

Philippines gears up for first CMS Conference in Asia

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MANILA, PHILIPPINES – Hundreds of Illustrated migratory species have been set up alongside the busy streets of Manila in preparation of the country's hosting of the 12th Conference of Parties (COP 12) to the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) to be held on 23-28 October.

The conference will be a high-level gathering of environment leaders, ministers of member-countries and various civil-society organizations, to discuss the integration of sustainable development and conservation of wildlife with specification on recognized migratory species.

The Philippine Environment Secretary, Roy Agullana Cimatú has earlier expressed high hopes for the conference. He said that his country's delegation will push for the approval of the Manila Declaration – would become the conference's outcome to call for the global community's broad and effective action to protect the habitats of migratory species.

It is also expected that the conference will be attended by more than a thousand delegates from 124 member-countries. The Philippines is the only signatory party to the CMS in the Southeast Asian region.