

### **Beachcomber charts its environmental and social policy**

The introduction of an Environmental and Social Policy Statement is in line with Beachcomber Resorts & Hotels' commitment to achieving best sustainability practices and behaving responsibly.

The Group's Environmental and Social Policy Statement was publicly launched on Friday 5 July 2019 at the **#WeWalkOurTalk** event. The six-page document sets out 52 tangible commitments to our planet. This number was specifically chosen as a reference to the year the Group was founded.

Beachcomber's initiatives focus on using water efficiently, choosing less and greener energy, managing waste responsibly, embellishing the environment and biodiversity conservation, fostering community development, responsible sourcing, the engagement of the Group's artisans and guests' contribution.

Through this Statement, Beachcomber vows to step up its commitment to environmental protection. It is a genuine pledge by the leading hotel group in Mauritius to place this issue at the core of its development strategy.

"Mauritius is already a great place to live, but the country is under environmental, social, and climate pressure. It is therefore extremely important for us all to realise the importance of protecting its natural beauty. The environment must be at the centre of our concerns and actions," says the CEO of Beachcomber Resorts & Hotels, Gilbert Espitalier-Noël.

According to him, the recent achievement of the EarthCheck Silver certification by Beachcomber's eight hotels and Head Office in Mauritius is "a recognition for our long-standing initiatives to promote environmentally friendly development."

The official presentation of this international certification marks another important step towards achieving the Group's sustainable development vision. Beachcomber has embarked on the EarthCheck certification process since 2015 and is now able to better measure, manage and reduce its environmental impact and monitor its social projects. This is the outcome of a programme of concrete actions relating to issues such as the preservation of water resources, energy consumption management, waste management, plastic pollution and engagement with local communities.

**#WeWalkOurTalk** aimed at turning words into action and reiterating the Group's commitment to reconcile development with respect for nature. A total of 150 artisans and guests from all Beachcomber resorts took part in a 350km relay on foot, by bicycle or kayak to the Group's Head Office in Curepipe.

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About Beachcomber

Beachcomber Resorts & Hotels is the pioneer and leader of the Mauritian tourism industry. Since the creation of Park Hotel in 1952, a collection of 9 resorts have emerged over the years, including the mythical Royal Palm Beachcomber Luxury Mauritius in 1985, considered by everyone as the reference in hospitality for luxury holidays in Mauritius.

The Group recently expanded its collection, with the integration of the Beachcomber French Riviera, situated on the Côte d'Azur, in France.

The collection of 9 resorts affords a choice of accommodation options ranging from rooms and apartments to suites and villas. Each hotel is imbued with a particular history and cachet, embodying an image of discrete luxury.

*Social responsibility – Fondation Espoir Développement (FED), by Beachcomber*

Set up and financed by Beachcomber since 1999, with the participation of hotels and employees, this foundation takes care of these main projects:

- Projet Employabilité Jeunes (PEJ): professional insertion of school drop-outs through a training programme and industrial attachments.
- Collaboration with NGOs, schools and associations
- Regional projects – youth mentoring: the "Amour et Espoir" NGO; IT initiation; youth monitoring via the "Duke of Edinburgh International Award" programme, participation of regional sports clubs in the organisation of the Beachcomber UTRB Trail 2015

*Social responsibility – Local Hands*

Programme launched in 2006 to support small local artisans by providing them with training and guidance as they embark upon the process of creation, production, marketing and sales.

*Sustainable development – our environmental actions – EarthCheck label*

Sustainable development and environmental protection constitute real considerations within the Group, which has set up, amongst other initiatives, practices that ensure energy savings and favour renewable energy sources. These initiatives in favour of sustainable development have been recognised and rewarded, with two of our hotels recently obtaining the EarthCheck Benchmarked Silver accreditation for their ongoing commitment to environmentally responsible practices.