

**Notification 2001/5**  
**Annual Contributions 2002**

The Bureau of the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar, Iran, 1971) presents its compliments and has the honour to refer to the following:

On the basis of the adoption by the Seventh Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties (Costa Rica, 1999) of the Convention budget and the scale of national contributions for the period 2000-2002, the Bureau has prepared the attached invoices for the payment of contributions for the year 2002. Since annual contributions are due on the 1st of January of each calendar year, it is Bureau practice to issue invoices in May of the preceding year.

Contracting Parties will be aware that annual contributions to the Ramsar budget are calculated on the basis of the percentage contributions paid by Member States to the UN budget. The Contracting Parties concerned are kindly invited to note that paragraph 13 of Resolution VII.28 established that the minimum annual contribution is 1,000 Swiss francs.

As in the past, and according to the decision of the Sixth Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties, the invoices have been prepared in Swiss francs. Reflecting Decision 17.5 of the Standing Committee, Contracting Parties are therefore urged, whenever possible, to pay in Swiss francs. In accordance with Ramsar rules, Contracting Parties are invited to pay the attached invoice by January 1st 2002.

As Contracting Parties are aware, the next meeting of the Conference of Contracting Parties falls in 2002 (18-26 November). The Ramsar Bureau is encouraging all Parties to arrive at the Conference with their dues, including any arrears, paid in full as a clear demonstration of their commitment to the Convention.

Contracting Parties are kindly asked to transfer their contributions to the Convention account with the bank UBS in Lausanne, Switzerland:

Ramsar/IUCN Account Nos: 333.603.01.C. (CHF) or 333.603.60.R. (US\$).

The Bureau of the Convention on Wetlands respectfully requests that the content of the present Note be communicated to the competent national authorities and avails itself of this opportunity to renew the assurance of its highest consideration.

Gland, Switzerland, 1 May 2001