

National planning tool for the implementation of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands

(And the approved format for National Reports to be submitted for the 8th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties, Spain, 2002)

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GENERAL OBJECTIVE 4

TO REINFORCE THE CAPACITY OF INSTITUTIONS IN EACH CONTRACTING PARTY TO ACHIEVE CONSERVATION AND WISE USE OF WETLANDS

Operational Objective 4.1: To develop the capacity of institutions in Contracting Parties, particularly in developing countries, to achieve conservation and wise use of wetlands.

Actions - Global and National Targets

4.1.1 Review existing national institutions responsible for the conservation and wise use of wetlands. [CPs]

Has your country reviewed the national institutions responsible for wetland conservation and wise use and the “designated national Administrative Authority for the Convention to ensure [that] these have the necessary resources to support the increasing demands being placed upon them by the growing expectations of the Convention” (COP7 Resolution VII.27)? **Yes**

If **No**, what is the impediment to this being done? **Not applicable.**

If **Yes**, what were the conclusions and outcomes of the review? (Refer to 4.1.2 also). **The establishment of the Wetlands Support Officer Position initiated under the Ramsar SGF project which would directly be responsible for the effective implementation of the Ramsar Convention in the country.**

Proposed national actions and targets: **Strategic approach for the nomination and management of Ramsar Sites in PNG.**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Department of Environment and Conservation and Wetlands International-Oceania.**

4.1.2 On the basis of such a review, identify and implement measures to:

- increase cooperation and synergy between institutions;
- promote the continued operation of these institutions;
- provide appropriately trained staff, in adequate numbers, for these institutions. [CPs]

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Target - By COP8, to see coordinating mechanisms in place in all CPs, and more particularly to see National Ramsar Committees including government and non-government stakeholder representatives, in place in more than 100 CPs. In addition, by COP8, all CPs that have reported the existence of NRCs at COP7 to have evaluated their effectiveness (COP7 Resolution VII.27). |
| Refer also to 8.1.9. Does your country have a National Ramsar Committee or similar body? Yes |
| If No , what has prevented the establishment of such a committee? Not applicable. |
| If Yes , is the committee cross-sectoral, including representatives of appropriate government ministries and non-government expert and stakeholder groups? No |
| What is the composition of this Committee? The Committee is formed by representatives from all sections of the three divisions within the Department of Environment and Conservation (the Ramsar Administrative Authority) |
| Has there been an evaluation of the effectiveness of the Committee? No |
| If No , what has prevented this from happening? Lack of capacity. |
| If Yes , did the review show the Committee was proving to be effective? No Reply |
| If No , why not? Lack of capacity and trained personnel to carry out such review. |
| Refer also to 7.2.1 with reference to coordinating the implementation of international conventions. |
| Proposed national actions and targets: There are proposals/recommendations to form a cross-sectoral National Wetlands Committee |
| Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Environment and Conservation |

Operational Objective 4.2: To identify the training needs of institutions and individuals concerned with the conservation and wise use of wetlands, particularly in developing countries, and to implement follow-up actions.

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| Actions - Global and National Targets |
| 4.2.1 Identify at national, provincial and local level the needs and target audiences for training in implementation of the Wise Use Guidelines. [CPs, Bureau, Partners] |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Target - By COP8, to have training needs analyses completed in more than 75 CPs. |
| Has a training needs analysis been completed? No |
| If No , what has prevented this from happening? Lack of capacity and funding |
| If Yes , have the results of this analysis been used to provide direction for training priorities in |

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| the future? No Reply |
| If No, why not? The main reason for not carrying out such analysis, is mainly due to the fact that the country lacks appropriately trained personel for the purpose. However, training needs have been identified informally and several trainings have been conducted by Wetlands Interantional Oceania. |
| If Yes, how has this been done? Not applicable. |
| AND: What impact has this had on the national training effort? Not applicable. |
| Proposed national actions and targets: Training needs to be identified |
| Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Environment and Conservation |

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| 4.2.2 Identify current training opportunities in disciplines essential for the conservation and wise use of wetlands. [CPs, Bureau, Partners] |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Target - By COP8, to have reviews of training opportunities completed in more than 75 CPs. |
| Has your country completed a review of the training opportunities which exist therein? No |
| If No, what are the impediments to this being done? Lack of capacity for such review. |
| If Yes, have the results of this review been used to provide direction for training priorities in the future? No Reply |
| If No, why not? Lack of funding and and capacity. |
| If Yes, how has this been done? Not applicable. |
| AND: What impact has this had on the national training effort? Not applicable. |
| Has this information on training opportunities been provided to the Ramsar Bureau for inclusion in the Directory of Wetland Manager Training Opportunities? (Refer to 4.2.3 below also) No |
| Proposed national actions and targets: None at this stage |
| Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Environment and Conservation |

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| 4.2.3 Develop new training activities and general training modules, for application in all regions, concerning implementation of the Wise Use Guidelines, with specialized modules covering [CPs, Bureau, Partners] |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Target - To launch a major wetland manager training initiative under the Convention, possibly in partnership with one or more of the Convention's International Organization Partners, which can promote and take advantage of these new training tools. Refer also to 4.2.4 below regarding the <i>Wetlands for the</i> |

