

YACHT CLUB COSTA SMERALDA



A MARINE ENVIRONMENT PRESERVATION PROGRAM

A code of ethics to disseminate marine
preservation principles and actions

CHARTA SMERALDA

With the contribution of
One Ocean Forum's Scientific Committee



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1967 - 2017

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The ocean has a crucial impact on planet Earth: it regulates climate, supports life, shapes communities and provides vital benefits to human health. It covers 75% of the Earth's surface and contains 97% of the planet's water. However, the ocean is under threat: climate change, ocean acidification, loss of biodiversity, marine pollution and overexploitation of resources are just some of the examples of urgent issues affecting all of us. We need new technical solutions, societal transformation

and new collaborations and partnerships. Solutions and actions that are science-based, put forward by decision-makers and shared and implemented by all segments of society: all of us need to play our part. One Ocean Forum aims to promote conservation and the sustainable use of marine resources through helping industry and society improve understanding of the impact of their actions on the climate, the ocean and our well-being. The focus centres on four pressing issues:

- **MARINE LITTER AND POLLUTION:** man-made debris, microplastics and microbeads, eutrophication and toxins.
- **GLOBAL AND CLIMATE CHANGES:** warmer ocean surface temperatures causing coastal flooding and hurricanes. Higher sea levels and tides destroying low-lying zones and increased acidity.
- **BLUE TECHNOLOGIES AND INNOVATION:** smarter, greener technologies must be implemented in established maritime economic sectors while enhancing public scientific awareness.
- **OCEAN LITERACY:** enabling citizens, economic players and stakeholders to make responsible and informed decisions concerning marine-related issues and increasing acceptance of marine policies.

The **CHARTA SMERALDA** defines a set of principles and undertakings that individuals and organisations can recognise, share and commit to through individual and collective actions and behaviour.

PRINCIPLES AND COMMITMENTS: INDIVIDUALS who love the ocean, and spend time on the water both for leisure and professional activities, commit to protecting the ocean, seas and coastal areas through:

- **PREVENTING COASTAL AND MARITIME POLLUTION FROM FUEL, DISCHARGES AND CHEMICAL PRODUCTS.**
- **REDUCING ENERGY CONSUMPTION AND CARBON FOOTPRINT, AND ADOPTING RENEWABLE ENERGY.**
- **MINIMISING THE USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES, PROMOTING REUSE AND RECYCLING.**
- **PROTECTING AND PRESERVING NATURAL AND MARITIME HABITATS.**
- **PRESERVING WATER RESOURCES.**
- **ELIMINATING SINGLE-USE PLASTICS.**
- **SUSTAINABLE AND RESPONSIBLE BEHAVIOUR.**
- **COLLABORATING AND SHARING WITH OTHERS.**
- **PLAYING AN ACTIVE ROLE IN MARINE PROTECTION AND RESTORATION.**
- **SUPPORTING THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY.**
- **EDUCATING AND INVOLVING NEW GENERATIONS.**
- **PROMOTING AWARENESS, COMMUNICATING AND SPREADING KNOWLEDGE OF THE CHARTA SMERALDA**

PRINCIPLES AND COMMITMENTS: ORGANISATIONS that promote and support any marine activity (yacht clubs, marinas etc.) commit to sustainable operations through:

- **MANAGEMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLES AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION POLICIES.**
- **ADOPTING AN ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN TO MINIMISE IMPACT OF ALL ON SHORE AND MARINE ACTIVITIES.**
- **ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY THROUGH ASSESSMENT AND MONITORING OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT.**
- **ADOPTING BEHAVIOUR, TECHNOLOGIES AND SOLUTIONS THAT REDUCE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT.**
- **SUPPORTING THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY AND THEIR INITIATIVES AND DATA AND INFORMATION GATHERING.**
- **PROMOTING AWARENESS, COMMUNICATING AND SPREADING KNOWLEDGE OF THE CHARTA SMERALDA.**
- **COLLABORATING AND SHARING IDEAS, INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS AND BEST PRACTICES WITH OTHERS.**
- **EDUCATING, COMMUNICATING AND INVOLVING NEW GENERATIONS**

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