



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

From the Secretary General

Shri Bijayshree Routray
Minister of Forest & Environment, Labour & Employees State Insurance
Government of Odisha
Secretariat
Bhubaneswar
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India

Gland, 31 October 2012
Ref. ANT/mik

Your Excellency,

Re.: my visit to Bhubaneswar and Chilika

First and foremost, I would like to thank you for your invaluable support and contribution, at the political level, to the implementation of the Ramsar Convention in Odisha. Without such strong political commitment, a project like the Chilika restoration and management process would be very difficult, if not impossible, to achieve.

In particular, I was very happy to see the level of confidence that has been built with the local populations. I realize that one of the conditions for this is to ensure continuity in the management of the site, and I congratulate you on making sure that this has been the case at Chilika.

The Ramsar Secretariat will be happy to receive the nominations of three new Ramsar sites which we discussed. As soon as we receive the Ramsar Information Sheets (RIS), they will go through our review and administrative processes, so that these sites can be added to the Ramsar List. We are confident that the designation of these sites will be greatly enhanced by the development of their respective management plans.

Last but not least, I am also very indebted for the wonderful hospitality I enjoyed during my stay in Bhubaneswar and my visits to the Lake Chilika area.

I look forward to hearing about the planned new Ramsar sites, and about the implementation of the new management plan at Chilika.

Yours sincerely,

Anada Tiéga