



Photo 1. World Wetlands Day questbook: “Watra- kontren habi fisi Sorgu bun fu den!”



Photo 2. World Wetlands Day pens: Text in Dutch :“Habi wan fisi fu tamara!”



Photo 3. World Wetlands Day sticker: “ Tide → Tamara? → ..Baka tamara...?  
Watra- kontren habi fisi sorgu bun fu den!”



Photo 4. World Wetlands Day bookmark: “Tide Tamara? ..Baka tamara?..  
Watra- kontren habi fisi sorgu bun fu den!”

# Technical Report

## Summary of the activities of Mrs. Astralaga during her visit:

- 31 January 2007:** Formal Visits  
-Director of Min. Physical Planning Land and Forest Management  
-Head of SFS  
- Director of WWF  
- Director Celos
- Lecture at the University
- Press Meeting
- Visit to Stinasu nature trail
- 01 February 2007:** Visit to Boskamp
- Visit to Coppenamemonding Nature Reserve
- Visit to Coronie District;  
- Districts Commissioner  
- Beekeeper  
- Tottness channel  
- Coronie Action committee
- 02 February 2007:** Visit WWD 2007 activities in the Nickerie District  
- Inauguration  
- Guide around the exhibition
- Visit Bigi Pan (wetland)
- Visit the Fish Cook-out
- 03 February 2007:** Flight over Wetlands
- Shopping
- Departure

## **Daily report of the activities of Mrs. Astralaga.**

### **I. Formal Visits**

As planned Mrs. M. Astralaga the Regional Coordinator for the Americas arrived in Suriname on the 30th of January and left on the 3rd of February.

#### **31 January 2007:**

09.00 u – 11.45 u      -Formal Visits  
09.00 u – 09.45 u      -Director Min RGB and Head of the Suriname Forest Service  
10.00 u – 10.45 u      -Director WWF  
11.00 u – 11.45        -Director Celos

During the formal Visits Mrs. Astralaga got acquainted with the directors from RGB, WWF and Celos, she also discussed the goals and structure of Ramsar. Furthermore she pointed out the opportunities for the parties of this convention. Also discussed were Suriname's problems in the wetland, and the possibilities of collaborations with different organizations and the Wetlands bureau, which in the end must lead to more proposals for official wetland sites, and better protection and wise use of our wetlands.

14.00 u – 15.00 u      -Lecture:  
Lecturer: Margarita Astralaga  
Location: Aula 16 University complex

Mrs. S. Carilho of the environmental section of the Anton de Kom University of Suriname was the facilitator and host for this lecture. There were approximately 50 people attending this lecture. Mrs. Astralaga gave a short introduction about the Ramsar Wetlands Secretariat. The most important remarks during this lecture were that there should be more proposals for official wetlands sites from the Parties, furthermore that there are less activities between the COP's. In closing she asked for a more active participation from Suriname not only from the Government but also from NGO's and other stakeholders and that Suriname should bring up more areas as wetlands sites.

15.10 u – 15.30 u      -Press meeting:  
Location: Aula University complex

The local media was present and had interviews with Mrs. Astralaga. There were articles of these interviews in the newspaper and other media.

16.30 u – 17.30 u      -Visit Stinasu Nature Trail ( Stinat) at Paranam by car

Mr. Harry Hunfeld (Staff member Stinasu) guided the roundtrip at the Stinasu Nature Trail at Paranam. Mrs. Astralaga got a look at this wetland trail and observed some birds and took some pictures. In future an information center will be build on this site which will also serve as a pit stop for tourists going to the Brokopondo- upper Suriname area.

### **01 February 2007 :**

09.00 u- 10.00 u - Visit to Fishermen's Village Boskamp,

The group paid a visit to the fishermen village and got a look at how fish was processed (Smoking and salting). They also paid a visit to the local ice production facility.

10.30 u – 11.15 u - Visit to the Ramsar site, Coppenamemonding Nature Reserve.

A group formed by Mrs. M. Astralaga, the Districts Commissioner of Saramacca Mrs. Gisai Doebe, Head of the NCD Mr., B. Drakenstein, Director of the Caribbean Institute Mrs. M. Silos, WWF representatives Mrs. M. Felix, Mr. J. Pinas and Mrs. Williams (Guyana), went on a boat trip to visit this site.

11.00 u – 12.30 u -Visit Coronie Districts Commissioner and Bee keeper

In Coronie the group paid a visit to the District Commissioner Mr. Walden. The group also went to a bee keeper Mr. Khodabaks and got a look at bee culture and the facilities for production of honey in the coastal area. Afterwards the group along with the DC made trip along side the Tottness channel all the way up to the estuary coast, to take a look at the effects of sea erosion on the coast. Afterwards Mr. Feller and Mr. Gonsalves from the Coronie action Committee joined the group to give their opinion on this subject.

### **02 February 2007**

9.00 u – 9.05 u -Welcome Mr. H. Esajas

Mister Esajas was de host for the day and gave a warm welcome to all guests.

9.05 u – 9.15 u -Speech Chairman of Solom Mr. H. Karioikromo

Mr. Karioikromo was happy that his organization got the opportunity to host this year's wetlands activity. It is the first time that these activities were held in the District of Nickerie.

