



PRESS RELEASE

TUI provides € 17,000 to the Bonn Convention for the Year of the Dolphin

Bonn, 18 January 2008 – During a special event at the international boat fair in Düsseldorf tomorrow to mark the extension of “Year of the Dolphin” into 2008, TUI AG will present a cheque for € 17,000, which represent the proceeds from the sale of merchandise articles, i.e. toy dolphins, caps, t-shirts to support dolphin projects. The cheque will be presented to the United Nations body, the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), which has its headquarters in Bonn, Germany.

The donation will help CMS conclude a new international agreement for the conservation of dolphins, small whales and sirenians in the eastern Atlantic off the coast of West Africa. Following successful consultations in October 2007, CMS is planning a follow-up conference in Bonn in 2008, with more than 30 countries attending. The objective is to sign off the agreement, whose area stretches from Morocco to South Africa.

Moreover, the programme “Aquatic sportsmen sight harbour porpoises” conducted by the Society for the Conservation of Marine Mammals (GSM) will receive support. The objective is to protect highly endangered harbour porpoises in the Baltic Sea. They desperately need protected areas. Sightings by GSM help to identify the porpoises’ preferred habitats. In cooperation with the Federal Nature Conservation Agency (BfN) a marine chart is being created containing all important sighting positions (www.habitatmarenatura2000.de). GSM (www.gsm-ev.de) regularly informs the Advisory Committee of the Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans in the Baltic and North Seas (ASCOBANS) on results obtained.

CMS Executive Secretary Robert Hepworth will accept the cheque from Andreas Koch, Head of Environmental Management of TUI Germany. He said: "The Bonn Convention, with its regional agreements ACCOBAMS and ASCOBANS, the Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society (WDCS) and TUI have spread knowledge of the dolphin's plight in 2007 through their cooperative, global educational and awareness campaign. CMS concludes agreements between states to secure the survival of dolphins throughout the world. In 2008, we will focus on actively supporting research and conservation projects for dolphins."

At the eighth CMS Conference of Parties in 2005, CMS and TUI signed a partnership agreement for the global conservation of migratory species. This agreement provides for cooperation on a number of different conservation actions.

The UNEP-supported Year of the Dolphin campaign is bringing together governments, NGOs and the private sector to underline the urgency of dolphin conservation and to develop and implement appropriate action plans. The founding Partners’ logos are at the top of this release.

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