

## **4th Roundtable of Wetland City Mayors**

Tata, Hungary  
27-29 November 2025

### **Summary Report**

#### **1. Introduction**

Wetland Cities of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands provide a huge potential to promote the conservation and wise use of urban and peri-urban wetlands in support of the Ramsar Strategic Plan. To date, 74 local governments from 27 countries are globally recognized as Wetland Cities. The establishment of the Wetland City Network aims to contribute to the implementation of the Convention on Wetlands through collective efforts of local governments and communities.

The Wetland City Network will serve as a platform that enables effective communication among Wetland Cities, and promotes information exchange on experiences and lessons learned in managing urban and peri-urban wetlands. It will also facilitate dialogues to develop environmental and socio-economic cooperation among Wetland Cities, and provide access to exchanges of resources among network members. The Ramsar Regional Center – East Asia (RRC-EA) serves as Secretariat of the Wetland City Network.

The Roundtable of Wetland City Mayors allows Wetland City Network members to meet annually and support the fulfillment of the Wetland City Network's objectives. The first three roundtables were held in Suncheon (Republic of Korea), Amiens (France) and Dongying (China). The 4th roundtable took place this year in Hungary, hosted by the Wetland City of Tata in cooperation with the Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture and the RRC-EA.

#### **2. Objectives**

The 4th Roundtable of Wetland City Mayors provided a venue for Wetland Cities to:

- establish and strengthen communication channels among Wetland Cities;
- share and exchange information about experiences in managing urban and peri-urban wetlands with respect to local policies and regulations;
- facilitate dialogues to promote and develop socio-economic and environmental cooperation among Wetland Cities;
- invite and welcome new Wetland Cities to the Wetland City Network;
- introduce the Wetland City Accreditation scheme and the Wetland City Network to potential Wetland Cities; and
- involve International Organization Partners (IOPs) and other wetland stakeholders in activities of the Wetland City Network.

#### **3. Participants**

More than 100 representatives of Wetland Cities, national and local government offices, international and national non-government organizations, academic institutions, and wetland stakeholders participated in the event. These included the mayors, vice mayors and officials of 18 Wetland Cities from nine countries in Asia, Europe, and Latin America and the Caribbean. The list of participants is attached as Annex 1.

#### 4. Dates and venues

The three-day event was held on 27-29 November 2025 in Tata, Hungary. Indoor sessions and field visits were organized in several venues in Tata: Güntner Arena, Old Lake Golf Club and Hotel, Magyar Ház, Hotel Gottwald, Kristály Imperial Hotel, Town Hall of Tata, Calvary Hill, Kossuth Square, and the Old Lake.

#### 5. Meeting structure

The meeting featured one and a half days of ceremonies, technical and policy level discussions, and a one-day field program. The table below shows the general structure of the meeting.

<b>Day 1 27 November 2025 (Thursday)</b>	<b>Day 2 28 November 2025 (Friday)</b>	<b>Day 3 29 November 2025 (Saturday)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Opening program</li><li>• Cultural program and hosted dinner</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Plenary session (keynote and plenary presentations)</li><li>• Breakout sessions</li><li>• Meeting proper</li><li>• Closing program</li><li>• Gala dinner</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Field program</li><li>• Bilateral meetings</li></ul>

#### 6. Program of activities

This section briefly describes specific sessions and activities that transpired during the event. More detailed information can be found in Annex 2.

##### Opening program

The event officially started with messages from the Mayor of Tata, Member of Parliament for the Tata Basin, Deputy Prime Minister of Hungary, Member of the Hungarian National Committee for the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, Deputy Secretary General of the Convention on Wetlands, and RRC-EA Executive Director. The former vice mayor of Tata served as master of ceremonies.

##### Cultural program and hosted dinner

Participants walked to Calvary Hill to observe the arrival of wild geese. Tata City hosted dinner with local cultural performances during the Advent Fair held at the Kossuth Square.

##### Plenary session

A member of the Independent Advisory Committee (IAC) for Wetland City Accreditation delivered the keynote presentation. Plenary speakers included the Deputy State Secretary for Nature Conservation of the Ministry of Agriculture, Deputy State Secretary responsible for the Water Utilities Sector of the Ministry of Energy, and Director General of the National Water Directorate. The Honorary President of Komárom-Esztergom County Branch of BirdLife Hungary, Director of Ramsar France Association, and Member of the Scientific and Technical Review Panel of the Convention on Wetlands also delivered presentations during this session.

### Breakout sessions

Four breakout sessions were organized in various locations in Tata which covered topics on: (1) Promotion and Branding of Wetland Cities, (2) Wetland Education, (3) Public-Private Partnership, and (4) Wetlands and Climate Change. Session Chairs and rapporteurs facilitated the breakout sessions designed to highlight case studies of selected Wetland Cities.

Members of the IAC, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, and Hungarian Ramsar Committee served as session moderators. Officials from the Ministry of Climate, Energy and Environment of the Republic of Korea; Ministry of Agriculture of Hungary; and Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Geneva assumed the same role. Each breakout session included a panel discussion which encouraged interaction with the participants.

### Meeting proper

The meeting proper took place at the Town Hall of Tata, where member Wetland Cities discussed network operations and planned programs, and other related matters as outlined in the meeting agenda. During this policy-level segment of the event, Wetland City Mayors endorsed new guidelines for selecting and hosting roundtables, and confirmed Valdivia (Chile) and Mechelen (Belgium) as hosts of the 6th and 7th Roundtable of Wetland City Mayors, respectively. The agreements made during the meeting are elaborated under Item 8 of this report.

