

**Inputs from the Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands to the follow-up to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 of the CBD**  
(response to notification 2017-052)

**1) How do you see the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands engage in the discussions on the follow-up to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity beyond 2020?**

In first instance we would like to draw attention to the 4<sup>th</sup> Strategic Plan of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, adopted by the Parties at COP12 in June 2015, which covers the period 2016-2024. It addresses 4 goals:

- Addressing drivers of wetland loss and degradation
- Conserving and managing the Ramsar Site network
- Wise use of wetlands
- Effective implementation

To ensure appropriate alignment of the work of our Conventions we consider it very important to participate in the process of planning with the CBD beyond 2020 keeping in mind the joint work plan between CBD and Ramsar Convention. This is particularly important because the Parties to the Ramsar Convention decided at COP12 to undertake a review of the 4<sup>th</sup> Strategic Plan at COP14 and to establish the modalities and the scope at COP13 taking into account *inter alia* the outcomes of:

-the discussions of the Post-2015 Sustainable Development agenda and Sustainable Development Goals.

-the work of IPBES

- and the coordination needs with regard to the review of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020

The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands welcomes the opportunity to participate in the global or regional workshops or other mechanisms under the CBD to plan the follow up to the strategic plan for Biodiversity beyond 2020.

**Which elements of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 do you consider particularly useful for your Convention process and what has been missing?**

The Ramsar Strategic Plan is fully aligned with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 under the CBD. This alignment is useful or important for Parties reporting under both Conventions but also for reporting on achievement of the SDGs.

Through CBD decision III/21 the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands has a lead role for wetlands for the CBD and we have a corresponding CBD-Ramsar Memorandum of Cooperation (2011). But the conservation, sustainable and wise use of biodiversity of wetlands are missing from the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity.

There may also be elements of the Joint Work Programme (2011-2020) that should be captured in the revision of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and we look forward to working with the CBD Secretariat to review the Work Programme with this in mind.