

## **Notification 1998 / 4**

### **Call for nominations for the Ramsar Wetland Conservation Award**

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

*The Ramsar Wetland Conservation Award was established by Resolution VI.18 of the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Convention (Brisbane, 1996). The preambular paragraphs of this Resolution noted the need to recognize and honour the contributions of individuals, organizations, and governments who have contributed significantly to the achievements of the Convention and through this to motivate greater and continued support for the Convention's cause in the future.*

*At the 20<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Ramsar Convention Standing Committee held in Gland, Switzerland in late September 1997 the criteria and procedures for the Award were approved, in accordance with the guidance provided in Resolution VI.18. As also urged by Resolution VI.18, the Standing Committee determined that the inaugural presentation of the Award should be on the occasion of the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties.*

*At its 20<sup>th</sup> meeting the Standing Committee received with thanks the kind offer of the Danone Group to add for this the inaugural presentation of the Ramsar Wetland Conservation Award a cash prize of US\$ 10,000 to each of three such Awards.*

*Nominations are encouraged of persons, organizations, or government agencies that have taken initiatives which have contributed significantly to the long-term conservation and sustainable use of a wetland site or group of wetlands, especially those initiatives which might serve as inspirational or practical examples for others.*

*Nominations should be forwarded to the Ramsar Bureau, using the form in the enclosed brochure, before 31 July 1998. The Standing Committee will select the winning individuals or organizations at its October 1998 meeting, and the Awards will be presented at the opening ceremony of the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties in San José, Costa Rica, on 10 May 1999.*

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, 20 February 1998