### Closing program

The closing program commenced with the ceremonial passing of flag from the current host of the mayors' roundtable (Tata, Hungary) to the next host (Niigata, Japan). After the ceremony, Niigata City played a promotional video and gave a short message inviting all participants to join the 5th Roundtable of Wetland City Mayors scheduled in November 2026. Tata City delivered the closing remarks to officially conclude the event. The closing program was followed by an international cultural program and gala dinner.

### Field program

Tata City organized the field program to coincide with the 25th Tata Wild Goose Festival– a major nature conservation event in Hungary. The festival helped further raise the profile of Tata as a globally recognized local government. The field program featured speakers from the Secretariat of the Convention on Wetlands, Wetland Cities, and IAC members, who shared their advocacy for the wise use of wetlands through videos and presentations.

### Presentation files and other downloadable media

Copies of presentation files, and photos and videos of the event can be downloaded at the Wetland City Network website, <https://wetlandcity.org/4th-roundtable-of-wetland-city-mayors/>.

## **7. Bilateral meetings**

The Wetland City Network Strategic Plan 2022-2028 encourages stronger cooperation among Wetland Cities. In support of the Strategic Plan and responding to requests from Wetland Cities, the roundtable provided an opportunity for Wetland Cities to interact one-on-one and exchange insights through bilateral meetings during the field program.

The Wetland City Network Secretariat conducted an online survey to seek expressions of interest from Wetland Cities for the bilateral meetings. Part of the survey showed the priority programs of each Wetland City to guide participating Wetland Cities in the selection process.

Based on survey results and direct communications with Wetland Cities, the Wetland City Network Secretariat has arranged bilateral meetings for the following Wetland Cities:

1. Mechelen, Belgium
2. Valdivia, Chile
3. Harbin, China
4. Varzaneh, Iran
5. Niigata, Japan
6. Jeju, Republic of Korea
7. Changnyeong, Republic of Korea
8. Novi Sad, Serbia
9. Geneva, Switzerland

The pairing of Wetland Cities followed the format below:

<b>Wetland City 1 (inviter)</b>	<b>Wetland City 2 (invitee)</b>
Harbin, China	Jeju, Republic of Korea
Harbin, China	Geneva, Switzerland
Jeju, Republic of Korea	Niigata, Japan
Niigata, Japan	Changnyeong, Republic of Korea
Geneva, Switzerland	Mechelen, Belgium
Geneva, Switzerland	Novi Sad, Serbia

## **8. Meeting agreements**

A summary of discussions, including decisions and recommended actions during the meeting proper, is presented below:

<b>Agenda item</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
1. Opening and welcome message	As incumbent Chair of the Wetland City Network, Dongying City (China) delivered the opening remarks and officially started the meeting.
2. Report of the incumbent Chair of the Wetland City Network	Dongying City reported its accomplishments during its tenure as Chair of the Wetland City Network.
3. Election of new Chair of Wetland City Network	Per usual practice, the current host of the Roundtable of Wetland City Mayors automatically serves as Chair of the Wetland City Network. In this regard, Tata City (Hungary) officially assumed chairmanship of the network.
4. Adoption of meeting agenda	The meeting agenda was adopted as originally proposed (Annex 3).
5. Report of the Wetland City Network Secretariat	The Wetland City Network Secretariat informed the members about its contribution to the network and accomplishments for the period, November 2024 – October 2025.

Agenda item	Remarks
6. Draft guidelines for selecting host Wetland Cities	The Wetland City Network Secretariat introduced the draft guidelines for selecting host Wetland Cities for approval by the members. No comments were received from the members. Given this, the members endorsed the Guidelines for selecting host Wetland Cities (Annex 4).
7. Draft guidelines for hosting Roundtables of Wetland City Mayors	The Wetland City Network Secretariat introduced the draft guidelines for hosting Roundtables of Wetland City Mayors for approval by the members. Members raised no objections to the draft and subsequently endorsed the Guidelines for hosting Roundtables of Wetland City Mayors (Annex 5).
8. Other matters	<p>Jeju City (Republic of Korea) recommended involving youth in Wetland City Network activities, including the mayors' roundtable. Additionally, Tata City (Hungary) suggested collecting best practices regarding youth contributions to the wise use of wetlands.</p> <p>The Wetland City Network Secretariat noted the recommendations and will gradually integrate youth into planned network activities and the design of roundtables.</p>
9. Date and venue of 6th and 7th Roundtable of Wetland City Mayors	<p>As agreed during the Dongying meeting, Niigata City (Japan) will host the 5th Roundtable of Wetland City Mayors. Specific meeting dates and venue will be announced later.</p> <p>Mechelen City (Belgium) and Valdivia City (Chile) both offered to host the next roundtable in 2027. Following the Guidelines for selecting host Wetland Cities, Mechelen City and Valdivia City held a consultation to determine the hosting sequence.</p> <p>The Wetland City Network Secretariat facilitated the consultation and reported the agreement reached by the two Wetland Cities: Valdivia City will host the 6th roundtable in 2027, and Mechelen City will host the 7th roundtable in 2028.</p> <p>As discussed also during the consultation, the Wetland City Network Secretariat will assist Mechelen City in organizing a regional event for Wetland Cities in Europe scheduled in 2027.</p> <p>The Wetland City Network Secretariat will liaise with the Wetland Cities of Niigata, Valdivia and Mechelen to support preparations for the succeeding roundtables.</p>
10. Closing message	As the new Chair of the Wetland City Network, Tata City formally adjourned the meeting.

