



HM GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR
Ministry for Health & Environment
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VICE-PRESIDENT AL GORE TO SPEAK IN GIBRALTAR AT 'THINKING GREEN' FORUM

The two main speakers at a major environmental forum to be held in Gibraltar will be Vice President Al Gore and Juan Verde, the international Co-Director of Barack Obama's re-election campaign. The forum will be hosted on Sunday 21 October by Gibraltar's Minister of the Environment, Dr John Cortes.

'Her Majesty's Government of Gibraltar aims to make Gibraltar a major environmental hub and it is my dream to make Gibraltar a green capital of Europe,' said Minister Cortes. 'Our Government has done much to change the ethos of Gibraltar, leading by example in the public sector but also engaged with the private sector by including green incentives in its budgetary measures. The 'Thinking Green' forum cements our green credentials and places them on a global platform.'

The major goal of the 'Thinking Green' forum is to explain to large, medium and small companies how sustainability can help them. Today's world faces two of the most important challenges our planet has ever encountered: the international economic recession and the climate crisis. 'Thinking Green' will focus on these two areas with the goal of providing strategies, solutions, inspirations and leadership to business and commerce.

Former US Vice President and Nobel Peace Prize winner Al Gore will address the audience with his presentation, 'Thinking Green: Economic Strategy for the 21st Century'. Arguing that the physical changes in our planet influence our global economy, Vice President Gore will encourage the audience to consider broader issues – environmental, social and political – when setting business strategies.

Juan Verde is the former Secretary of State for Europe and Eurasia at the US Department of Commerce. Responsible for economic and trade relations with Europe and Eurasia between 2009 and 2012, he will present the policies of the Obama administration on renewable energy and explain how the US elections will affect the European economy.

The day will end with a dinner in the dramatic setting of St Michael's Cave at which the two main speakers will be present.