024*, which deals with inventorying among the priorities. The fifth operative paragraph relates to participation in the IVth World Congress on National Parks and Protected Areas, and is defunct. The rest appears to remain valid. |
| Recommendation 4.5 | Education and training | P | Recommendation 4.5 contains seven operative paragraphs recommending actions related to formal and informal education and training (although it does not specify the subject), and associated activities (cultural, social & economic circumstances, budgets, etc.).However, the *Ramsar Convention's Programme on communication, capacity building, education, participation and awareness (CEPA) 2016-2024*, in Resolution XII.9, provides more recent and comprehensive guidance from the Conference of the Parties and may be considered as superseding Recommendation 4.5 (and related decisions).Consequently, Recommendation 4.5 may be considered as defunct. |
| Recommendation 4.6 | Establishment of national scientific inventories of potential Ramsar sites | A | Recommendation 4.6 recommends that Parties national scientific inventories of wetlands and that the Secretariat support them.The call to establish inventories is repeated in several subsequent Resolutions and Recommendations (see comment regarding Recommendation 4.5 above), which also call for additional actions. Recommendation 4.6 could therefore be considered to have been effectively superseded, especially by Resolutions VIII.6 and may be repealed. |
| Recommendation 4.7 | Mechanisms for improved application of the Ramsar Convention | P | Recommendation 4.7 contains five operative paragraphs and two annexes. It appears that they are all defunct for the following reasons:- first operative para. (under 'ENDORSES'): confirms the establishment of the 'Ramsar Monitoring Procedure', described in Annex 1, which was later renamed the 'Ramsar Management Guidance Procedure' (Resolution VI.14), and then the 'Ramsar Advisory Missions' (Resolution VII.12). This scheme continues under a new mandate in Resolution XIII.11 on *Ramsar Advisory Missions;*- second operative para. (under 'DETERMINES'): confirms that the final reports from the 'Monitoring Procedure' are public documents, which is repeated in Resolution XIII.12, para. 14; - third operative para. (under 'RECOMMENDS'): recommends the use of the data sheet attached in Annex 2.A to describe Ramsar sites, but this has been superseded by the Information Sheet adopted as Annex 1 to Resolution XI.8;- fourth operative para. (under 'FURTHER RECOMMENDS'): recommends the classification of 'wetland type' in Annex 2.B, but this has been superseded by the classifications in Annex 2 of Resolution XI.8, on *Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance of the Convention on Wetlands - 2012 revision; and*- fifth operative para. (under 'REQUESTS'): requests the Standing Committee to oversee the application of the 'Monitoring Procedure', which is overtaken by Resolution XIII.12; and requests the Standing Committee to investigate the need for a scientific committee, which has been overtaken by the establishment of the STRP.Regarding Annex 1, and its description of the Monitoring Procedure, this is superseded by the [*Operational Guidance for Ramsar Advisory Missions*](https://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/library/ram_ogs_2019_e.pdf) produced by the Secretariat as instructed in Resolution XIII.12 and published on the Ramsar website.Recommendation 4.7 may therefore be repealed. |
| Recommendation 4.8 | Change in ecological character of Ramsar sites [and establishment of the Montreux Record] | P | Recommendation 4.8 requests Parties to take action in relation to Ramsar sites whose ecological character is threatened. It also gives related instructions regarding the role of the Secretariat. Subsequent Resolutions on the same subject do not use exactly the same words but may be understood to have superseded Recommendation 4.8, in particular Resolution IX.1 Annex A, *Conceptual Framework for the wise use of wetlands and the maintenance of their ecological character*, Resolution X.15, *Describing the ecological character of wetlands, and harmonized data formats for core inventory* and Resolution X.16, *Framework for processes of detecting, reporting and responding to change in wetland ecological character*.Recommendation 4.8 may therefore be considered as defunct.  |
| Recommendation 4.9 | Ramsar sites in the territories of specific Contracting Parties | P | These six Recommendations all contain requests for action, or express appreciation or express concerns regarding specific specific sites. It is not clear whether all of the requested actions were undertaken. However, as they were adopted some 30 years ago, it may be considered that these Recommendations have lost their currency and that it is not useful to include them in the list of current Resolutions and Recommendations. |