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| <i>Future Initiative.</i> |
| Following its review of training needs and opportunities, has your country developed any new training activities, or training modules? No |
| If Yes, please provide details. Not applicable |
| AND: Has information on these training activities and modules been provided to the Ramsar Bureau for inclusion in the Directory of Wetland Manager Training Opportunities and the Wise Use Resource Centre? (Refer to 4.2.2 above also) No |
| Proposed national actions and targets: None at this stage |
| Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Environment and Conservation |

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| 4.2.4 Provide opportunities for manager training by: personnel exchanges for on-the-job training; holding pilot training courses at specific Ramsar sites; siting wetland manager training facilities at Ramsar sites; obtaining and disseminating information about training courses for wetland managers around the world. [CPs, Bureau, Partners] |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Target - Refer to 4.2.3 above. Also to seek the resources from donors or interested CPs to establish <i>Wetlands for the Future Initiatives</i> for the Asia-Pacific, Eastern European, and African regions. |
| Refer to 4.2.1, 4.2.2, and 4.2.3 above. Has training been provided for wetland managers: |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Through personnel exchanges for on-the-job training? No, ! Holding pilot training courses at specific Ramsar sites? No, ! Siting wetland manager training facilities at Ramsar sites? No, ! Obtaining and disseminating information about training courses for wetland managers? No, The Wetland Officer has participated in the Asia-Pacific Wetlands Managers Training Program, organised by the Tropical Wetlands of Oceania in Darwin, Australia in 2001. Information on the same course has been obtained and disseminated to other wetlands managers in the country. |
| Has your country provided resources to support the establishment of <i>Wetlands for the Future</i> style programmes in any part of the world? (COP7 Recommendation 7.4) No |
| If Yes, please provide details. Not applicable |
| Proposed national actions and targets: None at this stage |
| Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Environment and Conservation |

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| 4.2.6 Exchange information, technical assistance and advice, and expertise about the conservation and wise use of wetlands, also with regard to South-South cooperation. [CPs, Bureau, Partners] |
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| Refer to 2.3.1, 2.3.2, 4.2.1-4 above. Has your country specifically undertaken activities as indicated here which could be deemed to be South-South cooperation? No |
| If No , what has prevented this from happening? Lack of capacity and funding. |
| If Yes , please provide details. Not applicable |
| Proposed national actions and targets: None at this stage |
| Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Environment and Conservation |

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GENERAL OBJECTIVE 5

TO ENSURE THE CONSERVATION OF ALL SITES INCLUDED IN THE LIST OF WETLANDS OF INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE (RAMSAR LIST)

Operational Objective 5.1: To maintain the ecological character of Ramsar sites.

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| Actions - Global and National Targets |
| 5.1.1 Define and apply the precise measures required to maintain the ecological character of each listed site, in the light of the working definitions of ecological character adopted at the 6th COP (1996) and amended by by Resolution VII.10 of COP7. [CPs] |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Target - By COP8, each CP will seek to ensure that the measures required to maintain the ecological character of at least half of the Ramsar sites have been documented. |
| Have the measures required to maintain the ecological character of Ramsar sites in your country been documented? Yes |
| If No , what has prevented this being done? Not applicable. |
| If Yes , has this documentation been developed as part of management planning and associated action at the sites? Yes |
| AND: Has a copy been provided to the Ramsar Bureau? Yes |
| Proposed national actions and targets: Regular updating of the Ramsar Information Sheet as part of the the effort to review and update existing wildlife ecology and distribution data. |
| Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Environment and Conservation |

5.1.2 Conduct regular internal reviews to identify potential changes in ecological character, with input from local communities and other stakeholders; take remedial

action and/or nominate the site for the Montreux Record. [CPs]

- **Refer to 2.5.2 - In the COP7 National Reports, 35 CPs reported Ramsar sites where some change in ecological character had occurred or was likely to occur in the near future. This was true for 115 sites in 33 CPs, and two other CPs stated that changes had occurred to all or some of their sites. In COP7 Resolution VII.12, these CPs were urged to consider nominating these sites to the Montreux Record.**
- **Global Target – In the period up to COP8, promote the application and benefits of the Montreux Record as a tool of the Convention through disseminating reports and publications on the positive outcomes achieved by a number of countries which have now removed sites from the Record.**

Refer to 2.7.2 and 2.8.3 also. Are regular internal reviews undertaken to identify factors potentially altering the ecological character of Ramsar sites? **No**

If **No**, what are the impediments to this occurring? **There has been very minimal review due to lack of capacity and funding. The Ramsar SGF project 2001 provided an opportunity for such a review for one site only (Lake Kutubu).**

If **Yes**, have these reviews detected situations where changes in ecological character have occurred or may occur? **No Reply**

If **Yes**, for how many sites was this case, which sites were they, and what actions were taken to address these threats? **Not applicable.**

AND: Were these sites where change in ecological character was detected, or may occur, added to the Montreux Record? **No**

If **No**, why not? **Not applicable.**

Proposed national actions and targets: **Strategic management and nomination of Ramsar Sites in Papua New Guinea**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Department of Environment and Conservation**

