

Water's Letter in Expozaragoza

On September 5th 2008, the National Wetlands Committee of Spain gathered in the International Center of Water and Environment (CIAMA) in Zaragoza. During the meeting, the Declaration proposal of the Wetlands Committee was discussed, in order to include it in the Water Letter of Expozaragoza. This proposal was presented to Mr. Eduardo Mestre, Director of the Water Tribune of the Expo, in the framework of the technical session of the Water Tribune, held on the 6th of September. Aragon Government representatives, the subdivision of Biodiversity of the Division of Natural Resources and Forest Policy of the Ministry of the Environment of Spain, the Ramsar Convention Secretariat, and members of the National Wetlands Committee were present.

The Zaragoza Declaration urges to recognize that wetlands depend on water and the services/benefits they provide are as important as the role they play in the water cycle and the Planet's climate. It also highlights that the conservation and restoration of wetlands is essential for securing the wise use of water resources to benefit human beings and maintaining biological diversity. For these reasons, the management of water resources has to focus on keeping a balance between conservation and wise use through negotiation between different stakeholders. (By Senior Advisor for the Americas, Ramsar Secretariat)

