

## World Wetland Network

### MINUTES

April 5<sup>th</sup> / 6<sup>th</sup> 2011

April 5<sup>th</sup> - 15.00hrs US / 15.00 hrs Costa Rica / 21.00hrs UK / 20.00hrs Gambia  
(220) 7748234 or 9946991 / 22.00hrs Netherlands / 23.00hrs Romania +40722459119

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April 6<sup>th</sup> - 5.00hrs Japan / 6.00hrs Australia

#### Participants:

Chris Rostron (Chair)  
Minoru Kashiwagi (Asia Rep)  
Peter Lengyel (Co-chair and Europe  
Rep) +40 722 459 119  
Melissa Marin (Neotropics Rep)  
Julie Langenberg, ICF (North America  
Rep)

#### Apologies:

Cassie Price (Oceania Rep)  
Esteban Biamonte (Secretary)  
Baboucarr Mbye (Africa Rep)  
Luc Hoogenstein (Technical support)

#### 1. Matters arising from last meeting

BM and MM developing mangrove regional project. CR had sent PL the list of members, but it has not arrived. **CR to resend list of members for PL to add to the list serve.** CR met with FoEME directors who were in London recently. Very keen to act as sub-representatives, and useful to discuss the model that Friends of the Earth works under (loose network of organisations, with minimal control from a central office, but following similar ways of working).

#### 2. World Wetland Awards

We need to launch the next round of the Globes by July or August. In order to do this, we should make some changes including:

- Make it easier to register, just using e-mail address
- Simplify the voting by using just Blue and Grey Globes, which could also use 'good' and 'bad' symbols to help voting for those not speaking English, French or Spanish.
- Create a new process to designate a Wetland Restoration Award, which will replace the Green Globe.

All agreed that these changes were needed. **CR to get a price for doing this from current web provider.** We can discuss the possibility of the Costa Rican webmaster taking this on when we put the next bid in.

#### 3. WWN development

Central to this is the implementation of a strong sub-regional network, which has started with Friends of the Earth Middle East taking on West Asia, and is in process elsewhere. We need to get a good coverage of reps in order to publicise the globes and get meaningful results, but also to invigorate the network as a whole. Suggestion that each region holds its own skype meetings that will follow a similar format, and then get reported back to the committee. **All to develop networks and hold meetings. CR to put format together for these meetings.**

**CR and KM to hold skype meeting with FoEME.** KM has contacted Korean colleagues, but no response yet.

4. Ramsar and COP11

CR and MM had useful meeting with Ramsar in Switzerland, and discussed how Ramsar and WWN work together. Resolutions will be decided by October 2011 at Standing Committee 43, and at the point we can start working to get WWN members to comment and feed in. There will be an NGO room at the conference venue, and it is possible that we can have it two days in advance of the COP start date (19<sup>th</sup> June 2012) to prepare. Only holds 50 people, so will have to be careful in choosing who attends. We aim to include some of the costs for this in the bid to the Fundacion Biodiversidad.

Valencia. Planning a pre-meet for July / August, and we will need to find funding for this. **MM to discuss this further with Spanish National Wetland Centre** and feedback next time. MM is working on helping MJV to run volunteer engagement meetings, and there is the possibility of support to run our WWN meeting.

For the Globes, it could be useful to bring some of the first winners along to present the prize to the next round of winners (this would work particularly for the Danube Delta case study, as it is in the host country).

5. Communication and membership

**PL will add names to the listserve. CR will start using ‘mailchimp’**, an e-mail distribution management tool.

6. AOB and date / time of next meeting

11<sup>th</sup> /12<sup>th</sup> May at the same times.

Actions:

Task	Detail	Leader
Regional project Neotropics and Africa	Produce project description of work between Africa and Neotropics. Ensure link to Africa / Neotrops reps at Ramsar	MM / BM
Face to face meeting in Spain	Work with Maria Jose Vinals to arrange accommodation and food. Fund-raise centrally or locally to support tickets.	MM / CR / PL
Face to face meeting in Rumania / NGO Conference / COP11	Find funds to support NGO attendance. Prepare guidance for NGOs on COP and process. Arrange engagement of NGOs in resolutions. Arrange preparatory work with NGOs in Romania. Create links to Contracting party in Romania. Coordinate work with other IOPs and with Ramsar Secretariat.	PL / CR / MM
Second edition of the Wetlands Globes	Re-launch globes with updated website. Incorporate in funding bid to FB. Find match funding. Manage process to involve winners from 2010 and 2012.	MM / CR / CP
Dinamization of the	Re-examine what the website can offer and make	LH / EB

web, communication and membership	it more user friendly. Explore option for new web master to manage the site. Make the list-serve more active. Develop the sub-regional representative network, with named members and regional meetings of sub-reps.	
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