GLOBAL WATERBIRD ESTIMATES PARTNERSHIP – Steering Committee membership for 2026-2028 (fixed term membership)

Date: 29 October 2026

Subject: Call for nominations for period-selected membership of the GWEP Steering Committee

Dear Partner or Collaborator (organisation or individual expert),

The Global Waterbird Estimates Partnership (GWEP) (hereafter 'the Partnership') requests nominations to fill up to four available fixed term positions on the GWEP Steering Committee, covering the period 2026-2028, to support the preparation and delivery of the 2027 edition of Waterbird Population Estimates (WPE 2027) and develop plans to facilitate delivery of future WPE editions. Nominations can be received from Contracting Parties, International Organisation Partners, representatives of relevant multilateral environmental agreements, flyway agreements and partnerships, or other related processes, and individual experts with relevant waterbird knowledge and experience.

Background and role of the Steering Committee

The Partnership was established by the 15th Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Wetlands through Resolution XV.11. It provides the long-term framework for coordinating scientifically robust, standardised and accessible waterbird population estimates, while strengthening cooperation, capacity and sustainable financing across regions and flyways.

The Steering Committee oversees, manages and represents GWEP. It provides strategic direction and key decisions; develops the Partnership work plan and budget; supports resource mobilisation; will oversee WPE 2027 and the planning for future editions; and reports progress to the Standing Committee of the Convention on Wetlands. Further details about the Partnership and the role of the Steering Committee are available in the Terms of Reference in Annex 1 of Standing Committee 67 Doc.21 Rev.1 'Update on the Global Waterbird Estimates Partnership (GWEP)'.

Expected contribution of a fixed term member

- Have the capacity and organisational authority to contribute actively to strategic and operational decisions of the GWEP Steering Committee and Partnership.
- Act impartially and in the best interests of the Convention on Wetlands, other related multilateral environmental agreements and processes, and the GWEP Partners and Collaborators.
- Participate actively in at least two online/hybrid Steering Committee meetings each year and engage between meetings as needed.
- Contribute relevant waterbird knowledge, strategic or delivery capacity, geographic reach, and support for implementation and resource mobilisation.
- Engage with GWEP Partners and Collaborators, other data providers and users, and contribute to the work plan, budget and oversight of WPE 2027 and develop plans to facilitate delivery of future WPE editions.

- Commit, as far as possible, for the full WPE 2027 period and declare any potential conflicts of interest.
- Participate in GWEP activities in a pro bono capacity as a valuable contribution to this global conservation initiative.

Nomination and selection

Please submit the principal nominee's name, position and contact details, together with a brief statement (maximum 300 words) describing their relevant expertise, expected contribution and authority to represent the organisation. Please provide contact details of an alternate nominee. Nominations should be sent to gwep@wetlands.org by 20 November 2026.

Permanent Steering Committee members will review the nominations as set out in the GWEP Terms of Reference. The final selection will seek an appropriate balance of knowledge, skills, geographic representation and inclusivity, in accordance with the GWEP Terms of Reference. Steering Committee membership is subject to periodic review to ensure that participation remains fit-for-purpose, supports effective implementation, and reflects the expertise and geographic reach required to deliver GWEP objectives

We would welcome your organisation's nomination and its contribution to the effective governance and delivery of the GWEP and WPE 2027.

Yours sincerely,

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GWEP Secretariat, hosted by Wetlands International