## 9. List of annexes

- 1 – List of participants
- 2 – Program of activities
- 3 – Meeting agenda
- 4 – Guidelines for selecting host Wetland Cities
- 5 – Guidelines for hosting roundtables of Wetland City Mayors

## Annex 1. List of participants

No.	Wetland City / Organization	Name	Position
1	Mechelen, Belgium	Lander Wantens	Head of Projects, Natuurpunt
2	Valdivia, Chile	Camila Marques	Ambassador of Chile to Hungary
3	Valdivia, Chile	Leyla Vasquez	Second Secretary, Embassy of Chile to Hungary
4	Dongying, China	Liang Runsheng	Vice Mayor
5	Dongying, China	Chen Minghai	Director, Dongying Natural Resources and Planning Bureau
6	Dongying, China	Chen Yunlong	Director, Dongying Ecology and Environment Bureau
7	Dongying, China	Zhang Kuibin	Chief Executive, Lijin County Government
8	Dongying, China	Wang Chen	Section Chief (Level 4), Office of Dongying Municipal People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries, Translator
9	Harbin, China	Feng Xin	Vice Mayor
10	Harbin, China	Yu Changan	Deputy Director-General, Harbin Forestry and Grassland Bureau
11	Harbin, China	Xing Guangyou	Director, Wetland and Protected Land Management Division, Harbin Forestry and Grassland Bureau
12	Harbin, China	Kai Li	Division of European and American Affairs, Harbin Foreign Affairs Office
13	Hefei, China	Xie Haitao	Vice Chairman, CPPCC Hefei Municipal Committee
14	Hefei, China	Xu Gaobin	Chairman, CPPCC Feidong County Committee
15	Hefei, China	Fang Changdong	Deputy Director, General Office of CPPCC Hefei Municipal Committee
16	Hefei, China	Yang Xianchun	Level IV Division Rank Official, Foreign Affairs Office, Hefei Municipal People's Government
17	Hefei, China	Gu Yong	Vice Chief, Wetland Management Division, Hefei Municipal Bureau of Forestry and Landscaping
18	Hefei, China	Liu Chen	English Interpreter, Foreign Affairs Office, Hefei Municipal People's Government
19	Liangping, China	Liu Wenyang	Deputy District Chief, Liangping District
20	Liangping, China	Zhou Hongbing	Director, Forestry Bureau of Liangping District
21	Liangping, China	Qi Yong	Director, Planning and Natural Resources Bureau of Liangping District
22	Liangping, China	Zhang Qiang	Deputy Director, Agriculture and Rural Affairs Commission of Liangping District
23	Liangping, China	Tang Hong	Director, Liangping District Wetland Conservation Center
24	Nanchang, China	Jiang Xinhong	Vice Mayor
25	Nanchang, China	Mei Mei	Party Secretary, Nanchang Forestry Bureau Party Committee

<b>No.</b>	<b>Wetland City / Organization</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>
26	Nanchang, China	Gan Yuhong	3rd Level Researcher, Nanchang Municipal People's Government Foreign Affairs Office
27	Nanchang, China	Zou Xinjian	Director, Jiangxi Poyang Lake Nanji Wetland National Nature Reserve Administration Bureau
28	Nanchang, China	Zhong Yulan	Director, Nanchang Wildlife/Wetland Conservation Center
29	Nanchang, China	Fu Zhiqin	Translator
30	Yinchuan, China	Jiang Minhan	Vice Mayor
31	Yinchuan, China	Wang Jiangan	Director, Yinchuan Forestry and Garden Management Bureau
32	Yinchuan, China	Li Xuetao	Director, Yinchuan Wetland Protection Center
33	Varzaneh, Iran	Hamed Akhgar	Mayor
34	Niigata, Japan	Nakahara Yaichi	Mayor
35	Niigata, Japan	Alyssa Marie Williams	Coordinator for International Relations
36	Niigata, Japan	Takahashi Ryo	Section Chief
37	Niigata, Japan	Park Hea Jin	Senior Communications Officer
38	Changnyeong, Republic of Korea	Lee Jae-Yong	Director, Upo Ecological Crested Ibis Department
39	Changnyeong, Republic of Korea	Kim Hee-Rim	Officer, Upo Ecological Crested Ibis Department
40	Changnyeong, Republic of Korea	Kim Cheon-Il	Chairperson, Local Management Committee for Agreement-Certified Wetland City
41	Changnyeong, Republic of Korea	Seong Gi-Soon	Chief Executive Officer, Upo Ecotourism Association
42	Gochang, Republic of Korea	Shim Deokseob	County Mayor
43	Gochang, Republic of Korea	Kwon Sunguk	Executive Assistant to the County Mayor (Gochang County Office)
44	Gochang, Republic of Korea	An Seungmin	Public Relations Officer (Gochang County office)
45	Gochang, Republic of Korea	Lee Miyoung	Branch Manager, Jeonbuk Bank
46	Gochang, Republic of Korea	Kim Younggun	President, Regional Forestry Cooperative
47	Gochang, Republic of Korea	Kim Choong	President, Regional Fisheries Cooperative
48	Gochang, Republic of Korea	Choi Sunpil	Director, World Heritage Division (Gochang County Office)
49	Gochang, Republic of Korea	An Chan	Team Leader, Biosphere Reserve Team (Gochang County Office)
50	Gochang, Republic of Korea	Lee Jinhee	Project Manager (Gochang County Office)
51	Gochang, Republic of Korea	Jung Youngjin	Director, Ramsar Gochang Tidal Flat Center (Gochang County Office)
52	Gochang, Republic of Korea	Na Ome	Secretary General, Gochang Ecotourism Community Social Cooperative
53	Gochang, Republic of Korea	Lee Eunju	Staff Member, Gochang Ecotourism Community Social Cooperative
54	Gochang, Republic of Korea	Kim Choeun	Staff Member, Gochang Ecotourism Community Social Cooperative

