



CMS COP14 Champion Night

**Monday 12 February 2024,
Award Ceremony: Plenary Hall 19.00 – 19.55 hrs
Reception: Hilton Samarkand Regency 20.00. – 23.00 hrs**

On the margins of the CMS COP14, the Champion Night takes place as an evening of celebration to honour new CMS Champions who will be awarded for their outstanding efforts and commitments to the global fight for conserving migratory species.

On Monday, February 12th, nine new Migratory Species Champions will be announced during the award ceremony, which will be held in the Plenary Hall of the COP Venue (Silk Road Congress Center) at 7:00 p.m.

The evening will then proceed with a reception generously hosted by the Government of Uzbekistan at the nearby Hilton Samarkand Regency. Open to all CMS COP participants, the reception will be accompanied by traditional Uzbek dancers and musicians.

The Migratory Species Champion Programme aims to promote initiatives developed under the CMS Family and encourage their sustainable support. To learn more about please visit: <https://www.migratoryspecies.org/en/champion/get-involved>

Programme

Time	Session		Distinguished speaker / Award recipient
19.00 – 19.10	Pre - Opening	Music entertaining the public for a few initial minutes	Entertainment while waiting for everyone to take their seat
19.10 – 19.15	Opening of the Night	The Master of Ceremonies opens the Night	MC Mr Nodir Mukhammedov
		Opening Remarks by Amy Fraenkel	Amy Fraenkel CMS Executive Secretary
19.15 – 19.20		Opening Remarks by Inger Andersen	Inger Andersen UNEP Executive Director
19.20 – 19.22		Master of Ceremony says a few words about the awards that will be given.	MC Mr Nodir Mukhammedov



Time	Session		Distinguished speaker / Award recipient
19.22 – 19.25	Award Ceremony	Award to the European Commission for their contribution towards addressing Illegal Killing Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds in the Mediterranean for the period 2023-2028	Receives the Award: Mr Hans Stielstra Deputy Head of Unit, DG Environment Unit D2 – Natural Capital and Ecosystem Health
19.25 – 19.28		Award to the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany for their contribution towards the conservation of Sahelo-Saharan Megafauna for the period 2021-2024	Receives the Award: Dr. Bettina Hoffmann Parliamentary State Secretary at the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV)
19.28 – 19.31		Award to the Government of India for their contribution to the conservation of Migratory Birds in the Central Asian Flyway for the period 2024-2026	Receives the Award: Mr. Jitendra Kumar, Director General of Forests and Special Secretary, Government of India
19.31 - 19.34		Award to the Government of the Principality of Monaco for their contribution towards the implementation of the Convention for the period 2024-2026	Receives the Award: Ms Céline Van Klaveren-Impagliazzo Chef de division (Head of Unit) Département des Relations Extérieures et de la Coopération
19.34 – 19.37		Award to the Government of the United Kingdom for their contribution towards addressing Illegal and Unsustainable Taking of Migratory Species for the period 2024-2026	Receives the Award: Ms Caroline Daisley Team Leader CITES and CMS, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)
19.37 19.40		Awards (2) to the Environment Agency Abu Dhabi for its support to the conservation of Migratory birds of Prey in Africa and Asia and for the Conservation of Dugongs and their habitats for the period 2024-2027	Receives the Award: Dr. Salim Javed Division Director Terrestrial and Marine Biodiversity, Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates



Time	Session		Distinguished speaker / Award recipient
19.40 – 19.43	Award Ceremony	Award to the National Center for Wildlife of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for their contribution towards addressing Illegal Hunting, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds in South-West Asia for the period 2024-2026	Receives the Award: Mr. Ahmed Alboug , General Manager at National Center for Wildlife (NCW), on behalf of Dr. Muhammad Ali Qurban, NCW CEO
19.43-19.46		Award to the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation for their support to the conservation of Central Asian Mammals for the period 2020-2023	Receives the Award: Dr. Bettina Hoffmann Parliamentary State Secretary at BMUV <i>on behalf of</i> the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN)
19.46 - 19.51		Award to the Government of Uzbekistan for their contribution to securing Ecological Connectivity for the period 2024-2026 and Closing Remarks	Receives the Award: H.E. Aziz Abdukhakimov , Ministry of Ecology, Environmental Protection and Climate Change of the Republic of Uzbekistan Mr Aziz Abdukhakimov also gives some closing remarks as distinguished speaker the host of the event.
19.51 – 19.55	Closure	Master of Ceremonies closes the ceremony	Group picture with all CMS Champions!
The event continues at the Hilton Samarkand Regency			
20.00 onwards (Until 23.00)	Post-Award Ceremony	A reception is offered by the Government of Uzbekistan for all participants and is accompanied by traditional dances and music	Dancers and Musicians / Music will continue to entertain the public.

*Interpretation is not provided.
Shuttle services will be made available.*