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Ramsar / MedWet award for a film on water / wetlands

The Secretariat 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 Convention Secretariat and its Mediterranean Wetlands Initiative, MedWet, announce that admissions for the **Ramsar / MedWet award for a film on water / wetlands** have now opened. Entry forms can be found at www.ecofilms.gr. The award will be presented at *Ecofilms* - the International film festival for films and visual arts in Rhodes, Greece, 21-26 June 2005

The purpose of the competition is to encourage excellence and talent in film-making, specifically for films/documentaries addressing themes of water and water-related ecosystems, particularly wetlands. The films may address these issues at the global, regional or national level, for any region in the world.

A Jury Panel composed of experts from the Ramsar Convention Secretariat and MedWet, as well as professionals from the cinema industry, will choose one film as winner of the Ramsar/MedWet award. The winner will be awarded a prize of €4.000 (four thousand euro), provided by the Ramsar Convention and MedWet.

The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (www.ramsar.org), signed in the city of Ramsar, Iran in 1971, is the world's oldest global environmental convention, working for the wise use of wetlands and water resources worldwide. MedWet, the Mediterranean Wetlands Initiative of the Ramsar Convention (www.medwet.org), is a long-term collaborative initiative for the conservation of Mediterranean wetlands.

In order to promote representation of film makers from your country in the *Ramsar/ MedWet Ecofilms 2005 Competition*, the Secretariat would be grateful for Contracting Parties' assistance in disseminating information about the competition to all potentially interested parties. These might include governmental organisations, NGOs, arts and media associations and educational institutes. **The deadline for submitting entries to Ecofilms 2005 is 1 March 2005.** More details can be found on the *Ecofilms* website and in the attached Terms of Reference for the award.

The Secretariat 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, 13 January 2005

Encl: Terms of Reference