



# Consultancy for the Consolidation of Resolutions

September 2023

## BACKGROUND

The Convention on Wetlands is an intergovernmental treaty that provides the framework for national action and international cooperation for the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands and of wetland biodiversity and services. It was the first of the modern global multilateral environmental agreements and remains the only one devoted to a specific critical ecosystem.

The Convention Secretariat has its headquarters in Gland, Switzerland, where the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) provides some administrative services to the Convention's Contracting Parties for the operations and implementation of the Convention.

## PURPOSE

Under the supervision of the Deputy Secretary General the selected consultant will undertake a consolidation of Resolutions as guided by Resolution XIV.5 and relevant SC62 Decisions.

## SCOPE OF WORK (PHASE 1):

- Prepare consolidations of Resolutions in the following three categories as identified in Annex 2 of Resolution XIV.5; “CEPA”, “Water, water-related and water-management-related” and “Assessment of Wetland values and services”;
- The consolidation of “Inventories” presented in SC59 Doc.13.3 will be updated to reflect any relevant COP14 Resolutions;
- The process for consolidation is as follows:
  - a) the general objective of the consolidation is to facilitate the understanding and implementation of Resolutions by combining into a single Resolution the texts from existing Resolutions that deal with the same subject, or sub-subject, using the words from the existing Resolutions as far as possible, while eliminating discrepancies and inconsistencies, clarifying the meaning, standardizing the terms used, correcting grammatical errors, updating parts that are out of date and eliminating parts that are defunct;

- b) after each meeting of the COP, the Standing Committee will select a small number of subject categories (generally two to four) from the list of categories of Resolutions in Annex 2 of the present Resolution, for which the Secretariat (or its consultant) will prepare draft consolidated resolutions for consideration at the following COP;
- c) the document presenting each draft consolidated resolution will indicate the origins of the texts presented and explain any differences from the existing Resolutions;
- d) draft consolidated resolutions will not include any new concepts, policies, rules or guidance that have not previously been agreed by the COP;
- e) the text of each draft consolidated resolution will indicate that it repeals the Resolutions that are being consolidated and that it is designed to replace;
- f) each draft consolidated resolution prepared by the Secretariat (or its consultant) will be presented to the Standing Committee, which will guide the Secretariat and approve the draft to be submitted for adoption by the Conference of the Parties when it is satisfied that the draft has been correctly prepared;
- g) as the process of consolidation of Resolutions is not intended to revise the substance of decisions previously made by the Conference of the Parties, the Rules of Procedure for considering and adopting draft consolidated resolutions will be different from those for consideration of other draft resolutions in the sense that, as a general rule, the substance should not be presented for discussion as it has in principle already been agreed by the Parties. The primary decision to be made by the Conference is whether the consolidation has been correctly done; and
- h) the process of consolidation of Resolutions will continue until the Contracting Parties are satisfied with the consolidation work done and can be continued when the Parties have identified a need for more consolidation work;

***Deliverables & Timeline:***

- The first draft consolidation of “Assessment of wetland values and services” should be completed by 15 November. The Secretariat will provide comments within two weeks. The revised draft of the consolidation should be completed by 15 December.
- The first draft consolidation of “CEPA” should be completed by 30 November. The Secretariat will provide comments within two weeks. The revised draft of the consolidation should be completed by 10 January.
- The first draft consolidation of “Water, water-related and water-management-related” should be completed by 15 January. The Secretariat will provide comments within two weeks. The revised draft of the consolidation should be completed by 15 February.
- The updated consolidation of “Inventories” should be completed by 1 November.



## **SCOPE OF WORK (PHASE 2):**

- Listen the SC63 discussion on and comments on the consolidated draft resolutions and take notes as to the amendments/corrections requested. The estimated day and time of the discussion will be provided approximately 10 days in advance of SC63 scheduled for 3-7 June 2024;
- Complete revisions of the consolidated draft resolutions following comments received from SC63. Revisions to be completed by 15 July 2024.

## **QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE:**

- An understanding of intergovernmental negotiation processes, ideally with Multilateral Environmental Agreements;
- Demonstratable experience in the drafting and preparation of Resolutions
- Experience in the preparation of consolidated Resolutions
- Excellent command of written English
- Track record of meeting deadlines
- Consultant must be registered on the relevant professional or trade register of the country of establishment (or residence, if self-employed) and in full compliance with the obligations relating to payment of social security contributions and applicable taxes.

## **PROPOSAL SUBMISSION:**

Consultant proposals should include the following information and be submitted no later than **6 October 2023** to [aldous@ramsar.org](mailto:aldous@ramsar.org).

- Curriculum vitae
- Sample(s) of Resolutions drafted by the consultant and/or consolidated resolutions prepared by the consultant
- Cost proposal (estimated number of days and daily rate)
- Written expression of interest