| Recommendation 4.9.1 | Doñana National Park, Spain | P |
| Recommendation 4.9.2 | Everglades National Park, USA | P |
| Recommendation 4.9.3 | Azraq Oasis, Jordan | P |
| Recommendation 4.9.4 | Conservation of the Leybucht, Federal Republic of Germany | P |
| Recommendation 4.9.5 | Greek Ramsar sites | P |
| Recommendation 4.10 | Guidelines for the implementation of the wise use concept | P | Resolution VII.6, para. 12, and Resolution VII.7, para. 9, call on Parties to take into account the guidelines in Recommendation 4.10.Recommendation 4.10 has three operative paragraphs:- The first recommends and adopts the use of the annexed *Guidelines for implementation of the wise use concept of the Convention*. However these have been superseded by subsequent guidelines, as stated in Resolution IX.1 Annex A, para. 14.- The second and third respectively recommend the setting up of the Working Group on Wise Use and that it report at COP5. This was done and its work was completed and transferred to the STRP.Recommendation 4.10 can therefore be repealed. |
| Recommendation 4.11 | Cooperation with international organizations | P | Recommendation 4.11 seeks closer cooperation with the OECD, the "Commission of the European Communities" (now called the "European Commission") and with other international organizations. This seems to have been overtaken by Resolution X.11 on *Partnerships and synergies with Multilateral Environmental Agreements and other institutions*, which refers to the European Commission. It does not mention OECD specifically but invites the Secretariat to develop cooperation with a range of specified institutions "as well as with other relevant intergovernmental organizations". The combination of this with other Resolutions referring to such cooperation, including Resolutions VII.4, VIII.5 and IX.5 effectively supersede Recommendation 4.11, which can be repealed. |
| Recommendation 4.12 | Cooperation between Contracting Parties for the management of migratory species | P | As was already indicated in Standing Committee document DOC. SC35-12, in 2007, all elements of Recommendation 4.12 " are either now redundant or have been superseded by Res 5.9, Res VII.11 and Res VIII.38 in particular".Recommendation 4.12 can is therefore defunct and can be repealed. |
| Recommendation 4.13 | Responsibility of multilateral development banks (MDBs) towards wetlands | P | Recommendation 4.13 has three operative paragraphs:- The first only calls on Parties to implement Recommendation 3.4; and might therefore be considered redundant;- The second and third deal with support of wetland conservation from multilateral development banks and agencies. The relationship with these has been dealt with in subsequent Resolutions, including VI.10, VII.19 and X.11, which might therefore be seen as superseding Recommendation 4.13.If so, Recommendation 4.13 may be considered to have been superseded and therefore be repealed. |
| Recommendation 4.14 | Thanks to the host [Switzerland] | P | It seems unnecessary to maintain Resolutions and Recommendations expressing thanks to host countries in the list of current Resolutions & Recommendations, following the COP after the one at which they were adopted. However, the expression of appreciation remains on the record in perpetuity. |
| **COP3(Regina, 1987)** |  |  |
| Resolution 3.1 | Secretariat Matters | P | As stated in document Doc. SC35-12, Resolution 3.1 and its Annex were superseded by the un-numbered Resolution adopted at COP4 as an Annex to document DOC C.4.15. The text of the latter decision covers the same elements but with some minor technical amendments. Resolution 3.1 can therefore be repealed. |
| Resolution 3.1, Annex | Memo of Agreement between IUCN and IWRB | P |
| Resolution 3.2 | [Financial and Budgetary Matters](http://archive.ramsar.org/cda/en/ramsar-documents-resol-resolution-3-2/main/ramsar/1-31-107%5E23406_4000_0__) | P | Resolution 3.2 presents the core budget for the period 1988-1990 and related decisions, and a few outdated recommendations (such as a call to accept the amendment of 28 May 1987). The attachments are also time limited, and have expired.It is therefore proposed that this Resolution be considered as outdated and that it be repealed. However it remains on the record as an indication of the scale of contributions for the period covered. |
