

Ramsar COP9 Resolution IX.18

Annex

Terms of Reference for the CEPA Oversight Panel

Functions of the CEPA Oversight Panel (hereafter referred to as the Panel):

- The main function of the Panel is to monitor and inform on CEPA issues within the Convention and the progress of implementation of the CEPA Programme as established by Resolution VIII.31.

The Convention's Programme on communication, education and public awareness (CEPA) 2003-2008, especially with reference to the CEPA activities of the Secretariat, and to advise the Standing Committee and the Secretariat on the CEPA work priorities at the national and international level, including the CEPA priorities of the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP). The Oversight Panel will also clarify the broad roles of the two government and nongovernmental CEPA Focal Points nominated by each Party.

- In examining and setting priorities, the Panel should take into account, in the first instance, the priorities set by Resolution VIII.31, the key CEPA issues identified by the STRP/Wetlands International CEPA Specialist Group, and those identified by the Specialist Group as key CEPA issues in the work of the STRP. The Standing Committee should include a CEPA specialist in the STRP to identify the areas where CEPA can contribute to the work of the STRP (see Resolution IX.11).
- The Panel should also work with the Ramsar Advisory Board on Capacity Building to identify priorities in recognition of the gaps between capacity building opportunities and needs for the broad range of wetland professionals and stakeholders.
- The Panel should report on these issues to each meeting of the Standing Committee. The two CEPA Focal Points on the Panel should ensure that they maintain links with their counterparts in other countries so that they are informed of these issues in the three official languages of the Convention through the Web and the CEPA elists.
- The Panel will also have a key role in advising the Standing Committee on the form and function of the next CEPA Programme, for the period 2009– 2014, to be proposed to COP10.