|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **CONVENTION ON****MIGRATORY****SPECIES**  | UNEP/CMS/COP13/ReportANNEX 3Original: English |

13th MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

Gandhinagar, India, 17 - 22 February 2020

**EVENTS IN THE MARGINS OF THE COP13**

**Opening reception**

In the evening of the 17th of February during the receptionhosted by the government of India, H.E. Dr. Shaikha Al Dhaheri, Secretary General, Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi (EAD), and Ms. Amy Fraenkel, Executive Secretary, signed the extension of the partnership agreement and new premises arrangements for the period 2020-2023 for the CMS-Abu Dhabi Office and its work on raptors and dugongs.

This signing ceremony was followed by the launch of the redesigned Ambassador for Migratory Species at which three Ambassadors - for terrestrial, avian, and aquatic species - were named: the internationally renowned conservationist Ian Redmond OBE (for terrestrial), award-winning explorer and environmentalist Sacha Dench (for avian), and Indian actor and environmental activist Randeep Hooda (for aquatic). They will help raise awareness about the important work of CMS and the plight of migratory species.

Finally, Ms. Ivonne Higuero, CITES Secretary General, and Ms. Fraenkel, unveiled a set of stamps, issued by the United Nations Postal Administration, featuring endangered migratory species listed on the appendices of both CMS and CITES.

**Signing of Memoranda of Understanding**

The representative of Ethiopia, Mr. Kumara Wakjira, Director General of the Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority, signed the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Birds of Prey in Africa and Eurasia (CMS Raptors MOU), bringing the number of Signatories to 61.

The representative of Divers for Sharks, Paulo Guilherme, and the representative of Save Our Seas Foundation, Sarah Fowler, signed the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Sharks (CMS Sharks MOU) bringing the number of cooperating partners to 15.