5.1.3 Review and regularly update the Montreux Record (Resolutions 5.4, 5.5, and VI.1). [CPs, STRP, Bureau]

- **Global Target - CPs with Ramsar sites in the Montreux Record, and for which Ramsar Advisory Missions (RAMs) have been completed prior to COP7, are expected to have taken the actions necessary to warrant their removal from the Record before COP8.**

For those CPs with a site, or sites, included in the Montreux Record, and for which RAMs (previously Management Guidance Procedures, MGPs) have been completed, have all actions recommended by the RAM been undertaken for each site? **No Reply**

If **No**, what are the impediments to this occurring? **Not applicable.**

If **Yes**, have these actions resulted in a restoration of the ecological character? **No Reply**

AND: If Yes, has the site been removed from the Montreux Record following the completion of the necessary questionnaire (COP6 Resolution VI.1)? **No Reply** **Not applicable**

Proposed national actions and targets: **None**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action:
Department of Environment and Conservation

Operational Objective 5.2: To develop and implement management plans for all Ramsar sites, consistent with the Convention's Guidelines on Management Planning and emphasizing involvement of local communities and other stakeholders.

Actions - Global and National Targets

5.2.3 Ensure that, by the 8th COP (2002), management plans or other mechanisms are in preparation, or in place, for at least half of the Ramsar sites in each Contracting Party, beginning with pilot programmes at selected sites with input from local communities and other stakeholders. [CPs, Partners]

- **Global Target - By COP8, management plans will be in preparation, or in place, for at least three-quarters of the Ramsar sites in each CP and all CPs will seek to ensure that these are being implemented in full.**

Do all the Ramsar sites in your country have management plans in place? **No**

If **No**, how many sites do not have management plans in place and which sites are they? **Both Ramsar Sites (Tonda and Lake Kutubu) do not have specific wetland management plans. Currently their management is rendered under the Wildlife Management Area Arrangement.**

If plans are being prepared for some sites, please indicate which sites these are. **None at this stage**

For those sites where management plans are in place, how many of these are being implemented fully, and which sites are they? **None**

Where plans are not in place, or not being fully implemented, what has prevented this from being done? **Lack of capacity and funding for the development of management plans.**

Proposed national actions and targets: **Development of a capacity and strategy for management of Ramsar Sites in the country.**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action:
Department of Environment and Conservation

5.2.4 Promote the establishment and implementation of zoning measures related to larger Ramsar sites, wetland reserves and other wetlands (Kushiro Recommendation 5.3). [CPs, Partners]

For those sites where it is warranted, are zoning measures being used to regulate the activities

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| allowed in different parts of the wetlands? No |
| If No , what is preventing these from being implemented? Lack of capacity for the implementation of the zoning measures |
| If Yes , for which sites are these in place? Not applicable |
| AND: Are they proving a successful management tool? Not applicable. |
| Have you provided the Ramsar Bureau with information regarding such cases of zoning for possible inclusion in the Wise Use Resource Centre? No |
| Proposed national actions and targets: None at this stage |
| Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Environment and Conservation |

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| 5.2.5 Promote the establishment and implementation of strict protection measures for certain Ramsar sites and other wetlands of small size and/or particular sensitivity (Recommendation 5.3). [CPs, Partners] |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This aspect of Ramsar site management was not considered in the COP7 National Reports and will have to be reviewed in time for COP8. Global Target - Provide for consideration at COP8 detailed information on the implementation of strict protection measures at small and/or sensitive sites. |
| For those sites where it is warranted, are strict protection measures being used to regulate the activities allowed in different parts of the wetlands? No |
| If No , what is preventing these from being implemented? Lack of enforcement of the rules that are set up by the local community/managers through the WMA Committees. |
| If Yes , for which sites are these in place? Not applicable |
| AND: Is this proving to be a successful management tool? It is proving to be a successful management tool except for the enforcement aspect of it.. |
| Have you provided the Ramsar Bureau with information regarding such cases for possible inclusion in the Wise Use Resource Centre? No |
| Proposed national actions and targets: Assist the local managers with the gazettal of the Wildlife Management Area rules |
| Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Environment and Conservation |

Operational Objective 5.3: To obtain regularly updated information on wetlands of international importance, in accordance with the approved standard format.

Actions - Global and National Targets

5.3.1 Ensure that the maps and descriptions of Ramsar sites submitted to the Ramsar Database by the Contracting Parties at the time of designation are complete, in the approved standard format of the Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands, and provide sufficient detail to be used for management planning and monitoring of ecological character. [CPs, Bureau, Wetlands International]

5.3.2 Ensure that missing or incomplete data sheets and/or maps of listed sites are submitted as a matter of priority and in the shortest possible time, as a means to enhance the relevance and use of the Ramsar Database. [CPs]

- **Global Target – By the end of 1999, for there to be no Ramsar sites for which appropriate sites descriptions and maps are still required.**

If yours is one of the CPs referred to in COP7 Resolution VII.12 as not having provided a Ramsar (Site) Information Sheet in the approved format, with a suitable map, in one of three working languages of the Convention, has this now be rectified? **Does Not Apply**

If **No**, what is preventing this from being done? **Not applicable.**

5.3.3 Ensure that data sheets on Ramsar Sites are regularly updated, at least for every second meeting of the COP, so that they can be used for reviewing the achievements of the Convention, for future strategic planning, for promotional purposes, and for site, regional and thematic analysis (Resolution VI.13). [CPs, STRP, Bureau, Wetlands International]

