



CONVENTION ON WETLANDS  
CONVENTION SUR LES ZONES HUMIDES  
CONVENCIÓN SOBRE LOS HUMEDALES  
(Ramsar, Iran, 1971)

### **Diplomatic Note 2021/3**

#### **Provisional agenda for the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Wetlands, the 59th meeting of the Standing Committee and deadlines for submission of draft resolutions**

The Secretariat of the Convention on Wetlands presents its compliments to the Permanent Missions and has the honour to inform Contracting Parties about the agenda for the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Convention (COP14), the 59th meeting of the Standing Committee (SC59) and the submission of draft resolutions for consideration at COP14.

#### Provisional agenda for COP14

The provisional agenda for COP14, to be held in Wuhan, China, which was approved intersessionally by the Standing Committee in February 2021, is attached along with the present Note.

A date for COP14 has not been determined. The host country has indicated that COP14 will take place in the fourth quarter of 2021.

#### Submission of draft resolutions for consideration at COP14

The Secretariat draws the attention of Contracting Parties to Rule 5.1 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of the Contracting Parties, concerning the submission of draft resolutions. The deadline for submission is 60 days before the final Standing Committee meeting that can approve such draft resolutions for consideration by the Conference of the Parties.

The Standing Committee has also decided intersessionally that its 59th meeting will take place from 21 to 25 June 2021, at the headquarters of the Convention Secretariat in Gland, Switzerland. Therefore, draft resolutions to be considered at COP14 must reach the Secretariat no later than 22 April 2021.

However, the Secretariat encourages Contracting Parties to submit draft resolutions no later than 12 April so they can be published in the official languages of the Convention.

Guidance to support Contracting Parties in the preparation of draft resolutions is currently subject to consultation by the Standing Committee. This guidance will be shared with all Parties when the Standing Committee has adopted a decision.

#### 59th meeting of the Standing Committee

SC59 will be preceded on Monday 21 June by meetings of the Committee's sub-groups and working groups.

Simultaneous interpretation in the three official languages of the Convention will be provided throughout the week of the meeting.

The provisional agenda is available on the Convention's website at <https://www.ramsar.org/event/59th-meeting-of-the-standing-committee>. Links to documents will be added to the agenda as they are published.

Membership of the Standing Committee and its sub-groups and working groups is published on the Convention's website at <https://www.ramsar.org/about/current-standing-committee-2018-2021-members>.

Contracting Parties that are not members of the Standing Committee are welcome to attend as observers.

#### Preregistration for SC59

The Secretariat requests that members of the Standing Committee and Contracting Parties wishing to attend as observers at the meeting complete the preregistration process by **15 April 2021**.

Please note that for preregistration an official nomination letter signed by the Head of Administrative Authority or the Ministry of Foreign Affairs must be uploaded indicating the names of the representatives/head of the delegation of the Contracting Party.

The online preregistration system is accessible at.  
<https://contacts.ramsar.org/register-sc59>.

In addition, a personalized link to the preregistration system will be sent to the nominated representatives of Contracting Parties which are members of the Standing Committee.

Contracting Parties are encouraged to promote gender parity in their delegations according to the provisions of Resolution XIII.18 on *Gender and wetlands* in planning their participation in the meeting.

The Secretariat can provide financial support to enable the participation of one delegate representing each of the eligible members of the Standing Committee, upon request.

Contracting Parties which are unable to attend the meeting as observers are invited to communicate their position on issues to the Standing Committee representative(s) of their region or directly to the Secretariat.

The Secretariat of the Convention on Wetlands respectfully avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Missions and Administrative Authorities of the Contracting Parties to the Convention the assurance of its highest consideration.

Gland, 12 March 2021

Enclosed:



Provisional agenda for Ramsar COP14