

Ministry of Health, the Environment, Energy and Climate Change

PRESS RELEASE

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Gibraltar participates in the Compact of Mayors to tackle Climate Change

As Part of the World's Largest Coalition of City Leaders Addressing Climate Change, Gibraltar Pledges to Take Action in Advance of UN's Climate Conference in Paris

Today, Gibraltar committed to the <u>Compact of Mayors</u>, a global coalition of city leaders dedicated to reducing their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, make their communities more resilient to climate change and regularly report their progress publicly.

By participating in the Compact of Mayors, H.M. Government of Gibraltar will reinforce its commitment to climate action by taking stock of greenhouse emissions and the current effects of climate change in the city, creating an action plan including clear and ambitious reduction targets, and implementing a common system of measuring those emissions and monitoring climate risks.

The Deputy Mayor, Kaiane Aldorino said "Gibraltar is determined to play a leading role towards this important initiative to fight climate change."

"The Compact of Mayors reinforces our city's commitment to its people and its businesses," added Minister for Health, the Environment & Climate Change, Dr. John Cortes. "By committing to the Compact of Mayors, we are continuing in our work to make Gibraltar a place where people want to live and where businesses want to invest. The actions we take at a local level will have a global impact; and by improving our city, we will be helping create a better world for today's urban citizens and generations to come."

As one of the key initiatives launched at the UN Climate Summit in September of 2014 by the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and his Special Envoy for Cities and Climate Change, Michael R. Bloomberg, the Compact of Mayors is the world's largest collective effort to date by cities to tackle climate change, proactively prepare for its impacts, and regularly track and report progress. The Compact was activated under the leadership of the global city networks—C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group (C40), ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI) and the United



Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)—and with support from UN-Habitat, the UN's lead agency on urban issues.

"The Compact of Mayors reflects the commitment that cities are making to reduce carbon emissions and the crucial role they play in confronting climate change," said Bloomberg. "The more cities that take part in the Compact, the bigger impact it will have. I applaud all of the mayors who have joined, and look forward to welcoming more cities into our growing coalition."

Recent research shows that if every local government in the world took action in accordance with the Compact of Mayors—particularly by targeting their building, energy, transportation, and waste sectors—they could reduce global greenhouse gas emissions by the equivalent of cutting the world's annual coal use by more than half.

Visit <u>www.compactofmayors.org</u> to learn more about the Compact of Mayors.

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Notes to Editors

COMPACT About the Compact of Mayors

The Compact of Mayors is a global coalition of mayors and city officials pledging to reduce local greenhouse gas emissions, enhance resilience to climate change, and to track their progress transparently. The Compact was launched in September of 2014 by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and his Special Envoy for Cities and Climate Change, Michael R. Bloomberg. The Compact was activated under the leadership of the global city networks—C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group (C40), ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI) and the United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)—and with support from UN-Habitat, the UN's lead agency on urban issues. In the lead-up to the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Paris, the unity and ambition among cities through the Compact of Mayors will inspire world leaders to follow suit and forge a global climate deal in Paris. It includes cities such as Paris, New York, Lisbon and Rio de Janeiro.