- **Global Target - By the end of 1999, for there to be no Ramsar sites designated before 31 December 1990 for which updated site descriptions are still required.**

If yours is one of the CPs referred to in COP7 Resolution VII.12 as not having provided an updated Ramsar (Site) Information Sheet for sites designated before 31 December 1990, has this now be rectified? **No**

If **No**, what is preventing this from being done? **Not applicable**

Proposed national actions and targets: **Not applicable**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action:

Department of Environment and Conseravtion

Operational Objective 5.4: To keep under review the content and structure, as well as the hardware and software, of the Ramsar Database, in order to ensure that it retains its relevance in light of evolving information and communication technology.

Actions - Global and National Targets

5.4.1 Assess data currently available in the database and identify any gaps in the data provided by Contracting Parties. [CPs, STRP, Bureau, Wetlands International]

Refer to 5.2.2, 5.2.3, and 5.2.4 above.

5.4.4 Support the establishment of national wetland databases compatible with the Ramsar Database and develop a common protocol to facilitate exchange and interaction. [CPs, Partners]

- **Global Target - By COP8, to have national wetland databases in over 50 CPs which are accessible globally.**

Refer also to 6.1.1 and 6.1.2. Does your country have a national wetland database? **No**

If **No**, what is preventing such a database being established? **Lack of capacity and funding.**

If **Yes**, is this database generally available for reference and application by all ministries and stakeholders? **No Reply**

If **No**, why not? **Not applicable.**

AND: Is it available through the Internet? (COP7 Resolution VII.20) **No Reply**

If **Yes**, please provide details. **Not applicable**

If **No**, why not? **Not applicable**

AND: Is it available on CD-Rom? (COP7 Resolution VII.20) **No Reply**

If **Yes**, please provide details. **Not applicable**

If **No**, why not? **Not applicable**

Proposed national actions and targets: **Develop a PNG National Wetland database**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Department of Environment and Conservation**

GENERAL OBJECTIVE 6

TO DESIGNATE FOR THE RAMSAR LIST THOSE WETLANDS WHICH MEET THE CONVENTION'S CRITERIA, ESPECIALLY WETLAND TYPES STILL UNDER-REPRESENTED IN THE LIST AND TRANSFRONTIER WETLANDS

Operational Objective 6.1: To identify those wetlands that meet the Ramsar criteria, and to give due consideration to their designation for the List.

Actions - Global and National Targets

6.1.1 Develop, regularly update -- especially in the case of Africa -- and disseminate regional wetland directories, which identify potential Ramsar sites. [CPs, Partners]

Refer to 6.1.2 and 6.2.1. Does there exist for your country a directory or similar listing of sites which are potential Ramsar sites? **No**

If **No**, what are the impediments to such a list of sites being prepared? **Lack of capacity and funding . Apart from the regional wetland directories (Asian and Oceania Wetland Directories). There is no national wetland directory.**

If **Yes**, when was it prepared and was it prepared taking into consideration the *Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance* (COP7 Resolution VII.11)? **No Reply**

AND: How many potential Ramsar sites are identified within the important sites directory for your country? **Not applicable**

Proposed national actions and targets: **None at this stage**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Department of Environment and Conservation**

6.1.2 Establish, update and disseminate national scientific inventories of wetlands which identify potential Ramsar sites and wetlands of provincial or local importance in the territory of each Contracting Party. [CPs, Partners]

- **Global Target - By COP8, to have national wetland inventories completed by over 50 CPs and the information housed in databases (Refer to 5.4.4) which are accessible globally**

Does there exist a comprehensive national inventory (as opposed to a directory of important sites; see 6.1.1 above) for your country? **No**

If **No**, what are the impediments to such an inventory being prepared? **Lack of capacity and funding.**

If only some parts of the country have had inventories completed, please indicate which parts these are. **Not applicable**

AND: What is the likely timeframe for completing the national inventory? **Not applicable**

If a national inventory has already been completed, when was it finalized? **Not applicable**

AND: Is the information housed where it is accessible to stakeholders and the international community? (COP7 Resolution VII.20) **No Reply**

If **No**, what are the impediments to this occurring? **Not applicable**

Has national/subnational inventory information been provided to the Ramsar Bureau (if it is not accessible through the Internet)? **No Reply**

Proposed national actions and targets: **Development of a National Wetland Database**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Department of Environment and Conservation**

6.1.4 Support the work of Wetlands International and IUCN in updating information on population sizes of waterfowl and other taxa, and utilize these data in identification of

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| potential Ramsar sites. [CPs, Bureau, Partners] |
| Does your country regularly gather waterbird population data? No |
| If No , what prevents this from happening? Lack of funding and capacity. |
| If Yes , is this information provided to Wetlands International? No Reply |
| If No , why not? No information. |
| Proposed national actions and targets: Support in the implementation of the Asia-Pacific Migratory Waterbird Strategy: 2001-2005 |
| Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Environment and Conservation |

Operational Objective 6.2: To increase the area of wetland designated for the List of Wetlands of International Importance, particularly for wetland types that are under-represented either at global or national level.

