

**CONVENTION ON WETLANDS (Ramsar, Iran, 1971)**

Proceedings of the 6<sup>TH</sup> Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties (Brisbane, Australia, 19-27 March 1996)

**RESOLUTION VI.18: ESTABLISHMENT OF THE RAMSAR WETLAND CONSERVATION AWARD**

1. NOTING the achievements of the Convention over the past 25 years in promoting the conservation and wise use of wetlands, and the many individuals, organizations and governments who have contributed significantly to this achievement; and
2. FURTHER NOTING the need to recognize and honour such contributions as a means of motivating greater and continued support for the Convention's cause in the future;

**THE CONFERENCE OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES**

3. DECIDES to establish the Ramsar Wetland Conservation Award;
4. REQUESTS the Standing Committee to consider the financial implications of this decision and to investigate the operation of the Award, taking into account the following principles:
  - a) the Award shall be presented every three years on the occasion of each ordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties;
  - b) nominations for the Award shall be submitted to the Secretary General and the selection shall be made by the Standing Committee;
  - c) nominees may be individuals, organizations or government agencies; and
5. REQUESTS the Standing Committee, if possible, to arrange for the presentation of the Award for the first time at the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties in 1999 or, if this is not possible, to report to the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Conference.