9.15 u – 9.25 u -Speech; Celos Mrs. M. Parahoe

Mrs. Parahoe gave a short introduction on what her department is doing concerning wetlands. Main concern of Celos is the health of fish populations especially in the Bigi Pan area.

9.25 u – 9.35 u -Speech W.W.F. Hr. J. Pinas

In his speech mister Pinas stressed the importance of wetlands for our community. He also acknowledged the efforts of the Surinamese government on conserving wetlands and promised that WWF will continue to work together with the NCD and other

organizations to conserve the wetlands in Suriname in order to support the socio-economic development of Suriname.

9.35 u – 9.45 u -Speech Mw.M. Astralaga

Mrs. Astralaga focused on international collaboration in protecting wetlands in the whole and especially birds, water and fish.

9.45 u – 9.55 u -Speech D.C. Nickerie Drs.B.Shankar

The District Commissioner emphasized the importance of wetlands for us humans and ended with the slogan:” To protect our selves we must protect our nature”.

9.55 u – 10.00 u -Inauguration

The Districts Commissioner and Mrs. Astralaga officially opened the exhibition by cutting a ribbon.

9.55 u- 10.15 u -Guided tour of the exhibition for the guests

Mister Esajas gave the Districts Commissioner, Mrs. Astralaga and other guests a guided tour of the exhibition. The Acting Head of the NCD Paramaribo, Mr. Drakenstein, who was also present during these activities due to other pressing duties departed to Paramaribo.

13.00 u – 17.00 u -Visit Bigi Pan

From Longmay Mrs. Astralaga along with Mr. Esajas, Mr. J. Pinas, Mrs. Felix and Mrs. Williams, 3 game wardens and one volunteer made a boat trip to Bigi Pan Wetland. During this trip they saw Herons. Mrs. Astralaga got a chance to see the NCD camp on the water and a few fishermen busy with fishing. She also got a look at the slipway between the Nickerie River and the Jamar Channel, which leads into Bigi Pan. Mrs. Astralaga enjoyed the trip and made a lot of pictures.

17.00 u – 19.00 u -Visit Fish cookout in Solom Longmay

In the afternoon Mrs. Astralaga attended the fish cookout organized by Solom. There was a variety of seafood dishes of which she tasted some.

### **03 February 2007**

09.30 u – 12.00 u - Flight over Wetlands to Paramaribo.

To give Mrs. Astralaga a good overview of the status of our Wetlands there was a flight over the wetlands and the coast line. Along with Mrs. Astralaga went, Mr. Drakenstein, Mrs. Felix, Mrs. Williams, Mr. Zondervan and Mr. Lingaard the later two acting as guide.

13.30 u – 14.30 u - Shopping

In the afternoon Mrs. Astralaga was guided around the city and specifically the Mall, by Mrs. M. Felix. (WWF)

15.00 u - Departure

Finally Mrs. Astralaga left Suriname in the evening of the 3<sup>rd</sup> February and arrived safely back home.

## **II World Wetland Day 2007 Activities**

This year the World Wetlands Day was celebrated in Nickerie District. The Community building of Solom a local community service club was used for the activities.

Summary of the activities:

1. Small exhibition: the exhibition was attended by 350 schoolchildren and teachers. NCD, Celos and WWF all had their own spot in the building. Each organisation gave information about their organization and their wetland activities. Furthermore Celos showed satellite images. NCD showed a short film about Bigi Pan. And WWF had puzzle activities and small quizzes.
2. Quest for children (NCD): besides the exhibiting there was a Quest for children. All schoolchildren (350) participated in this Quest. Participants got a small booklet with a few questions and a pen and had to fill in the answers. After completing these questions they got a do it your self kit to make a small carrousel.
3. Cookout: the cookout was organised by Solom. In a few stands a variety of fish dishes such as deep fried tilapia, tilapia croquettes, fish sticks, smoked tilapia, curry tilapia, fish cadets, was sold for a very low price. The dish that got the price for “best dish” was: Sweet and sour Tilapia in with coconut. Second was Sweet and sour balls from Tilapia in a chilli sauce. And third was Curry Crab in coconut milk.
4. Promotion material:  
There were pens printed with the texts “Habi wan fisi fu Tamara! World Wetlands Day 2007, Suriname. Furthermore stickers and bookmarkers from the Ramsar



concept, with edited text, Tide, tamara, ...en baka Tamara... were printed. All promotion material was greatly appreciated by receivers.

5. Press Release:

In Paramaribo there was an article on the upcoming wetlands day activities.

In Nickerie the press gave an impression of the activities from start to finish.

## Annex I

## Pictures



L: The Director of Ministry of Physical Planning Land and Forest Management, Mr. Kartotaroeno  
M: Mrs Asrtalaga, Mrs. Djosetro  
R: Mr. Drakenstein



L: Mrs. Astralaga, M: Mr. Plouvier



Lecture at the University by Mrs. Astralaga



Attendants of the Lecture



Guide around Stinasu nature trail .



Children attending the WWD activities 2007



Inauguration of the exhibition



The Fish Cook-out



Schoolchildren busy with the Quest



The Solom Community building



Guide around the exhibition