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| Actions - Global and National Targets |
| 6.2.1 Promote the designation for the Ramsar List of an increased area of wetland, through listing by new Contracting Parties, and through further designations by current Contracting Parties, in particular developing countries, in order to ensure the listing of a representative range of wetland types in the territory of each Contracting Party and in each Ramsar region. [CPs, Bureau, Partners] |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Target - As proposed in the Strategic Framework, the short-term target of the Ramsar List should be to achieve the designation of 2000 sites, in accordance with the systematic approach advocated therein, by the time of COP9 in the year 2005. In addition, by COP8 the target is to have at least 20 CPs that are applying a systematic approach to site selection nationally. |
| Refer also to 6.1.1, 6.1.2, and 6.2.3. Has your country taken a systematic approach to identifying its future Ramsar sites (as promoted in the <i>Strategic Framework for the List – COP7 Resolution VII.11</i>)? Yes |
| If No , what are the impediments to this being done? Not applicable |
| If Yes , has this included considerations to ensure the designation of a representative range of wetland types? Yes |
| If No , why not? Not applicable |
| If Yes , has this resulted in the designation of a representative range of wetland types? Yes |
| Proposed national actions and targets: Strategic nomination of Ramsar Sites in the Country |
| Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Environment and Conservation |

6.2.3 Give priority attention to the designation of new sites from wetland types currently under-represented on the Ramsar List, and in particular, when appropriate, coral reefs, mangroves, sea-grass beds and peatlands. [CPs]

- **Global Targets - The long-term targets are set by the *Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance* (COP7 Resolution VII.11). Based on this, short-term targets for each wetland type will be derived [by the STRP].**

Further to 6.2.1 above: If your territory includes under-represented wetland types, has special attention been given to identifying suitable sites for designation? **Yes**

If **No**, what has prevented this from occurring? **Not applicable.**

If **Yes**, has this included designations of wetlands including:

- coral reefs? **Yes**
- mangroves? **Yes**
- seagrass beds? **Yes**
- peatlands? **Yes**
- intertidal wetlands? (COP7 Resolution VII.21) **Yes**

Proposed national actions and targets: **Identify and prioritise suitable sites for designation**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Department of Environment and Conservation**

6.2.4 Pay particular attention to the designation of new sites currently enjoying no special conservation status at national level, as a first step towards developing measures for their conservation and wise use. [CPs]

- **This question was not considered in the National Reports for COP7. It will be included for consideration in the NRs for COP8.**
- **Global Target - All CPs to consider this approach to ensuring the long-term conservation and wise use of wetlands that are subject to intense human use.**

Has your country designated wetland sites for the Ramsar List which previously had no special conservation status? **No**

If **No**, what has prevented this from happening? **The main issue being that of the land tenure. In PNG, most (97%) of the land and resources including wetlands are owned traditionally by the local people, hence site designation for a wetland area with no special conservation status requires alot of resources and efforts such as intensive awareness campaigns.**

If **Yes**, please provide details. **Not applicable**

AND: Are there plans for further such designations? **No**

If **No**, why not? **There are no plans at this stage. However, considerations can be made in**

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| the future for special cases. |
| If Yes, please elaborate. Not applicable |
| Proposed national actions and targets: None at this stage |
| Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Environment and Conservation |

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| <p>6.2.5 Consider as a matter of priority the designation of transfrontier wetland sites. [CPs]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The issue of transfrontier or shared wetlands is addressed in the <i>Guidelines for international cooperation under the Ramsar Convention (COP7 Resolution VII.19)</i> and the <i>Guidelines for integrating wetlands into river basin management (COP7 Resolution VII.18)</i>. Global Target - By COP8, for there to be over 50 transfrontier wetland sites designated under the Convention. |
| For those CPs which ‘share’ wetlands with other CPs, have all suitable sites been designated under the Convention? No |
| If No, what has prevented this action being taken? Not all suitable sites generally, due to lack of capacity and funding . |
| If Yes, are there arrangements in place between the CPs sharing the wetland for the cooperative management of the site? Yes |
| If No, what has prevented such arrangements from being introduced? Not applicable. |
| Proposed national actions and targets: Signing of an MOU between the Australia, Indonesia and PNG on the Cooperation and Capacity Building for the enhanced management of the Tri-National Wetlands Program Of Wasur National Park in Indonesia, Kakadu National Park in Australia and Tonda Wildlife Management Area in Papua New Guinea. |
| Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Environment and Conservation, Department of Foreign Affairs |

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GENERAL OBJECTIVE 7

TO PROMOTE INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND MOBILIZE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR WETLAND CONSERVATION AND WISE USE IN COLLABORATION WITH OTHER CONVENTIONS AND AGENCIES, BOTH GOVERNMENTAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL

Operational Objective 7.1: To identify international and/or regional needs for managing shared wetlands and shared catchments, and develop and implement common approaches.