| Resolution 3.3 | Establishment of a Standing Committee | P | Resolution 3.3 records the decision to establish a Standing Committee, specifying its functions and the principles for its composition and procedures to be followed.It has been superseded by subsequent Resolutions updating the decision of the COP on the Standing Committee, most recently Resolution XIII.4 on *Responsibilities, roles and composition of the Standing Committee and regional categorization of countries under the Convention*. Resolution 3.3 can therefore be repealed, but it remains accessible as a record of the establishment of the Standing Committee at COP3. |
| Resolution 3.4 | Provisional Implementation of the Amendments to the Convention | P | Resolution 3.4 urges Parties to implement on a provisional basis the measures that were foreseen in the Regina amendment to the Convention. The amendment came into force on 1 May 1994 and the Resolution is therefore defunct and can be repealed. |
| Recommendation 3.1 | Criteria for identifying wetlands of international importance and guidelines on their use | P | Recommendation 3.1 recommends the use of the criteria for the designation of Ramsar sites and then creation of working group to see how they might be elaborated. This has been superseded by subsequent actions and Resolutions, most recently Resolution XI.8 Annex 2 (Rev. COP13).Recommendation 3.1 can therefore be repealed. |
| Recommendation 3.2 | Need for further studies of flyways | P | Recommendation 3.2 contains four recommendations for research on waterfowl, some of it indicated as 'urgent'. It is not clear whether all of the recommended research was done. However, as 33 years have passed since its adoption, Parties might consider that it no longer reflects the current situation and can be removed from the list of current Resolutions and Recommendations to be implemented. |
| Recommendation 3.3 | Wise use of wetlands | P | Recommendation 3.3 contains a definition of 'wise use' and calls on Parties to stimulate wise use and take account of wise use in their wetland policies.This Recommendation has been entirely superseded in subsequent Resolutions, most recently Resolution IX.1 Annex A (which contains a new definition of 'wise use'), and Resolution XI.8 Annex 2 (Rev. COP13). |
| Recommendation 3.4 | Responsibility of development agencies toward wetlands | C | Although there are more recent Resolutions with COP recommendations regarding development banks and agencies, it appears that they have not superseded the decisions in Recommendation 3.4. Consequently, it appears to remain in effect. |
| Recommendation 3.5 | Tasks of the Bureau in respect to development agencies | P | This Recommendation calls on the Secretariat to implement several activities relating to obtaining support from development agencies for implementation of projects to support wise use and conservation of wetlands. In the meantime, the Conference of the Parties has adopted other recommendations that might be considered to supersede Recommendation 3.5, in particular Resolutions VI.10 and X.11.In this case, Recommendation 3.5 can be repealed. |
| Recommendation 3.6 | Further Contracting Parties in Africa | P | Recommendation 3.6 encourages African States to consider becoming Parties, including eight specifically named. Since it was adopted, 44 African States have adhered to the Convention, including the eight named States. Recommendation 3.6 can therefore be repealed. |
| Recommendation 3.7 | Further Contracting Parties in Central America, the Caribbean and South America | P | Recommendation 3.7 requests the Secretariat to encourage States in the western hemisphere to consider becoming Parties, naming four that had already done so. There are now 27 Parties to the Convention in Latin America and the Caribbean. Recommendation 3.7 might therefore be considered as no longer current and may be repealed. |
| Recommendation 3.8 | Conservation of Azraq Ramsar site | P | Recommendation 3.8, calling for action to be taken in relation to a designated wetland in Jordan, was superseded by Recommendations 4.9.3 and 6.17.2, on the same subject. Recommendation 3.8 is therefore defunct and may be repealed. |
| Recommendation 3.9 | Change in ecological character of Ramsar sites | P | Recommendation 3.9 has only two very short operative paragraphs, urging Parties to take swift action to prevent degradation of sites and to inform the Secretariat.It has been effectively superseded by several subsequent Resolutions, which reflect further consideration by the COP, including Resolutions VIII.8, X.13 and XI.14.Recommendation 3.9 may therefore be repealed. |
| Recommendation 3.10 | Further Contracting Parties in Asia and the Pacific | P | Recommendation 3.10 requests the Secretariat to encourage States in Asia and the Pacific Region to consider becoming Parties. At that time (June 1987) there was a total of 7 Parties to the Convention in those regions. There are now 34 Parties in Asia and 8 in Oceania. Recommendation 3.10 might therefore be considered as having served its purpose and may be repealed. |
