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Ramsar Wetland Conservation Award 2005

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:

The Ramsar Wetland Conservation Award was established in 1996 by Resolution VI.18 of the 6th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar, Iran, 1971) in order to recognise and honour the contributions of individuals, organisations, and governments around the world towards promoting the conservation and wise use of wetlands. It was awarded for the first time on the occasion of the 7th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (San José, Costa Rica, 1999), and for the second time at the 8th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties in Valencia, Spain, in 2002.

The Ramsar Award will be given for the third time at the opening ceremony of the 9th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties (Kampala, Uganda, 8 November 2005). Three Awards will be granted, each with the Evian Special Prize of US\$ 10.000.- kindly offered by the Danone Group as part of a project in support of the Convention.

By its decision SC 30.8, the Standing Committee of the Convention decided that the Ramsar Award for COP9 will be given in the categories of “management”, “science”, and “education”.

The Convention Secretariat is pleased to attach a document with the Criteria and Procedures for the Ramsar Award 2005 as adopted by the Standing Committee, and a nomination form. Nominations must be submitted in one of the three above-mentioned categories only. This information is also available, together with further details on the laureates of the 1999 and 2002 rounds, on the Convention’s web site: http://www.ramsar.org/key_awards_index.htm. The deadline for the receipt of nominations is 31 October 2004.

The Secretariat would be grateful for Contracting Parties’ assistance in conveying information about the Award to relevant institutions in order to encourage the nomination of suitable candidates.

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, 17 June 2004

Encl: Award Criteria and Nomination form