| Actions - Global and National Targets |
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| <p>7.1.1 Identify transfrontier wetlands of international importance (including those within shared catchment/river basins), and encourage preparation and implementation of joint plans for such sites, using a “catchment approach” (Recommendation 5.3). [CPs, Partners]</p> <p>Refer to 6.2.5 above.</p> |
| <p>7.1.2 Encourage twinning of transfrontier wetlands, and of other wetlands with similar characteristics, and use successful cases for illustrating the benefits of international cooperation. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Both the <i>Guidelines for international cooperation under the Ramsar Convention (COP7 Resolution VII.19)</i> and the <i>Convention’s Outreach Programme (COP7 Resolution VII.9)</i> promote site twinning as a mechanism for accelerating the flow of knowledge and assistance and promoting training opportunities. Global Target - By COP8 to have in place over 100 Ramsar site twinning arrangements. The Bureau will keep a record of which sites are twinned and make this available through the Convention’s Web site. |
| Does your country have Ramsar sites twinned with those in other CPs? Yes |
| If No, what has prevented this from happening? Not applicable. |
| If Yes, please note how many such twinning arrangements are in place and indicate which sites are involved. One twinning arrangement with Wasur National Park in Indonesia and Kakadu National Park in Australia. |
| AND: Do these arrangements involve: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> sharing of information resources? Yes transfer of financial resources? No exchanges of personnel? Yes other activities? Exchange site visits. |
| Proposed national actions and targets: Support the collaborative management of the Sites(Wasur , Tonda and Kakadu) |
| Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Environment and Conservation and WWF |

Operational Objective 7.2: To strengthen and formalize linkages between Ramsar and other international and/or regional environmental conventions and agencies, so as to advance the achievement of shared goals and objectives relating to wetland species or issues.

| Actions - Global and National Targets |
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| 7.2.1 Participate in, or initiate, consultations with related conventions to foster |

information exchange and cooperation, and develop an agenda for potential joint actions. [SC, Bureau]

- **Global Target - A Joint Work Plan between the Ramsar Convention and the Convention to Combat Desertification which encourages cooperative implementation of both at the international, national and local levels.**

Refer also to 4.2.1. Does there exist a mechanism (such as an inter-ministry committee) at the national level with the charter of coordinating/integrating the implementation of international/regional conventions/treaties to which your country is a signatory? **No**

If **No**, what are the impediments to such a mechanism being introduced? **Lack of capacity.**

If **Yes**, describe the mechanism and the conventions/treaties it is expected to consider. **Not applicable**

AND: Has the mechanism proven to be effective? **No Reply**

If **No**, why not? **Not applicable**

If **Yes**, please elaborate. **Not applicable**

Proposed national actions and targets: **None at this stage**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Not Applicable**

7.2.2 Prepare project proposals together with other conventions and partner organizations, and submit them jointly to potential funding agencies. [CPs, SC, Bureau, Partners]

For eligible countries, have there been project proposals prepared and submitted to funding agencies which were intended to assist with implementation of the Ramsar Convention? **Yes**

If **No**, what has prevented this from happening? **Not applicable.**

If **Yes**, were such proposals successful in gaining funds? **Yes -**

Proposed national actions and targets: **Continue collaborative arrangement with other partner organisations (WWF, Wetlands International etc)**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Department of Environment and Conservation**

7.2.3 Strengthen cooperation and synergy with the Convention on Biological Diversity, in particular as regards inclusion of wetland concerns in national biodiversity strategies, and planning and execution of projects affecting wetlands. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

- **Global Target - To see the Joint Work Plan implemented in full and resulting in cooperative implementation of both Conventions at the international, national and local levels.**

Further to 7.2.1 above: Has there been a review **completed** of the Joint Work Plan between Ramsar and Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to establish the areas of priority for cooperative implementation of these Conventions? **No**

If **No**, what has prevented such a review being done? **Lack of capacity and funding..**

If **Yes**, what are the areas established as priorities for national cooperation between Ramsar and CBD implementing agencies/focal points? **Not applicable**

Proposed national actions and targets: **None at this stage**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action:
Department of Environment and Conservation

7.2.4 Develop cooperation with the World Heritage Convention and UNESCO's Programme on Man and the Biosphere (MAB), especially as regards wetlands designated as World Heritage sites, Biosphere Reserves and/or Ramsar sites. [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

- **Global Target - A Memorandum of Cooperation with the Man and the Biosphere Programme, leading to Joint Work Plans with the MAB Programme and with the World Heritage Convention which encourages cooperative implementation of both at the international, national and local, levels.**

Refer to 7.2.1 above.

7.2.5 Enhance Ramsar's contribution to international cooperation on shared wetland species, notably through cooperative arrangements with the Convention on Migratory Species, flyway agreements, networks and other mechanisms dealing with migratory species (Recommendation 6.4). [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

- ***The Guidelines for international cooperation under the Ramsar Convention propose an increase in the joint efforts between Ramsar and CMS (COP7 Resolution VII.19)***
- **Global Target - A Joint Work Plan between the Conventions which encourages cooperative implementation of both at the international, regional and national and local levels.**

Refer to 7.2.1 above.

