

# **Draft Resolution on Wetlands and Disaster Risk Reduction**

**Submitted by the Philippines**

# Preambular paragraphs:

- Acknowledges the **role of wetland ecosystems in reducing disaster risk** by acting as natural buffers or protective barriers
- Recognizes the need to **operationalize the role** of the Ramsar Convention in the prevention and mitigation of impacts associated with natural phenomena

# Preambular paragraphs:

- Places importance in putting disaster risk reduction **in the context of sustainable development**
- Expresses concern that natural and human-related disasters have caused major environmental, social and economic impacts

# Operative paragraphs:

- Affirms the need to develop **management plans** that ensure wise use and protection of wetland ecosystems
- Urges **the mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction** measures in these management plans and other such policies, action plans and programs

# Operative paragraphs:

- Encourages Parties and the Secretariat to engage in the **Hyogo Framework for Action**
- Aims to raise the priority of disaster risk reduction in the **next Strategic Plan**

# Operative paragraphs:

- Requests the STRP to **review** the resolution on climate change and wetlands (X.24), and on the implications of climate change on the Convention (XI.14)
- Calls upon Parties to **develop a set of guidelines or a framework** which emphasizes disaster risk reduction in conjunction with the STRP
- Invites the STRP to conduct **an analysis of cross-cutting themes** on wetlands (economics, land and water use management, housing and settlements, livelihoods, transportation, etc.)

# Comments on the 1st draft

## International:

- STRP
- UNEP
- Wetlands International

## Local:

- Society for the Conservation of Philippine Wetlands, Environmental Science for Social Change
- Philippine government agencies

# Enhancements: Preamble

- Acknowledges that disaster risk reduction requires wise management of land and the environment
- Expresses concern that climate change and other human-induced environmental degradation further exacerbate the adverse impacts of natural disasters and increase disaster risk



# Enhancements: Operative Text

- Requests the Secretariat to **examine the potential role** of wetlands conservation and rehabilitation in disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation
- Highlights the importance of establishing linkages with and further engaging the **UNFCCC**
- Includes the need for appropriate **benchmarks**
- Encourages Parties to integrate wetland management plans into **land-use plans**

# Enhancements: Comments so far

- Importance of emphasizing that many wetlands have been lost due to urbanization
- Link between DRR and sustainable land and water management
- Wetlands restoration

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