No.	Wetland City / Organization	Name	Position
55	Gochang, Republic of Korea	Kim Daewon	Chairperson, Gochang Ecotourism Community Social Cooperative
56	Gochang, Republic of Korea	Cho Jaecheon	Member, Wetland City Regional Management Committee
57	Jeju, Republic of Korea	Kim Wan-Goon	Mayor
58	Jeju, Republic of Korea	Yang Eun-Ok	Team Leader, Green Space Management Team, Parks and Greenery Division
59	Jeju, Republic of Korea	Kim Sung-Soo	Administrator, Jocheon-eup
60	Jeju, Republic of Korea	Ko Hyeong-Jong	Team Leader, Carbon Neutrality Team, Climate and Environment Division
61	Jeju, Republic of Korea	Heo Ha-Ui	Staff Member, Carbon Neutrality Team, Climate and Environment Division
62	Jeju, Republic of Korea	Yu Hwan	Youth representative
63	Jeju, Republic of Korea	Kang Ik-Sang	Chairperson, Regional Management Committee for Agreement-Certified Wetland City
64	Jeju, Republic of Korea	Boo Sang-Cheol	Chairperson, Regional Management Committee for Agreement-Certified Wetland City
65	Jeju, Republic of Korea	Ko Je-Ryang	Member, Regional Management Committee for Agreement-Certified Wetland City
66	Jeju, Republic of Korea	Kim Jeong-Ja	Member, Regional Management Committee for Agreement-Certified Wetland City
67	Mungyeong, Republic of Korea	Shin Hyun-Kook	Mayor
68	Mungyeong, Republic of Korea	Son Jeong-Ah	Leader, Ecological Geology Team
69	Mungyeong, Republic of Korea	Park Chan-Hyun	Officer
70	Mungyeong, Republic of Korea	Lim Jong-Bok	Officer
71	Mungyeong, Republic of Korea	Lee Ho-Jeong	Officer
72	Mungyeong, Republic of Korea	Ryu Hyun-Wook	Officer
73	Mungyeong, Republic of Korea	Seo Seung-Hwan	Officer
74	Mungyeong, Republic of Korea	Kim Go-Eun	Officer
75	Seogwipo, Republic of Korea	Kang Myeong-Gyun	Director, Environmental Protection Bureau
76	Seogwipo, Republic of Korea	Jin Jeong-Lim	Leader, Environment Management Team
77	Seogwipo, Republic of Korea	Kim Jae-Jong	Chairperson, Local Management Committee for Agreement-Certified Wetland City
78	Seogwipo, Republic of Korea	Kim Mi-Gyeong	Chief Executive Officer, Seogwipo Ramsar City consulting company
79	Novi Sad, Serbia	Vanja Petkovic	City Council Member
80	Novi Sad, Serbia	Jelena Moravski	Head of City Administration for Environmental Protection
81	Geneva, Switzerland	Sepideh Nayemi	Head, International Cooperation at Geneva Cantonal Water Office and Ramsar Focal Point for Geneva Canton

<b>No.</b>	<b>Wetland City / Organization</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>
82	Geneva, Switzerland	Gottlieb Dandliker	Conservationist, Co-Author of the Accreditation Report, and former Wildlife Manager of the State of Geneva
83	Sri Songkhram, Thailand	Bunthida Plengsaeng	Director, Water Resources Conservation and Rehabilitation Division, Department of Water Resources, Thailand
84	Ramsar France Association	Bastien Coïc	Director
85	The Mediterranean Wetlands Initiative	Sana Mezoughi	Network Facilitator – MedWet Managers Network
86	Ramsar Convention on Wetlands Secretariat	Jay Aldous	Deputy Secretary General
87	Beijing Forestry University	Lyu Cai	Deputy Director of Center for East Asia-Australasian Flyway Studies & School of Ecology and Nature Conservation
88	Ministry of Environment, Czechia	Libuse Vlasakova	Ministerial Council Member, Department of International Conventions
89	Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva	Amir Akhlaghi	Minister
90	ICLEI	Ingrid Coetzee	Director: Biodiversity, Nature & Health, ICLEI Africa and Global Cities Biodiversity Center
91	Scientific and Technical Review Panel of the Convention on Wetlands	Matthew Simpson	Member
92	The Mediterranean Wetlands Initiative	Chris Rostron	Coordinator
93	University of Vienna, Austria	Gert Michael Steiner	Professor, Department of Botany and Biodiversity Research
94	Ministry of Climate, Energy and Environment, Republic of Korea	Joonwoo Seo	International Cooperation Officer
95	Switzerland	Denis Landenbergue	Independent wetland expert
96	Colombia	Maria Angelica Mejia Pimienta	Independent wetland expert
97	Schrems, Austria	David Süß	Mayor
98	Schrems, Austria	Thomas Kainz	Chief Executive Officer
99	Upo Ecology Education Institute, Republic of Korea	Chung Daesoo	Chief Executive
100	Upo Ecology Education Institute, Republic of Korea	Lee Jongmyung	Teacher
101	Ministry of Climate, Energy and Environment, Republic of Korea	Oh Young Kyun	Deputy Director, Nature and Ecology Policy Division, Nature Conservation Bureau
102	National Institute of Ecology, Republic of Korea	Moon Hokyoung	Researcher



# PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES

**TATA**  
4TH ROUNDTABLE OF WETLAND CITY MAYORS  
27-29 NOVEMBER 2025



**TATAI VADLÚD  
SOKADALOM**

# THURSDAY 27 NOVEMBER

## OPENING CEREMONY, WILD GEESE WATCHING, ADVENT FAIR

### Pick-up time for guests of

**Hotel Kristály, Malom & Kacsá, Hotel Arnold and Ady Apartman:**

11:20 – near Hotel Kristály

**Hotel Kiss:** 11:40 – outside the hotel

**Old Lake Golf Club & Hotel:** 11:20 – outside the hotel

**Hotel Gottwald:** 11:30 – outside the hotel

**Opening Ceremony - Venue:** Güntner Arena - Address: 2 Kókkút köz, Tata H-2890

12:00 – 13:00 Arrival and registration, press interviews

**13:00 – 15:00** Opening Ceremony

Welcome Speeches by:

- **Mr József Michl**, Mayor of Tata
- **Mr János Bencsik**, Prime Ministerial Commissioner responsible for the coordinated development of the Tata Basin's key automotive industrial region, and Member of Parliament for the Tata Basin
- **Dr Zsolt Semjén**, Deputy Prime Minister of Hungary
- **Dr Gábor Magyar**, Member of the Hungarian National Committee for the Ramsar Convention
- **Mr Jay Aldous**, Deputy Secretary General, Ramsar Convention on Wetlands
- **Mr Seung Oh Suh**, Executive Director, Ramsar Regional Centre – East Asia

A group photo of the participants will be taken following the opening ceremony. After the group photo has been taken, the guests will walk to the next venue.

**15:30 – 16:30 Observation of the Arrival of Wild Geese from Calvary Hill**

From Calvary Hill, guests will walk to the city centre for the next event.

**16:30 Advent fair on Kossuth Square (City Centre)**

Featuring local cultural performances and food tastings with sampling tickets.

### Pick-up times for guests of

**Hotel Kiss, Hotel Kristály, Malom & Kacsá, Hotel Arnold and Ady Apartman:**

19:00 – Kossuth Square bus stop

**Old Lake Golf Club & Hotel and Hotel Gottwald:** 19:00 – Kossuth Square bus stop

# FRIDAY 28 NOVEMBER

## PLENARY SESSION, BREAKOUT SESSIONS, MAYORS' ROUNDTABLE

### CLOSING PROGRAMME AND GALA DINNER

#### Pick-up time for guests of

**Hotel Kristály, Malom & Kacska, Hotel Arnold and Ady Apartman:**

8:00 – near Hotel Kristály

**Hotel Kiss:** 8:15 – outside the hotel

**Old Lake Golf Club & Hotel:** 8:00 – outside the hotel

**Hotel Gottwald:** 8:10 – outside the hotel

9:00 – 12:00 Plenary Session

Venue: Güntner Arena, Address: 2 Kőút köz, Tata H-2890

8:30 – 9:00 Arrival and Registration

9:00 – 12:00 Plenary Session

#### Keynote presentation:

9:00-9:30 **Mr. Denis Landenbergue**, Member of the Independent Advisory Committee for the Wetland City Accreditation of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands

#### Presentations:

9:30-10:00 **Mr. Bertalan Balczó**, Deputy State Secretary for Nature Conservation, Ministry of Agriculture:  
*An Introduction to Nature Conservation in Hungary and the National Park System*

10:00-10:30 **Mr. Tamás Rentz**, Deputy State Secretary responsible for the Water Utilities Sector, Ministry of Energy, and  
**Mr. István Láng**, Director General, National Water Directorate:  
*Flood Protection, Water Retention, and Paradigm Shifts in Water Management*

10:30-10:50 Coffee break

10:50-11:10 **Dr László Musicz**, Honorary President of Komárom-Esztergom County Branch of BirdLife Hungary, and **Eszter Aletta Vig**, volunteer: *The Tata Wild Goose Festival*

11:10-11:30 **Mr. Bastien Coïc**, Director, Ramsar France Association:  
*Strengthening the management, conservation and wise use of wetlands in France*

**11:30-11:50** *Dr Matthew Simpson*, Member, Scientific and Technical Review Panel, and Independent Advisory Committee for Wetland City Accreditation of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands; and Director, 35 Percent: *Assessment of the current state of cities and wetlands*

**12:00–12:30** Bus transfer for participants to the venues of the breakout sessions  
Pick-up time: 12:00 – outside Güntner Arena

### **Ramsar 1**

**Wetland and Climate Change + Wetland Education** – drop-off at Hotel Kristály

Lunch for participants of both breakout sessions at Hotel Kristály

After lunch, participants of the **Wetland Education** session walk to their breakout venue – Magyary Ház

### **Ramsar 2**

**Public–Private Partnership** – drop-off at Hotel Gottwald (lunch at the hotel)

**Promotion and Branding of Wetland Cities** – drop-off at Old Lake Golf Club & Hotel (lunch at the hotel)

## **13:30 – 16:00 Breakout Sessions**

### **Breakout session 1: Promotion and Branding of Wetland Cities**

Session Chair: **Ms. Libuše Vlasáková** – Ramsar National Focal Point – Czechia, and Member, Independent Advisory Committee for Wetland City Accreditation of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands

Rapporteur: **Mr. András Schmidt** – Ramsar National Focal Point of Hungary

Presentations by: **Liangping (China), Yinchuan (China), Babol (Iran), Sri Songkhram (Thailand)**

Simultaneous interpretation available in English, Hungarian and Chinese

**Venue:** Old Lake Golf Club & Hotel

**Address:** Remeteségpuszta, Tata H-2890

**Telephone:** +36 34 587 620, **Mobile:** +36 30 747 2703

### **Breakout Session 2: Wetland Education**

Session Chair: **Prof. Dr. H.C. Sándor Faragó** – Corresponding member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Rector Emeritus, University of Sopron, Hungary