7.2.6 Develop Ramsar's contribution to wildlife trade issues affecting wetlands, through increased interaction with CITES. [Bureau]

- ***The Guidelines for international cooperation under the Ramsar Convention propose an increase in the joint efforts between Ramsar and CITES (COP7 Resolution VII.19)***
- **Global Target - A Memorandum of Cooperation with CITES, leading to a Joint Work Plan between the Conventions which sees cooperative implementation of both at the international, national and local levels.**

Refer to 7.2.1 above

7.2.7 Initiate links with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, in view of the potential impacts on wetlands of climate change. [CP, Bureau]

- **Global Target - A Memorandum of Cooperation with UNFCCC, leading to a Joint Work Plan between the Conventions which encourages cooperative implementation of both at the international, national and local levels.**

Refer to 7.2.1 above.

7.2.8 Extend cooperation with conventions and agencies concerned with conservation and wise use of wetlands at regional level, and in particular: with the European Community, as regards application of its Habitats Directive to wetlands, and adoption and application of measures like the Habitats Directive for wetlands outside the states of the European Union; with the Council of Europe (Bern) Convention on the conservation of European wildlife and natural habitats as regards the Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy; with the Barcelona Convention and Mediterranean Action Plan in relation to the MedWet initiative; with the Western Hemisphere Convention; with UNEP programmes, in particular the Regional Seas Conventions; and with the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP). [CPs, Bureau]

- **Global Target - With the European Commission and SPREP, develop and sign a Memorandum of Cooperation and prepare and implement a Joint Work Plan. For Medwet, secure the long-term funding base for this important initiative and continue to develop new programmes of regional action. For the others referred to, and others which are appropriate, develop an appropriate working relationship.**

Refer to 7.2.1 above.

7.2.9 Develop relationships with other specialized agencies that deal with wetland-related issues, such as the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI) and the World Water Council (COP7 Resolution VI.23). [Bureau]

- **Global Target - To progress to closer working relations with these and other relevant initiatives, as appropriate.**

Refer to 7.2.1 above.

Operational Objective 7.3: To ensure that the development assistance community, and multinational corporations, follow improved wetland practices such as the Wise Use Guidelines in developing countries and countries whose economies are in transition.

Actions - Global and National Targets

7.3.2 Work with multilateral and bilateral development agencies and multinational corporations towards a full recognition of wetland values and functions (Recommendation 4.13), and assist them to improve their practices in favor of wetland conservation and wise use taking account of the *Guidelines for Aid Agencies for Improved Conservation and Sustainable Use of Tropical and Sub-Tropical Wetlands*, published by

OECD's Development Assistance Committee (Recommendation 6.16). [Bureau, Partners]

- **Global Target - At the Bureau level, to consider ways and means to increase its ability to work more systematically in this area, so as to increase the level of donor agency support for wetland conservation and wise use activities, and to see an increasing number of multinational corporations adopting voluntary codes of conduct for protecting wetlands.**

While this action is directed at the Bureau principally, CPs also have a role to play in this area; refer to 7.4.2 below with respect to bilateral development agencies. For the multilateral donors: Is your government represented on the governing bodies or scientific advisory bodies of the multilateral donors, or the GEF? **Yes**

If **Yes**, has this person/agency/ministry been briefed on the obligations of your country under the Ramsar Convention, and the relevant expectations raised of each CP by the Strategic Plan and COP decisions? **No**

PNG's Ambassador to the United States and United Nations is the South Pacific Representative to the GEF Council. He is yet to be briefed.

7.3.3 Interact with multilateral development agencies and through bilateral development programmes, to assist developing countries in meeting their Ramsar obligations, and report on actions taken and results achieved (Recommendation 5.5). [CPs]

Refer to 7.4.2 to 7.4.6 below.

Proposed national actions and targets: **None at this stage**

Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: **Department of Environment and Conservation**

Operational Objective 7.4: To obtain funds to fulfil obligations contracted under the Convention, notably for developing countries and countries whose economies are in transition.

Actions - Global and National Targets

7.4.1 Allocate funds for conservation and wise use of wetlands in the budget of each Contracting Party. [CPs]

- **Global Target - By COP8, to see allocations for wetlands made by all CPs and also for specific wetland programmes in more than 40 CPs.**

Does your government allocate funds for wetland conservation and wise use activities? **Yes**

If **No**, what are the impediments to this happening? **Not applicable.**

If **Yes**, is this:

- As a separate allocation to a Wetlands Programme (or similar)? **No**

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As part of a broader allocation for the environment? Yes As part of the programmes maintained by a range of Ministries? No |
| AND: What mechanisms are in place for determining priorities and coordinating the expenditure of these funds? Not applicable. |
| Is it linked to a National Wetland Policy, Biodiversity Plan, Catchment Plan or something similar? No Reply Not applicable |
| Proposed national actions and targets: None at this stage |
| Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Environment and Conservation |

