Notification 14th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Wetlands

IMPORTANT COP14 INFORMATION

To Heads of Administrative Authorities, National Focal Points and the Permanent Missions of all Contracting Parties of the Convention on Wetlands.

Provisional Working Programme

The Secretariat is pleased to inform Contracting Parties that the provisional working programme for the 14th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Wetlands is available. The provisional working programme and the agenda can be found here: <u>https://www.ramsar.org/event/14th-meeting-of-the-conference-of-the-contracting-parties</u>.

Preregistration for COP14

The online preregistration for COP14 is open at <u>https://contacts.ramsar.org/register-cop14</u>. Preregistration will close on 17 October. After this deadline participants can register on site. For preregistration an official nomination letter signed by the Head of Administrative Authority or the National Focal Point should be uploaded indicating the names of the representatives and Head of Delegation. Note that the nomination letter for preregistration is separate from the credentials to be submitted in accordance with Rule 18 of the Rules of Procedure (see 'Credentials' below). Once delegates have successfully completed the online registration process, they will receive an email confirming their preregistration.

Contracting Parties are encouraged to promote gender parity in their delegations in accordance with the provisions of <u>Resolution XIII.18 on Gender and Wetlands</u> in planning their participation in the meeting.

Financial support

The Secretariat aims to provide financial support to enable the participation of one delegate representing each of the Contracting Parties which are on the <u>OECD's DAC list</u> of aid recipient countries. <u>To be considered for financial support</u>, delegates eligible for funding should preregister no <u>later than 2 September 2022.</u>

Visa for Switzerland

Please check if you need a visa for Switzerland, or a transit visa for any country where you might have to stop or change planes en route to Switzerland.

For information on visa requirements for Switzerland, go to: <u>https://www.eda.admin.ch/eda/en/fdfa/entry-switzerland-residence/visa-requirements-application-form.html</u>. Note that it can take up to four weeks to obtain a visa. Meeting participants are encouraged to contact their nearest Swiss representation early.

During the preregistration process participants can request a visa support letter if needed for travel to Switzerland.

Credentials

Representatives of Contracting Parties shall submit credentials in accordance with Rule 18 of the <u>Rules of Procedure</u> for meetings of the Conference of the Parties. Note that Credentials must be issued either by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs or his/her equivalent. Information on requirements and modalities on the submission of credentials along with a sample template can be found here: <u>https://www.ramsar.org/document/diplomatic-note-20226</u>.

Side events

Applications to host a side event at COP14 can be submitted online at <u>https://contacts.ramsar.org/cop14-sideevent-request</u>. The deadline for applications is 31 August 2022.

Exhibition space

There will be an exhibition space on the premises of the CICG venue of COP14 in Geneva. Further information on booking exhibition space will be published on the Convention's website shortly.

Travel information

Information on accommodation and travel to Geneva will be published on the Convention's website shortly.

For further information on COP14 contact secretariat@ramsar.org.