

Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar, Iran, 1971)
 6th Meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group on
 Administrative Reform
 Geneva, Switzerland, 28 May 2010

DRAFT

**List of issues identified by the Ad Hoc Working Group on Administrative Reform
 at its sixth meeting under Decision SC41-4(1) to be addressed by UNEP**

SC41-4(1)	Issues identified by the WG
A. Further options for reducing the costs of a UNEP-administered Ramsar Secretariat	1. Provide cost scenarios under a UNEP-administered Convention. 2. State the contributions of each Party under the UNEP option.
B. Transition arrangements	1. Clarify the costs which UNEP foresees as practicable costs and how it impacts on the Ramsar Secretariat's budget.
C. Timing and a timeline for implementation	1. Provide a possible timeframe for the provision of the Ramsar Secretariat by UNEP.
D. The best possible staff arrangements	1. Provide information on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. the situation of staff about to go on retirement; b. the situation of the present interns and the internship programme as a whole, and c. whether the Secretariat's staff members would have to apply for their positions. 2. Review the job classifications already undertaken by UNEP based on the positions and job descriptions of the Ramsar Secretariat. For example, the number of P5s under the UNEP job classification appears to be inconsistent with the practice under other MEAs. 3. Provide staff cost scenarios comparing the present situation and a UNEP-administered Convention.
E. The added benefits to the Convention	1. What are the added benefits of a UNEP-administered Convention vis-à-vis the present situation of the Ramsar Convention? 2. What are the benefits to Parties should the Ramsar Secretariat be administered by UNEP in terms of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. financing for capacity building and cooperation projects; b. civil society and private sector participation; c. regional initiatives, and d. institutional strengthening.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none">3. Provide information on the obligations that could arise as a result of transfer of funds.4. How quickly can a programme or project receive funding, comparing the Ramsar Convention practice under IUCN and a UNEP-administered Convention?5. How will the move facilitate the efficient working of the Ramsar Secretariat and its impact on staff?6. How would the Ramsar Convention under UNEP be affected in terms of:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. access to funding;b. management of data between the different wetland organisations;c. facilitate the developmental linkages between the regional offices of UNEP;d. facilitate collaboration of wetlands within the UNEP regions, ande. promote regional initiatives.7. What would be the legal status of the Ramsar Convention as a UNEP-administered Convention?
--	--