

**To: Raptors MoU National Contact Points of the Signatory States in Asia**

The Technical Advisory Group (TAG) to the Raptors MoU was formally established at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of Signatories (MoS2) in 2015 ([UNEP/CMS/Raptors/MoS2/16](#)), following the procedures set out in the [Terms of Reference](#) adopted at MoS1 in 2012. The current list of TAG members can be found in [CMS Notification 2015/025](#).

Earlier this year, one of the two TAG Regional Representatives for Asia, Mr. Umeed Khalid, retired from service in the Government of Pakistan after a successful career and is unable to continue serving as a member of the TAG. On behalf of TAG, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Khalid for the excellent technical advice and support provided over at least the last few years, and to wider his contributions to promote implementation of the Raptors MoU.

In a situation where a TAG member vacancy arises intersessionally between MoSs, the [Terms of Reference for TAG](#) (section 13) allows for the Chair to propose a replacement for consideration by Signatories of the region concerned. Accordingly, I am writing to propose Dr. Suresh Kumar, Senior Scientist at the Department of Endangered Species Management, Wildlife Institute of India, to serve as the Asia Regional Representative for TAG. Please find attached his CV for your consideration.

If there are no objections received by the Coordinating Unit within 30 days of this communication the interim appointment will be considered accepted and will become effective immediately. The term of appointment will expire at the end of MoS3 (unless the member is re-appointed by the meeting).

I trust that you will feel able to support this proposal but please don't hesitate to contact the Coordinating Unit, or myself, if you have any questions.

Best regards,



**Professor Des B.A. Thompson FRSE**

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