Rapporteur: **Mr. Joon-woo SEO** – International Cooperation Officer; International Environmental Agreements and Development Cooperation Team; Ministry of Climate, Energy and Environment; Republic of Korea

Presentations by: **Nanchang (China), Mungyeong (RO Korea), Seogwipo (RO Korea), Upo Institute of Ecology Education (RO Korea)**

Simultaneous interpretation available in English, Hungarian, Chinese and Korean

**Venue:** Magyary Ház

**Address:** 12-14 Ady Endre utca, Tata H-2890, **Mobile:** +36 30 691 0041

### **Breakout Session 3: Public–Private Partnership**

Session Chair: **Dr Gábor Magyar** – Head of Department, Nature Conservation Department, Ministry of Agriculture, Hungary

Rapporteur: **Ms. Zsuzsanna Lánzos** – Nature Conservation Department, Ministry of Agriculture, Hungary

Presentations by: **Valdivia (Chile), Gochang (RO Korea), Jeju (RO Korea)**

Simultaneous interpretation available in English, Hungarian and Korean

**Venue:** Hotel Gottwald

Address: 1 Fekete út, Tata H-2890, Telephone: + 36 34 586 114

### **Breakout Session 4: Wetlands and Climate Change**

Session Chair: **Dr Szilvia Gőri** – member of the Hungarian Ramsar Committee

Rapporteur: **Mr. Amir Akhlaghi** – Minister, Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the UN Office and other international organizations in Geneva

Presentations by: **Mechelen (Belgium), Varzaneh (Iran), Geneva (Switzerland)**

Simultaneous interpretation available in English and Hungarian

**Venue:** Kristály Imperial Hotel

Address: 22 Ady Endre utca, Tata H-2890, Telephone: +36 34 383 614

**16:00–16:30 Bus transfer: delegation leaders to the Mayors' Roundtable venue; afterwards, other participants are dropped at their hotels.**

**Ramsar 1**

**Wetland and Climate Change + Wetland Education** – pick-up at 16:15 near Hotel Kristály

**Ramsar 2**

**Promotion and Branding of Wetland Cities** – pick-up at 16:05 outside Old Lake Golf

**Club & Hotel Public–Private Partnership** – pick-up at 16:15 outside Hotel Gottwald

### **16:30 – 18:30 MAYORS' ROUNDTABLE**

**Venue:** the Town Hall of Tata

Address: 1 Kossuth tér, Tata H-2890, Mobile: +36 30 506 5937

### **Hotel transfers for Mayors' Roundtable participants**

**Ramsar 1**

**Hotel Kristály, Malom & Kacska, Hotel Arnold, and Ady Apartman** – pick-up at 18:40 from the Kossuth Square bus stop

**Ramsar 2**

**Old Lake Golf Club & Hotel and Hotel Gottwald** – pick-up at 18:40 from the Kossuth Square bus stop

## **Bus transfer from the hotels to the venue of the Closing Programme**

19:40 **Hotel Kiss**

20:00 Near Hotel Kristály (serving **Hotel Kristály, Malom & Kacsá, Hotel Arnold, and Ady Apartman**)

20:05 Május 1 bus stop (serving **Dotis Apartman**)  
and

20:20 **Old Lake Golf Club & Hotel** (Minibus)

## **20:30 Closing Programme and Gala Dinner**

**Venue:** Hotel Gottwald

**Address:** 1 Fekete út, Tata H-2890, Telephone: + 36 34 586 114

- Passing of the ceremonial flag (Tata, Hungary to Niigata, Japan)
- Message from the host city of the 5th Roundtable of Wetland City Mayors: **Mr. Yaichi Nakahara**, Mayor of Niigata, Japan
- Closing message from the host city: **Mr. József Michl**, Mayor of Tata, Hungary
- International cultural programme
- Gala dinner (buffet)

