



Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals

Secretariat provided by the United Nations Environment Programme



Mr. Jürgen Nimptsch
Mayor of the City of Bonn
Altes Rathaus
Markt
53111 Bonn

27 February 2013

Dear Mayor Nimptsch,

We are pleased to announce that a high level cultural event is scheduled to take place on 11 May in Bonn to mark World Migratory Bird Day 2013. This annual campaign, which is being organized jointly by the Secretariats of the Bonn Convention and the African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement, aims to emphasize the need to conserve migratory birds across the globe.

The concept of song announcing the arrival of migratory birds on their breeding territories links to human song as an expression of the most diverse feelings and emotions. Opera is one of the best known singing cultures in the world. The year 2013 marks the 200th anniversary of the birth of Giuseppe Verdi, who is among the best known opera composers in the world.

The Bologna Opera Choir "Chorale San Rocco" has generously offered to give a charity concert on Saturday, 11 May in Bonn in support of a project to conserve migratory birds. In this context, I also would like to thank the Bonn Cultural Department for facilitating contact to our concert venue, the "Namen Jesu Kirche".

We kindly invite you to attend this extraordinary concert linking biodiversity to the richness of culture and music. And we would be particularly honoured, if you would be able to officially open the concert at the church together with our Executive Secretary at 7pm.

In support of the cause of migratory birds, the members of the choir will travel to Bonn at their own expense. The Secretariat of the Bonn Convention will of course organize the concert as well as some touristic visits for them. It would be a special honour and acknowledgement for our guests, if you would consider to host a cocktail reception around 5 pm, preceding the concert, to welcome the choir.

We look forward to a cultural highlight which will be a milestone in the common history of the Bonn Convention and the City of Bonn,

Yours faithfully,

Bert Lenten
Officer in Charge
UNEP/CMS Secretariat