



**GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR**  
**Department of the Environment**  
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**Gibraltar**

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **Environment Ministry Supports Earth Hour**

The Ministry for the Environment supports the initiative taken by the Gibraltar Scout Movement to call on Gibraltarians to participate in Earth Hour. On March 28 you can VOTE EARTH by switching off your lights for one hour. This year, Earth Hour has been transformed into the world's first global election, between Earth and global warming.

For the first time in history, people of all ages, nationalities, race and background have the opportunity to use their light switch as their vote – Switching off your lights is a vote for Earth, or leaving them on is a vote for global warming. World Wildlife Fund (WWF) are urging the world to VOTE EARTH and reach the target of 1 billion votes, which will be presented to world leaders at the Global Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen 2009.

Global warming will have wide reaching implications throughout the globe and Gibraltar will not be immune to its effects. It is therefore our global and intergenerational responsibility to ensure we tackle this problem and do not prejudice the environment for future generations.

In Gibraltar the 1<sup>st</sup>/ 4<sup>th</sup> Scouting group will be spearheading the event by organising an awareness rally at Casemates Square *on the* Saturday morning. Earth Hour will take place *on the Saturday evening*, between 8.30 and 9.30 pm *when* the Government urges everyone to switch off all lighting thereby adding Gibraltar's support to this most worthy of causes. As part of the Government support for this event the North Face flood lights, the Laguna flood lights (Jungle Area), Moorish Castle flood lights and flag spot light, Parliament House, City Hall and the Magistrate's Courts flood lights will be switched off during the whole of the weekend and not just for one hour in order to accentuate Government's commitment towards the environment.

**VOTE EARTH by simply switching off your lights for one hour, and join the world for Earth Hour.**