**Bus transfer from Hotel Gottwald to the participants' hotels is scheduled between 22:00 and 23:00.**

**Route:** Old Lake Golf Club & Hotel – Dotis Apartman – Hotel Kiss – Hotel Kristály

## **SATURDAY 29 NOVEMBER**

### **FIELD PROGRAMMES:**

### **25TH TATA WILD GOOSE FESTIVAL**

### **PRESENTATIONS BY WETLAND CITIES**

### **BILATERAL MEETINGS**

### **OPTIONAL GUIDED WALKS**

## **Bus transfers for participants to the venue of the Wild Goose Festival**

### **Pick-up times**

#### **Ramsar 1**

**Hotel Kiss** – 06:15 and 07:15

Bus stop opposite **Hotel Kristály** – 06:25 and 07:25

#### **Ramsar 2**

**Old Lake Golf Club & Hotel** – 06:15 and 07:15

**Hotel Gottwald** – 06:20 and 07:20

Május 1 bus stop (serving **Dotis Apartman**) – 6:30 and 7:30

## Field Programmes

- 7:00 – 18:00** **25th Tata Wild Goose Festival**  
**Venue:** Eastern shore of the Old Lake
- 9:00-9:30** **Mr. Jay Aldous**, Deputy Secretary General, Ramsar Convention on Wetlands: *History and Global Status of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands*  
**Venue:** Marquee on the lakeshore
- 9:30 – 12:15** **Presentations by Wetland Cities**  
**Venue:** Marquee on the lakeshore
- 9:30-9:45 Niigata, Japan:  
*Lakes, Rice Fields, and Swans – Branding of Wetland City NIIGATA*
- 9:45-10:00 Geneva, Switzerland:  
*Wetland and Water Resources Management in Geneva Canton (short film)*
- 10:00-10:15 Valdivia, Chile:  
*Wetland Education*
- 10:15-10:30 Mechelen, Belgium:  
*LIFE Wetlands4Cities Project*
- 10:30-10:45 Varzaneh, Iran:  
*New Paradigms in Urban Management to Achieve Sustainable Development*
- 10:45-11:00 Independent Advisory Committee – ICLEI:  
*Importance of Reporting on Wetland Conservation Actions into the Global Biodiversity Stocktake at CBD COP17 through CitiesWithNature*
- and
- 12:00-12:15 Independent Advisory Committee – Islamic Republic of Iran:  
*Iran’s Wetland Cities and Their Characteristics*
- 7:00 – 18:00** **Bilateral meetings between participating Wetland Cities**  
**Venue:** Pikantó Restaurant on the lakeshore

Catering and facilities available throughout the day at Pikantó Restaurant:

- Heated area for comfort
- Venue for small group meetings
- Buffet meals, food and beverages

Registration for the optional guided walks will take place at the Pikantó Restaurant, at the “Ramsar table”, from 08:00 to 14:30.

Meeting point for the walks: Pikantó Restaurant

09:00 — Fényes Nature Trail

10:00 — Cultural Walk

13:00 — Cultural Walk

14:00 — Fényes Nature Trail

14:30 — Exhibition at the Talentum School

All participants will be transported to the starting points of the walks by bus.

17:00 — **Gathering at the Pikantó Restaurant for all guests wishing to return to their hotels by bus**

**Ramsar 1 – Hotel Kristály, Malom & Kacska, Hotel Arnold, Ady Apartman, Hotel Kiss**

**Ramsar 2 – Dotis Apartman, Hotel Gottwald, Old Lake Golf Club & Hotel**



**TATAI VADLÚD  
SOKADALOM**

**TATA**

**4TH ROUNDTABLE OF WETLAND CITY MAYORS  
27-29 NOVEMBER 2025**

### Annex 3. Meeting agenda

1	Opening and welcome message	Incumbent Chair, Wetland City Network: Dongying, China
2	Report of the incumbent Chair of the Wetland City Network	Dongying, China
3	Election of new Chair of Wetland City Network	Incumbent Chair, Wetland City Network Members, and Wetland City Network Secretariat
4	Adoption of meeting agenda	Wetland City Network Members
5	Report of the Wetland City Network Secretariat	Wetland City Network Secretariat
6	Draft guidelines for selecting host Wetland Cities	Wetland City Network Secretariat
7	Draft guidelines for hosting Roundtables of Wetland City Mayors	Wetland City Network Secretariat
8	Other matters	Wetland City Network Members
9	Date and venue of 6th and 7th Roundtable of Wetland City Mayors	Wetland City Network Members
10	Closing message	New Chair, Wetland City Network: Tata, Hungary

## **Annex 4. Guidelines for selecting host Wetland Cities**

### **Purpose**

Since the adoption of Resolution XII.10, the number of Wetland Cities continues to steadily increase, signifying a growing interest in the Wetland City Accreditation scheme. This positive trend is also evident in the number of Wetland Cities joining the Wetland City Network. Given this scenario, more Wetland Cities are expected to host the annual roundtable of Wetland City Mayors. These guidelines will assist members of the Wetland City Network in complying with the host selection process.

### **Eligibility**

All members of the Wetland City Network.

### **Selection process**

Wetland City Network members that are interested in hosting roundtables (“proponents”) may send an official letter (“Expression of Interest”) to the Wetland City Network Secretariat any time before each roundtable. Alternatively, proponents may also formally express their intent during the policy-level segment of roundtables (meeting proper), specifically under agenda item “Dates and venue of next meeting”.

All proponents will be afforded due consideration. If there are at least two proponents at the time of the roundtable, they are requested to hold consultations to determine the hosting sequence. Such dialogues provide equal opportunities to all members of the Wetland City Network.

Should there be an instance wherein no host has been identified, the Wetland City Network Secretariat will assume the responsibility as interim host until a new proponent is received. The Wetland City Network will undertake measures to ensure that the venue meets the logistical and technical requirements of the roundtable. The venue is expected to be in the country where the Wetland City Network Secretariat is based.

Decision on host Wetland Cities will be made by consensus during the annual Roundtable of Wetland City Mayors. Identifying host Wetland Cities at least two years before the last agreed host is strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time for roundtable preparations.

## Annex 5. Guidelines for hosting roundtables of Wetland City Mayors

### Purpose

Since the Inaugural Roundtable of Wetland City Mayors held in 2019, a number of roundtables have already taken place, hosted by volunteer Wetland Cities. The process of organizing these events has evolved by applying the lessons learned from experience. While respecting diverse local circumstances, there is a common basis for successfully holding roundtables. These guidelines aim to provide a standard template for hosting roundtables of Wetland City Mayors.

### Participants

The table below lists the target participants for roundtables.

<b>Representation</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Members of the Wetland City Network	Wetland Cities that have volunteered to join the Network
Guests of honor	dignitaries who will deliver messages during the opening program
Keynote speaker	eminent personality recognized at the global, regional or national level
Plenary session speakers	thematic experts from within or outside the country of the host Wetland City
Plenary session moderators	technical facilitators from the country of the host Wetland City or Members of the Independent Advisory Committee for Wetland City Accreditation
Parallel thematic session speakers	representatives of participating Wetland Cities
Parallel thematic session moderators	technical facilitators from the country of the host Wetland City or Members of the Independent Advisory Committee for Wetland City Accreditation
Potential Wetland Cities	local governments that are interested in being accredited as Wetland Cities
Other wetland stakeholders	organizations recognized as observers of the Wetland City Network and other registered individuals
Host Wetland City (organizer)	officials and volunteers from the host Wetland City
Wetland City Network Secretariat (co-organizer)	staff of the Wetland City Network Secretariat

## Structure

The basic structure for roundtables will consist of two days of indoor sessions and bilateral meetings, and one day of outdoor activities.

