[Translation of letter to the Secretary General of the Ramsar Convention from the Director General of Forests, Ministry of Agriculture, Ramsar Convention Administrative Authority in Algeria]

Subject: The Amendment Process

The importance that should be accorded to seeking new sources of financing in order to meet the enormous needs of developing countries is undeniable.

Algeria, being aware of these important stakes, strongly encourages the Ramsar Convention Bureau to study ways and means of assisting Contracting Parties in order to guarantee the effective application of the wise use of wetlands concept. Experience has shown that this is achieved by training and capacity building of Ramsar authorities.

By means of this letter, and following the measures foreseen in Article 10bis of the Ramsar Convention, we have the honour to ask you to initiate a process of amendment of the Convention which would permit an extraordinary meeting to take place during COP8 in Valencia, Spain.

The amendments proposed by Algeria are attached to this letter (here cited in Diplomatic Note 2002 / 2) and concern the following articles:

Article 2, paragraphs 1, 4, 5 and 6. Articles 9, paragraphs 2 and 4.

Having no doubt of the importance which you will attach to this proposition, I remain etc.