



7 MARCH 2013

Avenue de Cortenbergh, 71  
Brussels - Belgium

**MARINE LITTER  
PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SOLUTIONS WILL MAKE A  
CHANGE TOWARDS BLUE GROWTH**

## CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Supported by



[www.wastefreeoceans.eu](http://www.wastefreeoceans.eu)

# MARINE LITTER

## PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SOLUTIONS WILL MAKE A CHANGE TOWARDS BLUE GROWTH

Dear Participant,

Almost three quarters of our planet are covered by water. Water is our life source. Our commitment is to keep it clean.

It is a great pleasure for me to see that the EU Institutions, the private sector, the fishing community, the recyclers and other stakeholders are working together to solve the problem of marine litter. We are fighting together to get cleaner oceans, seas, lakes and rivers. In this journey all the main actors should be included. From the public institutions, the plastics industry and the fishing community until the ports, cruise liners, touristic sector and brand owners.

We should be really strong and innovative. Littering should be prohibited and the existing marine pollution shall be turned into resources that can be re-used in different applications or recycled, contributing to the blue growth and the sustainable future of our society. I am pleased to see how voluntary actions are coming into force and where WFO brings stakeholders together.

Waste Free Oceans has been moving forward very fast. It is a strong movement and I am so proud of being part of it.

Waste Free Oceans is starting its activities in more and more countries around the globe. Also the citizens are getting aware of the problem of marine litter.

In the First Waste Free Oceans Conference *“Marine Litter. Public and Private Solutions will make a Change towards Blue Growth”* you will hear high level speakers treating important issues as the position of the EU Institutions regarding marine litter and blue growth, how to improve the plastic waste collection, future equipment and regional plans to face the problem.

We hope you will join us for a successful event in Brussels. Let's discuss how to continue to work together to combat the growing issue of marine litter.

**Anna Rosbach**  
**WFO Chairwoman and MEP**

\* Participation FREE OF CHARGE UPON INVITATION ONLY



# CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Moderator: Mr Julian Carroll, Partner, H C Services International

## Policy / Legislation

- 8h30 Reception of the Participants**  
.....
- 9h30 Opening**  
• Mrs Anna Rosbach, MEP and Chair of WFO (Denmark)  
.....
- 9h50 EU DG Mare - Marine Knowledge 2020**  
• Mrs Cristina Amil-Lopez, Policy Officer DG MARE (Spain)

## Projects / Actions

- 10h10 WFO Activities Overview 2012**  
• Mr Bernard Merkx, WFO Project Manager (The Netherlands)  
.....
- 10h30 Fishing for Litter Belgium, What did we Achieve in Six Years?**  
• Mr Ivan Victor, Chairman SDVO (Belgium)  
.....
- 10h50 MARLISCO PROJECT**  
**Marine Litter in European Seas: Best Practices and Development of a "Blue" Decision Support Tool to Enhance Social Awareness and Co-Responsibility, highlight Synergies and Promote Interaction of Key Actors**  
• Mrs Xenia I. Loizidou, Head of Coastal Section, ISOTECH Ltd (Cyprus)  
.....
- 11h10 Break**  
.....
- 11h40 WFO Global. How to Develop Actions to Stimulate Fishermen around the World to work with other Stakeholders to Clean up Marine Litter**  
• Mr Luc Mellaerts, WFO Board Member (Belgium)  
.....
- 12h00 How should Countries be Assisted to Deal with this Challenge. Horizon 2020**  
• Mrs Rugile Balzekaite, European Investment Bank (Lithuania)

- 12h20 How to Improve Plastics Waste Collection and Recycling in Europe**  
• Mr Ton Emans, Plastics Recyclers Europe President (The Netherlands)  
.....

- 12h40 Lunch**  
.....

## Solutions

- 13h40 Problem Vs Solutions. A Systematic Approach**  
• Mr Thomas Vanagt, Managing Director eCOAST (Belgium)  
.....
- 14h00 The Floating Waste Gyres. How to Address it?**  
• Jose Luis Gutierrez Garcia, Co-Founder and Project Director of Upcycle the Gyres Society, (Canada)  
.....
- 14h30 Port Facilities for a Better Collection and Recycling of the Marine Litter. How to Develop and Improve it?**  
• Mr Guido Van Meel, Secretary General, Euroshore International (Belgium)  
.....
- 14h50 Future Fishing Equipments for Solutions and Remediation. More Innovation Needed?**  
• Mr Ralph Schneider, Co-founder of openH2O (Germany)  
.....
- 15h10 Break**  
.....
- 15h40 Regional Action Plans Needed**  
• Mr Marc Madec, Fédération de la Plasturgie (France)  
.....
- 16h00 Case Study: Using Plastics Recovered from Oceans for New Applications**  
• Mr Tom Domen, Long Term Innovation Manager of ECOVER (Belgium)  
.....
- 16h20 Global WFO Activities**  
• Mr Yavuz Eroglu, WFO Middle East & Africa President (Turkey)  
.....
- 16h40 Closure of the Conference**  
• Mr Alexandre Dangis, Managing Director of European Plastics Converters Association (Belgium)



## CONTACTS

### **WFO Europe and International**

Av. de Cortenbergh, 71 • Brussels 1000 • BELGIUM

Tel.: +32/2.741.82.80 Fax : +32/2.732.42.18

Email · [info@wastefreeoceans.eu](mailto:info@wastefreeoceans.eu) <http://www.wastefreeoceans.eu/>

### **WFO Middle East & Africa**

Halkali Cad. Tez-Is Is Mrk. • No:132/1 Kat:4 34295 • Sefaköy / Istanbul •  
TURKEY

Tel.: +90 212 425 13 13 Fax: +90 212 624 49 26

Email · [yavuz.eroglu@wastefreeoceans.eu](mailto:yavuz.eroglu@wastefreeoceans.eu) <http://www.pagev.org.tr/>

### **WFO Far East & India**

A-52, Street No. 1 • M.I.D.C. Marol, Andheri (East) • Mumbai - 400 093,  
Maharashtr-a • INDIA

Tel.: +91 22 28217324 Fax: +91 22 28216390

Email · [jayesh@premsons.biz](mailto:jayesh@premsons.biz) <http://www.aipma.net/>

### **WFO The Americas**

Av. de Cortenbergh, 71 • Brussels 1000 • BELGIUM

Tel.: +32/2.741.82.80 Fax : +32/2.732.42.18

Email · [luc.mellaerts@wastefreeoceans.eu](mailto:luc.mellaerts@wastefreeoceans.eu) <http://www.wastefreeoceans.eu/>