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| <p>7.4.2 Include projects for conservation and wise use of wetlands in development plans funded by development assistance agencies, and ensure the latter consult the Ramsar administrative authority in each Contracting Party. [CPs]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Target - To see this trend continue such that all eligible CPs are receiving donor support for a range of major wetland-related projects by the time of COP8. In particular, to see this support being provided, as appropriate, for the priority areas of policy development, legal and institutional reviews, inventory and assessments, the designation and management of Ramsar sites, training and communications. |
| If your country has a bilateral development assistance programme, does it allocate funds for wetland-related projects on a regular basis? No |
| If No , what are the impediments to this occurring? Lack of capacity to work on proposals to seek assistance from such programs for wetland related projects. |
| If Yes , are these projects subjected to rigorous impact assessment procedures, which take account of the full environmental, social and economic values of wetlands? No Reply |
| If No , why not? Not applicable. |
| If Yes , is the Ramsar Administrative Authority consulted during the screening and assessment phases of the projects? No Reply |
| If No , why not? Not applicable. |
| AND: Is there a formal consultative process in place (such as a National Ramsar Committee) which ensures that the development assistance agency is fully aware of the Ramsar Convention obligations of the country with respect to international cooperation? No Reply |
| If No , why not? Not applicable |
| If Yes , please elaborate. Not applicable |
| Proposed national actions and targets: None at this stage |
| Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: |

Department of Environment and Conservation

7.4.4 Mobilize direct funding support from multilateral and bilateral development assistance agencies to assist developing countries and countries whose economy is in transition, in the conservation and wise use of wetlands and in implementation of the present Strategic Plan. [CPs. Bureau]

- **Global Target - By COP8 for all the bilateral donors from appropriate CPs to have funds earmarked for wetland projects, and for all of these CPs to have in place mechanisms for consultation between the development assistance agency and their Ramsar Administrative Authority.**

Refer to 7.4.2 above

**GENERAL OBJECTIVE 8
TO PROVIDE THE CONVENTION WITH THE REQUIRED INSTITUTIONAL
MECHANISMS AND RESOURCES**

Operational Objective 8.1: To maximize achievement of Ramsar’s mission and objectives by evaluating and, if necessary, modifying the Convention’s institutions and management structures.

Actions - Global and National Targets

8.1.9 Promote the establishment of National Ramsar Committees to provide the opportunity for input from, and representation of, governmental and non-governmental organizations, key stakeholders, indigenous people, the private sector and interest groups, and land use planning and management authorities (Recommendation 5.13). [CPs, Bureau, Partners]

Refer to 4.1.2.

8.1.10 Review the designated national focal point in each Contracting Party, with a view to increasing involvement in the work of the Convention from all agencies concerned with the conservation and wise use of wetlands. [CPs]

Refer to 4.1.1

Operational Objective 8.2: To provide the financial resources required to carry out Ramsar activities.

Actions - Global and National Targets

8.2.1 Pay invoiced contributions to the Convention’s core budget in full, and promptly at the beginning of each calendar year. [CPs]

- **Global Target - During this triennium to achieve full and timely payment of all**

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| dues by all CPs. The SC to prepare a proposal on sanctions for non-payment for consideration at COP8 (COP7 Resolution VII.28). |
| Is your country completely up to date with its annual contributions to the core budget of the Convention? Yes |
| If No , what is the impediment to this being done? Not applicable. |
| Proposed national actions and targets: Payment of annual contributions the the Convention's core budget. |
| Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Environment and Conservation |

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| 8.2.4 Give priority to funding for training programmes, education and public awareness work, development of the Ramsar Database, and the Convention's Communications Strategy. [CPs, Bureau, Partners] |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Target - To secure the resources needed to establish regional training initiatives (like <i>Wetlands for the Future</i>) in other regions, to allow the Bureau to progress the implementation of the Outreach Programme, and to support the proposed developments for the Ramsar Sites Database into a fully online and Web-based promotional and planning tool of the Convention. |
| Refer to 3.3.1 (Convention Outreach Programme), 4.2.4 (Wetlands for the Future). |

Operational Objective 8.3: To maximize the benefits of working with partner organizations.

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| Actions - Global and National Targets |
| 8.3.1 Strengthen cooperative planning mechanisms with the partners and improve communications and information exchange, including exchange of staff. [CPs, Bureau, Partners] |
| Refer to 3.2.1 and 4.1.2. Does your country include representatives of the Convention's official International Organisation Partners (BirdLife International, IUCN, WWF, Wetlands International) on its National Ramsar Committees or similar bodies, where they exist? No |
| If No , what prevents this from occurring? The Wetlands Committee is newly established and has been operating closely with Wetlands International (Oceania). |
| Proposed national actions and targets: A Draft MOU for collaboration between Wetlands International (Oceania) and Department of Environment and Conservation |
| Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Environment and Conservation |

Operational Objective 8.4: To secure at least one million US dollars per annum for the Ramsar Small Grants Fund for Wetlands Conservation and Wise Use (Resolutions 5.8 and VI.6) and to allocate these funds effectively.

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| Actions - Global and National Targets |
| 8.4.1 Develop a strategy for securing at least one million US dollars annually for the Ramsar Small Grants Fund, to be approved by the first full meeting of the Standing Committee after the 6th COP (1996) and proceed immediately to its implementation. [Bureau, SC, CPs, Partners] |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Target - To establish a mechanism to ensure one million US dollars annually for the Ramsar Small Grants Fund (COP7 Resolution VII.28). |
| Refer also to 8.2.4. For developed countries, do you provide additional voluntary contributions to support the Small Grants Fund? No |
| If No , what prevents this from happening? Due to lack of funding . |
| If Yes , is an irregular or regular voluntary contribution? Not applicable |
| Proposed national actions and targets: None at this stage |
| Ministry, agency/department, or organization responsible for leading on this action: Department of Environment and Conservation |
