

Explanatory Note on the *Wuhan Declaration*

Recognizing the challenges facing wetland conservation, restoration and wise use, especially in the context of global climate change and biodiversity conservation, as well as the crucial role of wetlands in achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals by 2030, China as the host of the COP14 wishes to actively engage all Parties to strengthen high-level commitment and agree on actions to conserve and wisely use wetlands, and to strengthen further the implementation of the Convention on Wetlands, through adoption of the ***Wuhan Declaration*** at the High-Level Ministerial Segment during COP14.

The zero draft of the *Wuhan Declaration* prepared by the Chinese COP14 team was sent to members of the Subgroup on COP14 in early August 2022. On the basis of the comments and revisions provided by members of the Subgroup on COP14, a revised zero draft of the text was shared with the Subgroup members. The current version, presented to Contracting Parties as an annex to the Notification about the High-Level Ministerial Segment, is the outcome based on the consultations among members of the Subgroup on COP14.

Meanwhile, considering that COP14 is approaching, the current version of the zero draft of the declaration is being sent to Contracting Parties to solicit further comments and revisions. The Government of the People's Republic of China will greatly appreciate receiving the comments of Parties as soon as possible and **not later than 6 October 2022**. The text will then be further revised and sent again to Contracting Parties for further comments and revisions, so as to **finalize the document by late October 2022**.

The Chinese team would like to express its sincere gratitude to Parties for their engagement in and contribution to this process. Please send comments and revisions to Mr WANG Chunfeng via email: wangchunfeng@vip.126.com.