| Recommendation 3.11 | Recommendation of Thanks [to the Canadians] | P | It seems unnecessary to maintain Resolutions and Recommendations expressing thanks to host countries in the list of current Resolutions & Recommendations. However, the expression of appreciation remains on the record in perpetuity. |
| **COP2****(Groningen, 1984)** |  |  |
| Recommendation 2.1 | Submission of National Reports | A | Recommendation 2.1 has two operative paragraphs.The first operative paragraph calls on Parties to submit national reports six months before each COP. (This was repeated in Recommendation 4.3, which is proposed to be repealed.) This remains valid.The second operative paragraph, calling on the Secretariat to prepare a "simplified version of the questionnaire upon which national reports are based" was implemented and is no longer current as the Secretariat regularly provides a template for the submission of national reports. This paragraph can be repealed. |
| Recommendation 2.2 | Amendment of the Convention | P | Recommendation 2.2 calls on Parties to adopt amendments to the Convention by consensus. There have been no proposed amendments to the Convention since 1987. Consequently, Recommendation 2.2 may be considered as outdated and can be repealed. |
| Recommendation 2.3 | Action points for priority attention | P | Recommendation 2.3 specifies seven "Action Points that should receive priority attention". As the actions specified were the priorities for the Convention in 1984, and most if not all were implemented, Recommendation 2.3 is no longer current, and it is suggested that it be repealed.NB: Recommendation 2.3 has an annexed *Framework for implementing the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance*, but it is merely 'taken note of' in the preamble of the Recommendation.  |
| Recommendation 2.4 | Possibilities of financial or other support for the Interim Secretariat | P | Recommendation 2.4 calls on Parties and organizations to find funds to support the Secretariat. As it is now funded through the budget agreed by the COP, Recommendation 2.4 can be repealed. |
| Recommendation 2.5 | Designation of the Wadden Sea for the List of Wetlands of International Importance | P | This recommendation calls on Denmark and Germany to designate the parts of the Wadden Sea under their jurisdiction as Ramsar sites. As both countries have listed Wadden Sea sites, and this recommendation was adopted 36 years ago, it might be considered outdated and excluded from the list of current Resolutions and Recommendations. |
| Recommendation 2.6 | Conservation and management of Sahel Wetlands | P | On the basis of a drought in the Sahel, referred to in the preamble, this Recommendation calls for a plan to conserve and manage sahelian wetlands. This might now be considered as out of date and excluded from the list of current Resolutions and Recommendations. |
| Recommendation 2.7 | Conservation of Djoudj National Bird Park, Senegal | P | On the basis of a drought in the Sahel, referred to in the preamble, this Recommendation calls for special measures to safeguard the Djoudj National Bird Park in Senegal. Circumstances have changed significantly in the intervening 36 years and this Recommendation may be considered as outdated, and excluded from the list of current Resolutions and Recommendations.  |
| Recommendation 2.8 | Establishment of a protected area in the River Senegal basin in Mauritania | P | This Recommendation calls on Mauritania to protect an area to complement the Djoudj Park in Senegal. Mauritania has designated the Parc National du Diawling in 1994. Recommendation 2.8 can be considered as out of date.  |
| Recommendation 2.9 | Conservation action and protection of wetlands not designated for the List of Wetlands of International Importance | P | Recommendation recommends "appropriate conservation action" by Parties regarding unlisted sites specified in a document at COP2; and "suggests that effective protection is ensured of wetlands of international importance mentioned by observers ..."In the absence of what resulting action has been taken by Parties, the Recommendation may be technically still valid. However, it might be considered that, in the intervening 36 years, Recommendation 2.9 has lost its currency, in which case it may be repealed. |
| Recommendation 2.10 | Thanks to the government of the Netherlands and appreciation of wetland conservation measures taken in the Netherlands | P | It seems unnecessary to maintain Resolutions and Recommendations expressing thanks to host countries in the list of current Resolutions & Recommendations. However, the expression of appreciation remains on the record in perpetuity. |
