



CONVENTION ON WETLANDS  
CONVENTION SUR LES ZONES HUMIDES  
CONVENCIÓN SOBRE LOS HUMEDALES  
(Ramsar, Iran, 1971)

## The Ramsar Wetland Conservation Award for actions that have significantly contributed to long-term conservation and sustainable use of wetlands

The Ramsar Wetland Conservation Award was established in 1996 by Resolution VI.18 of the 6<sup>th</sup> 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 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (San José, Costa Rica, 1999), and for the second time at the 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Conference of the Parties in Valencia, Spain, in 2002. Information on the first two rounds of the Ramsar Award and on the laureates is available on the Convention web site [http://www.ramsar.org/key\\_awards\\_index.htm](http://www.ramsar.org/key_awards_index.htm).

The Ramsar Standing Committee, at its meeting in January 2004, agreed the criteria and procedures for adjudicating the third round of the Award and determined to select three winners for presentation at the 9<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties, to be held in Kampala, Uganda, in November 2005. The Committee gratefully accepted the offer of the Danone Group (France) to complement the Ramsar Award with the Evian Special Prize, a cash prize of US\$ 10.000, which will be granted to each of the three laureates who will receive the Award at COP9.

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

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

Nominations should reach the Secretariat of the Convention on Wetlands by 31 October 2004 at the latest, using the form attached or available upon request from the Ramsar Secretariat, or on the Ramsar Web site ([http://ramsar.org/key\\_award\\_form\\_e.htm](http://ramsar.org/key_award_form_e.htm)). The Standing Committee will select the three winning individuals or organisations and the Award will be presented at the opening ceremony of the 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties (Kampala, Uganda), on 8 November 2005.

## **Ramsar Wetland Conservation Award Criteria and Procedures**

### **Selection criteria**

1. One Ramsar Award shall be awarded for each of the following:
  - a) The "**Ramsar Management Award**" supported by Danone Evian, rewarding Actions – including legislation, strategies, plans, programmes, projects, investments, and campaigns – that have significantly contributed, or have a clear potential to contribute, to the long-term conservation and sustainable use of wetlands, especially as means of alleviating poverty (COP 9 theme);
  - b) The "**Ramsar Science Award**" supported by Danone Evian, rewarding Contributions to the advancement of wetland science;
  - c) The "**Ramsar Education Award**" supported by Danone Evian, rewarding the best initiatives for communication, education and Public awareness on wetlands of international importance.

### **Eligibility**

2. Institutions and citizens of all nations are invited to nominate individuals<sup>1</sup> or institutions – governmental and non-governmental, including community groups – or private sector enterprises, of any nation.

### **Nominations Procedure**

3. Nominations should be submitted to the Ramsar Convention Bureau in English, French or Spanish, using the Ramsar Award form available from the Ramsar Bureau in Gland, Switzerland, or on the Ramsar Web site ([http://ramsar.org/key\\_award\\_form\\_e.htm](http://ramsar.org/key_award_form_e.htm)), accompanied by the necessary supporting documentation.
4. The deadline for this round of the Ramsar Award was fixed at 31 October 2004. This date shall be final.

### **Selection Procedure**

5. The Ramsar Secretariat shall process the nominations received and submit them for the consideration of the Ramsar Standing Committee. The Standing Committee shall select the laureates. Its decision shall be final.

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<sup>1</sup> It should be noted that, in the case of individuals, as decided by the Ramsar Standing Committee at its 20<sup>th</sup> meeting (1997), the Award will not be given *in memoriam*.

### **Announcement and Presentation of the Award**

6. The announcement of the laureates on each occasion shall be made through a press release as soon as all of them have confirmed their acceptance of the award.
7. The Ramsar Award will be presented at the opening ceremony of the Ramsar Conference of the Contracting Parties and every effort will be made to ensure the presence of all laureates.

### **Possible cash rewards**

8. For the 2005 laureates, each of the Ramsar Awards will be complemented by the Evian Special Prize of US\$ 10.000.- kindly offered by the Danone Group for work which makes the Convention on Wetlands more effective.

### **How to obtain a nomination form**

The nomination forms for the Ramsar Wetland Conservation Award can be downloaded from the Ramsar Web site at the following location:  
[http://ramsar.org/key\\_award\\_form\\_e.htm](http://ramsar.org/key_award_form_e.htm), or can be obtained electronically or in hard copy from

The Ramsar Convention Secretariat  
Rue Mauverney 28, CH-1196 Gland, Switzerland  
fax: +41 22 999 01 69,  
e-mail: [ramsar@ramsar.org](mailto:ramsar@ramsar.org).

**Deadline for receipt of nominations shall be 31 October 2004.  
Nominations received after this date will not be considered.**