

World Wetland Network

MINUTES

February 15th / 16th 2011

**February 15th - 15.00hrs US / 15.00 hrs Costa Rica / 21.00hrs UK / 21.00hrs Gambia
(220) 7748234 or 9946991 / 22.00hrs Netherlands / 23.00hrs Romania +40722459119 /
February 16th - 6.00hrs Japan / 7.00hrs Australia**

Participants:

Chris Rostron (Chair)
Minoru Kashiwagi (Asia Rep)
Cassie Price (Oceania Rep)
Peter Lengyel (Co-chair and Europe
Rep) +40 722 459 119
Melissa Marin (Neotropics Rep)

Apologies:

Katie Beilfuss (outgoing North America
Rep)
Esteban Biamonte (Secretary)
Baboucarr Mbye (Africa Rep)
Luc Hoogenstein (Technical support)
Julie Langenberg, ICF (North America
Rep)

1. World Wetland Awards

CR has submitted final reports to the Fundacion Biodiversidad.

Next steps with the FB. The Biodiversity Foundation opens the 2011 call proposal. The deadline is 31 August 2011. The main areas are Biodiversity, Climate Change and Sustainable Development. This year they have a total budget of 40% less than last year. To submit a new proposal we must have the positive evaluation of all the I Globes final reports that we presented to the BF. <http://www.fundacion-biodiversidad.es/inicio/convocatoria-ayudas/ayudas/114251>

Ideas for the current call for bids

1. Submit a second edition of the Globes (with less budget because we already have the web and improving the methodology)
2. Submit a proposal to strengthen the role of the NGO and local communities working in the wetlands that won the Green and Blue Globes (as a continuity of the First Globes).
3. The two previous points (for this, we must find economic support from other international cooperation institution, to present it as a matching funds). CP agreed that regional match funding would be appropriate for this.

2. WWN development

Regional project proposal between Africa and Neotropics – MM and BM are following this up. At the Mexican Ramsar celebration MM established several contacts with NGO, mangrove experts and Contracting Parties from the Americas and also with the US Fish and Wildlife Service representative. She also introduced some ideas for the WWN regional project on mangroves in a presentation. In general there is a very high regional interest to support this initiative. There will be a meeting in Ecuador on June to talk only about mangrove and Ramsar Convention, and how to support the

regional initiatives on that. MM will be there, and our project could be one of the most important items in the agenda.

But we need to work on that immediately (Fish and Wild Life Service of the USA and the Spanish International Cooperation Agency are maybe two of the most interesting priorities for funding right now). **MM will take a lead on this with BM.**

Planning meeting in Spain. MM had brief discussion with María José Viñals who mentioned a similar volunteering project in wetlands as preparatory activity for the COP11. She also remembered the face to face meeting and said that this idea is still going (positive news). MM and MJV agreed to meet in 15 days.

Sub representatives – CR invited Gidon Bromberg, Middle East FOEME. Job description done and can be used by any of us to invite sub-regional representatives. **CR to send suggestions to CP regarding Oceania sub-reps.** MK looking at inviting someone from ROK and someone from South East Asia. PL will attend meetings in Poland and Germany for wetlands projects, and will look for other sub-reps.

Website development update from Costa Rica? EB has not communicated about the Web Master, but hopefully will attend the next meeting.

3. Constituting WWN

CR has not yet had internal discussions with WWT about this, but hopes to complete these shortly. More at the next meeting.

4. Ramsar and COP11

Meeting in Spain as first stage of preparation, June / July 2011. We urgently need a time to prioritize actions. MM to talk to FB.

Romania March 2012, Danube Delta. Need to think on how many people we are expecting to be in this meeting, and how many of them we have to finance. **PL will check with the Ministry about preparations for the Ramsar COP.**

What the IOP's are doing for the meeting and is there something we could cooperate on. CR is talking to Wetlands International, IUCN and WWF. LH talking to BirdLife international.

How we can create a forum for smaller NGO's that supports them before and during the COP? And how we can source funding to support NGO participation both locally and internationally.

Meeting with Ramsar – still awaiting response from Nick Davidson

5. AOB and date / time of next meeting

14th / 15th March at usual times.

CR said that we need to highlight the activity of the WWN – currently, members do not receive any regular updates and this means that they probably think that WWN is inactive. **All to make efforts to send updates on the listserv. CR to create new distribution lists from the WWN globe participants.**

Actions:

Task	Leader
Regional project Neotropics and Africa	MM / BM
Face to face meeting in Spain	MM / CR
Face to face meeting in Rumania	PL / CR / MM
Second edition of the Wetlands Globes	MM / CR / CP
Dinamization of the web, communication and membership	LH? EB?
NGO Conference COP11 Rumania	PL / CR / MK