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# CMS/UNA Essay Competition

Apply by 1 May 2017!

UNA-USA is now accepting entries to the Essay Competition in cooperation with the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS). The five best entries will receive a certificate. The winning essay will be featured in the "Inflight Magazine" for the Twelfth Session of the Conference of the Parties to CMS (CMS COP12), being held in Manila, the Philippines, from 23 to 28 October 2017. The winner will also deliver a speech at the opening ceremony of the Conference which will be attended by over 500 participants including high level government officials and representatives of international organizations from more than 140 countries.\*

As an environmental treaty under the aegis of United Nations Environment, CMS provides a global platform for the conservation and sustainable use of migratory animals and their habitats. CMS brings together the States through which migratory animals pass, the Range States, and lays the legal foundation for internationally coordinated conservation measures throughout a migratory range. The slogan for CMS COP12 is "**Their Future is Our Future – Sustainable Development for Wildlife & People**", links to the Sustainable Development Goals agreed by the world's governments in 2015 to end poverty and hunger, improve health and education, combat climate change and protect oceans and forests. The essay should be written in English and be 800 to 1,000 words long. Entrants should be under the age of 30. Entrants are also requested to provide a brief biography – name, age, place of birth, academic institute and course being followed, and professional aspirations and ambitions. To enter, please send your essay and

the biographical information in one document to Anna Mahalak, UNA-USA Youth Engagement Manager at amahalak@unausa.org.

The essay should address the linkage between Sustainable Development Goals and the conservation of migratory species, addressing potential conflicts and areas of compatibility. Entrants are encouraged to identify novel approaches to finding solutions to problems such as conflicts between humans and wildlife and to emphasize the importance of international cooperation in the fields of sustainable development and biodiversity and the role of the United Nations and its agencies particularly CMS in developing and implementing relevant policies.

\*UNA-USA is not responsible for any expenses incurred by attending CMS COP12. The selected winner should pursue funding opportunities in their local communities and through their university to attend.



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