**Subject: Decisions taken intersessionally from March to May 2021 by the Standing Committee and update on discussions regarding SC59 and dates for COP14**

After the message sent on 1 March and 20 May 2021 informing Contracting Parties on the intersessionally decisions of the Standing Committee, the Secretariat is pleased to inform Contracting Parties of the following Decisions taken intersessionally from March to May 2021 by the Standing Committee:

16 March 2021:

**Post-SC58 Intersessional Decision 09: The Standing Committee approved an additional allocation of up to CHF 17,000 from the carry-forward of the 2020 approved budget line Legal Services to conduct a financial and procedural analysis of options identified in the “Independent analysis on the legal status of the Secretariat of the Convention on Wetlands”, to supplement the amount of CHF 15,000 previously allocated as requested by the Standing Committee’s Observer Status Working Group, albeit noting there were divergent views within the Subgroup regarding the timing and level of funding requested.**

29 March 2021:

**Post-SC58 Intersessional Decision 10: The Standing Committee approved the process for the preparation and review of draft resolutions presented in the amended document SC58 Doc.20.4 Rev. 5 updated with comments reflecting the inputs of the consultative group on the review of Resolutions and Decisions of the Standing Committee, as well as input from members of the Standing Committee.**

20 May 2021:

**Post-SC58 Intersessional Decision 11: The Standing Committee instructed the Secretariat to inform Contracting Parties immediately that SC59 will not take place physically in June 2021, that a process for SC59 agenda issues is being developed, and that a possible new timeline for the submission of Draft Resolutions will be communicated as part of the revised process for COP14.**

27 May 2021

**Post-SC58 Intersessional Decision 12: The Standing Committee notes the ongoing consultations of the Subgroup on COP14 on new dates for COP14 in the fourth quarter of 2022.The Standing Committee expects COP14 dates as soon as possible.**

**Post-SC58 Intersessional Decision 13: The Standing Committee instructs the Secretariat to work with the Executive Team to propose: a process to determine the SC59 agenda items that are time-sensitive and need to be addressed such as budget and workplan; the issues that could be postponed; regional pre-COP virtual meetings, a possible physical session of the Standing Committee in 2022; and a possible new timeline for the submission of Draft Resolutions. This proposal will be submitted to the Standing Committee for its consideration and decision***.*

**Post-SC58 Intersessional Decision 14: The Standing Committee requests the Secretariat to work with the Executive Team to analyse possible legal aspects and consequences that the suggested changes may have on other governance issues and suggest processes to address them.**

The above decisions as well as the list of intersessional Decisions of the Standing Committee subsequent to its 58th virtual meeting can be consulted in the Convention´s website: <https://www.ramsar.org/document/list-of-the-intersessional-decisions-of-the-standing-committee-subsequent-to-its-virtual>