Time	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
9:00 – 12:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opening program</li> <li>• Keynote presentation</li> <li>• Plenary presentations</li> </ul>	Parallel thematic sessions	Field visit
12:00 – 13:30	lunch break	lunch break	
13:30 – 17:00	Parallel thematic sessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting proper (policy-level segment)</li> <li>• Closing program</li> </ul>	
17:00 – 18:00	Bilateral meetings	Bilateral meetings	

## Roles and responsibilities

This section outlines the recommended roles and responsibilities of the Wetland City Network Secretariat and host Wetland City.

Task	Description	Lead
1. Meeting announcement	posting of web flyer on the Wetland City Network website and sending a series of notifications to the Members of the Wetland City Network	Wetland City Network Secretariat
2. Registration of participants	collecting basic information from participants as basis for the invitation letters and determining expected number of participants	Wetland City Network Secretariat
3. Sending of invitation letters	for internal approval processes and visa application	host Wetland City
4. Identifying the meeting venue and field visit site	assessing possible venues and field visit sites based on standard meeting requirements	host Wetland City and Wetland City Network Secretariat
5. Organizing volunteers	mobilizing volunteers from the academe or partner organizations to complement manpower of the host Wetland City	host Wetland City
6. Logistics	arranging airport transfers for participants	host Wetland City
7. Actual conduct of the meeting	managing the flow of activities based on the meeting program	host Wetland City and Wetland City Network Secretariat
8. Photo and video documentation	recording each activity of the meeting	host Wetland City and Wetland City Network Secretariat
9. Coordination with Members of the Wetland City Network	regularly communicating with participating Wetland City Network Members on requirements of the meeting	Wetland City Network Secretariat

## Cost sharing arrangements

Recommended items to be covered in cash or in kind by the Wetland City Network Secretariat and host Wetland City are specified as follows:

Wetland City Network Secretariat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• travel expenses (round-trip airfare, hotel accommodation and other relevant expenses) of Wetland City Network Secretariat staff, Independent Advisory Committee Members, and selected international dignitaries or speakers</li> </ul>
Host Wetland City	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• food expenses (welcome dinner, and meals and snacks at the meeting venue and field visit site)</li> <li>• function rooms and exhibition space</li> <li>• hotel transfers from selected ports of entry such as airports, train stations and bus terminals</li> <li>• local transportation for the field visit</li> <li>• welcome kits for registered participants</li> <li>• tokens for Wetland City Mayors or heads of Wetland City delegations</li> <li>• simultaneous interpretation services</li> <li>• photo and video documentation services</li> </ul>

## Agreement

The Wetland City Network Secretariat and host Wetland City will sign an “Activity Agreement” to formalize the collaboration and to define the roles and responsibilities, and cost sharing arrangements between the Wetland City Network Secretariat and host Wetland City.

## Timeline

Preparations for the roundtable will be undertaken for at least one year. A recommended timeline for preparatory work is presented below.

Month	Task / Activity
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• kick-off meeting between the Wetland City Network Secretariat and host Wetland City</li> <li>• prepare and review of Activity Agreement for hosting the Roundtable of Wetland City Mayors</li> <li>• conduct survey among Wetland City Network Members to identify topics for the roundtable</li> </ul>
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• consensus on meeting design, dates and venue, and field visit site</li> <li>• signing of Activity Agreement between the Wetland City Network Secretariat and host Wetland City</li> <li>• start designing logo for the roundtable</li> </ul>
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• first announcement (save the date)</li> <li>• drafting the program of activities and meeting agenda</li> </ul>
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• monthly virtual meeting</li> </ul>
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• circulate draft meeting documents for review by the Wetland City Network Focal Points</li> </ul>

<b>Month</b>	<b>Task / Activity</b>
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• second announcement</li> <li>• start of registration of participants</li> <li>• deadline for submission of letters of intent and registration forms for observers</li> <li>• Meeting of the Wetland City Network Focal Points</li> </ul>
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• monthly virtual meeting</li> </ul>
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• monthly virtual meeting</li> </ul>
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• final announcement</li> <li>• deadline for registration of participants</li> <li>• sending of official invitation letters</li> <li>• finalize program of activities</li> </ul>
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• monthly virtual meeting</li> </ul>
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• circulate meeting documents to Wetland City Network Members</li> </ul>
12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roundtable of Wetland City Mayors</li> </ul>

Virtual meetings between the Wetland City Network Secretariat and host Wetland City will be organized every month.

### **Publicity**

Promoting the roundtable aims to raise awareness about the Wetland City Network, Wetland City Accreditation scheme, and the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. Communication, capacity building, education, participation and awareness (CEPA) approaches help in effectively conveying information to a wide audience. The following series of activities provide guidance on publicizing the meeting.

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Implementation period</b>
1. Preparing a press package and press release	three months before the meeting
2. Disseminating the press package through direct communications with media outlets and partner organizations	two months before the meeting
3. Publishing the press release through international, national and local media, and social media	one month before the meeting
4. Conducting a press briefing	during the meeting
5. Preparing the meeting report for posting on the Wetland City Network Secretariat website	one month after the meeting