| **COP1(Cagliari, 1980)** |  |  |
| Recommendation 1.1 | Expanding the Convention's membership | P | Recommendation 1.1 was adopted in 1980 to encourage accession by non-Parties. Now that the Convention has 171 Parties, this appears outdated. |
| Recommendation 1.2 | Developing countries in the Convention | P | Recommendation 1.2 calls on Parties and organizations to support developing countries to contribute to Convention activities; and calls on developing countries to contribute to pay more attention to conservation measures in requests for assistance.Several subsequent Recommendations and Resolutions have overlapping recommendations, perhaps especially Recommendation 5.5 on *The inclusion of conservation and wise use of wetlands in multilateral and bilateral development cooperation programmes.* Consequently, Recommendation 1.2 might now be considered as outdated, if not actually superseded. |
| Recommendation 1.3 | Designating more wetlands for the Ramsar List | P | Recommendation 1.3 is a simple call to increase the number of designated Ramsar sites. It may now be considered as outdated and could be repealed. |
| Recommendation 1.4 | Criteria for identifying wetlands of international importance | P | Recommendation 1.4 recommends: the use of criteria for identifying wetlands of international importance; the need for a 'shadow list' of wetlands; and development of guidelines for selecting sites; and that unspecified appropriate organizations keep the criteria under review. In the subsequent 40 years, the COP has adopted several Resolutions relating to the criteria and site selection, most recently Resolution XI.8 Annex 2.Consequently, Recommendation 1.4 is outdated and may be repealed.  |
| Recommendation 1.5 | National Wetland Inventories | P | Recommendation 1.5 calls on Parties that might be interested to prepare inventories of wetlands. This call is repeated, a little more strongly, in subsequent decisions, including Recommendation 4.6, and Resolutions 5.3, VII.20 and VIII.6. Consequently Recommendation 1.5 has been superseded and can be repealed. |
| Recommendation 1.6 | Assessment of wetland values | V | Recommendation 1.6 recommends that decisions on large-scale transformation of wetlands require a prior assessment of values and that funding agencies finance such assessments. The COP has subsequently adopted several Resolutions on the need for environmental impact assessments, which may be considered as updating the COP's decision on this subject, including Resolutions VII.16, VIII.9 and X.17. For this reason it appears that Recommendation 1.6 has been superseded and may be repealed. |
| Recommendation 1.7 | Proposed protocol on amendment procedures | P | Recommendation 1.7 calls for the elaboration of a protocol with three elements. Two of them (an amendment procedure and the procedure for entry into force of the protocol) were embodied in the Ramsar Convention Paris Protocol of 1982 (see https://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/library/paris\_protocol\_e\_0.pdf).The third element "*The addition of authentic or official language versions of the Convention based upon the United Nations practice*" is not referred to in the Paris Protocol but is presumably considered to be covered by the provisions on amendment of the Convention. Consequently, Recommendation 1.7 is now defunct. |
| Recommendation 1.8 | Proposed amendments to the Convention | P | Recommendation 1.8 recommends the "consideration of the adoption of a further protocol to amend the Convention" after the protocol referred to in Recommendation 1.7. It specified a number of points that were "highly desirable to achieve".In accordance with Recommendation 1.8 Parties did consider the adoption of a further protocol, and it was adopted in 1987 as the Regina Protocol (see https://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/library/regina\_amendments\_e.pdf).Consequently Recommendation 1.8 is defunct and may be repealed. |
| Recommendation 1.9 | Meetings of the Conference of the Parties | P | Recommendation 1.9 merely recommends that the COP should meet as soon as possible after the entry into force of the protocol referred to in Recommendation 1.7.Recommendation 1.9 is therefore defunct. |
| Recommendation 1.10 | A permanent secretariat | P | All aspects of Recommendation 1.10 are time-bound and have expired. Recommendation 1.10 can therefore be repealed. |
| Recommendation 1.11 | Thanks to the Italian hosts | P | It seems unnecessary to maintain Resolutions and Recommendations expressing thanks to host countries in the list of current Resolutions & Recommendations. However, the expression of appreciation remains on the record in perpetuity. |