The Ramsar Secretary General, Dr. Peter Bridgewater, paid a courtesy call recently to Her Excellency Mrs. Najat AL-HAJJAJI, Ambassador of Libya to the United Nations. The objective of the visit was to discuss the strengthening of the Convention’s implementation in Libya and the role Libya could play in its capacity of Chair of the Africa Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) in the preparation and organization of the 9th meeting of the Conference of Contracting Parties (Ramsar COP9) scheduled to take place next year in Kampala.

Libya has just been elected Chair of AMCEN during the last ordinary meeting that took place from 26-30 June 2004 in Syrt, Libya. The country has two Ramsar sites and has been party to the Convention since 2001.

The Ramsar delegation was composed of the Secretary General, the Senior Advisor for Africa, and the Assistant Advisor for Africa.

[From left] H.E. Ambassador Najat Al-Hajjaji, Peter Bridgewater, Abou Bamba, Abdurhman M. M. Benomran, Ministre plénipotentaire