

## Notification 2002 / 4

### Secretary General of the Convention: Vacancy Announcement

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

Contracting Parties will be aware that the contract of the Secretary General of the Convention, Mr. Delmar Blasco, expires on 31 July 2003. The Standing Committee, at its 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting, approved the timetable and procedure for selecting the new Secretary General. Attached to this diplomatic note is the vacancy announcement and the form (in English only) to be used by applicants.

Contracting Parties are encouraged to identify suitable candidates for the post and invite them to apply. It should be noted that the procedure adopted by the Standing Committee does not require that candidates be submitted and/or formally endorsed by Contracting Parties. Any individual that considers that he or she meets the requirements for the post may apply. **The deadline for applications is 30 September 2002.**

The Standing Committee has established a First Selection Panel consisting of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Standing Committee, the Chair of the Subgroup on Finance, the Secretary General (ex officio), and the following Regional Representatives: for Africa, Algeria; for Asia, Japan; for Europe, France; for the Neotropics, Argentina; for North America, Canada, with Oceania represented by the Chair of the Standing Committee. This First Selection Panel will prepare the short list of candidates that will be invited for interviews. The work of this panel will be finalized during Ramsar COP8 in November 2002.

Interviews will be carried out by a Second Selection Panel composed of the Chair and Vice Chair of the Standing Committee and the Chair of the Subgroup on Finance elected at Ramsar COP8, Regional Representatives of the six Ramsar regions identified by the Chair through appropriate consultations, and the Director General of IUCN. The Panel should present its recommendation for the appointment of the new Secretary General to the Standing Committee at its meeting to be held immediately after the interviews (5-7 February 2003), so that the appointment can be formally made by the Standing Committee. The decision of the Standing Committee should be communicated to the selected candidate in the week of 10 February 2003. All Contracting Parties will be informed by diplomatic notification as soon as the Bureau has received written acceptance of the offer.

Contracting Parties are invited to contribute to identify the most suitable candidates for this key post in the Convention and to ensure that applications are received by the deadline: 30 September 2002.

*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 to the Permanent Mission of ... the assurance of its highest consideration.*

Gland, 4 April 2002

Encls: Vacancy announcement and application form