

Ministry of Environment and Water of the Republic of Bulgaria



Ministry of Environment and Climate Change of Romania

Mr. Anada Tiéga Secretary General Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands Rue Mauverney 28 CH- 1196 Gland Switzerland

15 April 2013

Designation of Transboundary Ramsar sites: Lake Calarasi (Iezerul Calarasi) – Srebarna, Suhaia – Belene Islands Complex, Bistret – Ibisha Island between Romania and Bulgaria

Dear Secretary General,

In compliance with Article 5 of the Convention and Resolution VII.19 (1999) on international cooperation and Resolution XI.22 (2012), while acknowledging and recognizing that wetlands and watercourses extend beyond national boundaries, and many of the wetland species are migratory, and the corresponding effective management requires exchange of experience between the countries, recognizing that individual activities by States on the management of shared wetland and water ecosystems are insufficient for their preservation, we jointly request the Ramsar Secretariat to register the following wetland sites as Transboundary Ramsar Sites between Romania and Bulgaria:

- Lake Calarasi (Iezerul Calarasi) Srebarna
- Suhaia Belene Islands Complex
- Bistret Ibisha Island

These transboundary sites consist of six already designated Ramsar sites. Moreover this necessity of joint coordinated conservation and management activities is being strongly supported by the fact that in accordance with EU Directives these wetlands are Natura 2000 protected areas in Bulgaria and Romania.

With the designation of these six important wetlands as Transboundary Ramsar sites we declare our readiness and shared responsibility for joint coordinated management of these sites.

Jalian Popov

Minister of Environment and Water of the Republic of Bulgaria

Minister of Environment and Climate
Change of Romania