



**MedWet**

L'initiative pour les zones humides méditerranéennes  
The Mediterranean Wetlands Initiative  
مبادرة المناطق الرطبة المتوسطية

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## **MedWet/Com 12**

**Palais de la Porte Dorée, Paris (France), 7 – 11 February 2016**

### **Item 7 - Terms of Reference for the MedWet Scientific and Technical Network (MedWet STN)**

#### **I. Objectives**

- I. The objectives of the MedWet Scientific and Technical Network (MedWet/STN) are:
  - a) to provide scientific and technical support:
    - to the MedWet members concerning their policies and actions related to wetlands conservation and sustainable use;
    - to the MedWet-sponsored projects; and
    - to the MedWet partners in their activities related to wetlands conservation and sustainable use;
  - b) to encourage to establishment of scientific and technical networks working on wetland-related issues in each MedWet country, in the form of National Wetlands Observatories or other appropriate arrangements; and
  - c) to provide inputs from a Mediterranean perspective to the work of the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP) of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands.

#### **II. Fields of action**

2. The MedWet STN will work through Specialist Groups in the key areas where there is a need to improve the knowledge and managerial capacity related to wetlands conservation and sustainable use.
3. The Specialist Groups are established by the Mediterranean Wetlands Committee (MedWet/Com) at the recommendation of the Chair of the MedWet/STN. Initially, the MedWet/STN will operate with the following Specialist Groups [to be confirmed] :

- a) MedWet/STN Specialist Group in Wetlands Inventory (MedWet/ST/Inventories);
- b) MedWet/STN Specialist Group in Monitoring and Assessment of Wetlands Biodiversity (MedWet/ST/Biodiversity);
- c) MedWet/STN Specialist Group in Wetlands Ecosystem Services (MedWet/ST/Eco-services);
- d) MedWet/STN Specialist Group in Hydrological Cycle Integrity (MedWet/ST/Water); and
- e) MedWet/STN Specialist Group in Climate Change (MedWet/ST/Climate).

### **III. Modus operandi**

- 4. The MedWet/STN will be chaired by the Coordinator of the Mediterranean Wetlands Observatory (MWO), established in 2008 by the Research Centre on Mediterranean Wetlands of La Tour du Valat at the request of the MedWet/Com.
- 5. The MWO will manage the MedWet/STN in close cooperation with the MedWet Secretariat, through a staff member specifically recruited for this task and financed through the MedWet budget.
- 6. Membership in the Specialist Groups will be open to scientists and technicians of recognized competence in their fields, primarily from the Mediterranean region but potentially from other parts of the world as well.
- 7. They will join the Specialist Group(s) at the invitation of the Chair of the MedWet/STN and will serve as members of the Specialist Group(s) in their personal capacities.
- 8. The Chair of the MedWet/STN may receive proposals for membership in the Specialist Groups from the members of the MedWet/Com and from other MedWet partners.
- 9. The STRP Focal Points in the MedWet countries will be invited to join one or more (maximum two) of the Specialist Groups of their preference.
- 10. The Chair will do his/her utmost to ensure the geographical, cultural and gender balance in the composition of each Specialist Group.
- 11. The number of members in each Specialist Group will be sufficient for an effective functioning of each group and its management.
- 12. Each Specialist Group will be chaired by one of its members designated by the MedWet/Com on the recommendation of the Chair of the MedWet/STN.
- 13. The Chairs of each Specialist Group will serve for a term of three years, renewable for another period of three years.

14. Each Specialist Group should prepare a triennial work plan to be submitted to the Chair of the MedWet/STN, who in turn should submit it for the approval of the MedWet/Com.
15. The Chair of the MedWet/STN, in cooperation with the MedWet Secretariat, may seek funding for the work of the Specialist Groups. Each Specialist Group may also seek its own funding, with the previous and written approval of the Chair of the MedWet/STN.
16. The Chair of the MedWet/STN, the Chairs of the Specialist Groups, and the MedWet Coordinator shall constitute the Management Team of the MedWet/STN.
17. The Management Team will work mostly through electronic communications, holding face to face meetings when opportunities arise and resources become available.
18. The Management Team may develop its own Rules of Procedure, as necessary and appropriate.