

**World Wetlands Week 2010 Celebration**  
**Victoria, Seychelles**  
**5<sup>th</sup> February 2010**

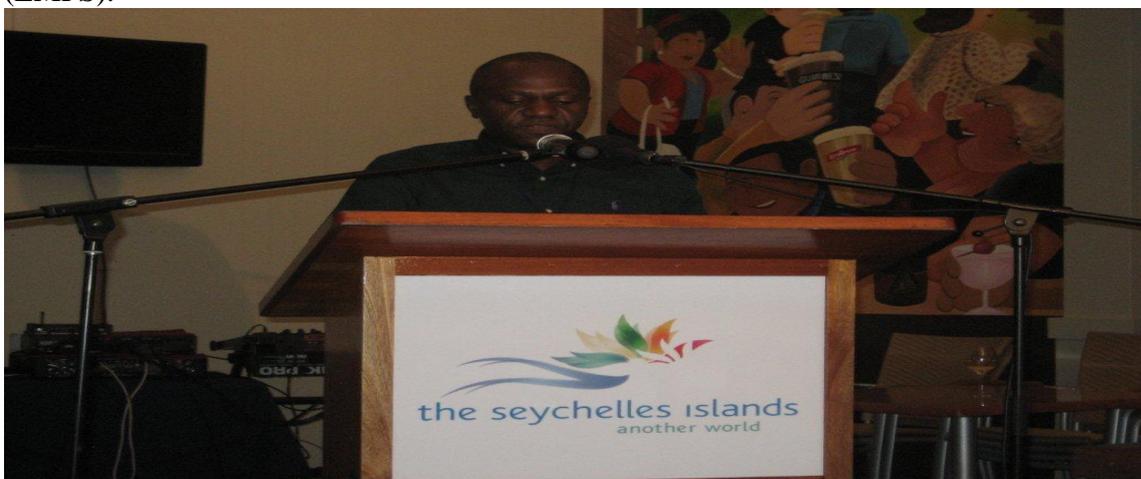
The closing ceremony of WWW2010 in the Seychelles was hosted by the Eden Island Group at the Eden Island development. This event was attended not only by Ministry of Environment representatives, including Minister Joel Morgan and Minister of Education Mr. Bernard Shamlaye, but by all who had been involved in the week's activities.

Mr Didier Dogley (Permanent Secretary) and Abou Bamba (Ramsar Senior Advisor, Africa) took to the stage to thank all individuals and organizations that had been involved in ensuring the success of the week, to reflect on what had been achieved and what was to come not only for the Seychelles but for all Ramsar Contracting Parties as a result.

At the international level special recognition was given to the Danone-Evian group for their support of this unique event, as well as the UN World Tourism Organisation, Convention on Biological Diversity and the Convention on Migratory Species. Also noted was the appreciation to the media coverage of the event by Radio France Internationale, Inter Press Service News Agency and the Seychelles Broadcasting Corporation.

The local contributors and financial sponsors were also offered sincere thanks and several awarded certificates of recognition for their participation. Of note was the diverse range of activities in which they were involved: Seychelles Tourism Board, Ministry of Education, Seychelles Scouts Association, Mangroves for the Future, and Sustainability for Seychelles, Banyan Tree Hotel Management, Constance Resorts Group (Ephelia, Seychelles), Ramani and Co. Chartered Accountants amongst several others.

The Government of Seychelles was also presented with a certificate of recognition from the Ramsar Secretariat for the efforts into organizing the week long celebration that was inclusive of all stakeholders and allowed for concrete outputs ranging from the "adoption" of the North East Point Wetlands by the Seychelles Scouts Association (SSA) to the real possibility of having a standalone Wetland Section in the Seychelles Environmental Management Plan 2010-2020 (EMPS).



*Mr Abou Bamba (Ramsar Senior Advisor, Africa) delivering his closing remarks*



*Minister Joel Morgan being presented with a certificate of recognition for the Government of Seychelles by Mr Abou Bamba.*

As the Permanent Secretary, officially closed the World Wetlands Week, it was evident to all that the momentum of the week will continue both in Seychelles, at the Ramsar Convention Secretariat and amongst the Contracting Parties interested in hosting similar events in the years to come.



*Mr Didier Dogley (Permanent Secretary) delivering his closing remarks*

Media coverage

For further coverage of the WWW2010 by Mrs Anne-Cecile Bras of Radio France Internationale please visit:

1. Le rayonnement scientifique des Seychelles: <http://www.rfi.fr/contenu/20100128-1-le-rayonnement-scientifique-seychelles>
2. Comment concilier tourisme et environnement: <http://www.rfi.fr/contenu/20100128-2-comment-concilier-tourisme-environnement>
3. Le thon dans l'Océan indien: <http://www.rfi.fr/contenu/20100128-1-le-thon-ocean-indien>
4. Les conséquences du réchauffement climatique sur les fonds marins des Seychelles: <http://www.rfi.fr/contenu/20100128-2-consequences-rechauffement-climatique-fonds-marins-seychelles>

For coverage of the WWW2010 by Mr Stephen Leahy of the Inter Press News Service Agency please visit: <http://www.ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=50233>

Coverage from the Seychelles Broadcasting Corporation is soon to be available.