

## **NOTIFICATION 2000 / 3**

### **Annual Contributions 2001**

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

With reference to 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, the Bureau has prepared invoices for the payment of contributions. Such an invoice for the year 2001, with explanatory information, is attached.

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 approved the increase of the minimum annual contribution to 1,000 Swiss francs. In accordance with Ramsar rules, Contracting Parties are invited to pay their contributions by the January 1<sup>st</sup> due date.

The Bureau is unable to receive the UN scale of assessments for the year 2001 until December 2000, which for many Contracting Parties is too late in the budget cycle to include the annual contributions to the Bureau in their respective Departments' budget. In Decision SC24-26 the Standing Committee "approved the practice of invoicing Contracting parties for 2001 in the amounts of their year 2000 contributions, and then correcting for any changes in the UN scale of assessment in the invoices for 2002". Consequently, it should be noted that if the scale of assessments adopted by the UN General Assembly in December 2000 for the year 2001 causes a reduction or an increase in the percentage of that used in the attached invoice, this difference will be reflected in the invoice for the year 2002.

In accordance with the Ramsar financial rules, the invoices have been prepared in Swiss francs. Reflecting decision 17.5 of the Standing Committee, Contracting Parties are therefore urged, whenever possible, to effect their payments in Swiss francs.

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. (SFR) 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, 20 May 2000