



CIBJO CONGRESS 2018

BOGOTÁ, COLOMBIA ■ OCTOBER 15-17, 2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Steven Benson

+972-52-280-2322

communications_1@cibjo.org

CIBJO releases Pearl Commission Special Report, focuses on industry's commitment to marine sustainability



PROTECTING THE OCEANS AND THE SEAS

MILAN, ITALY: SEPTEMBER 26, 2018 - With fewer than three weeks to go to the opening of the 2018 CIBJO Congress in Bogotá, Colombia, on October 15, 2018, the seventh of the CIBJO commissions' Special Reports has been released. Prepared by the CIBJO Pearl Commission, headed by Kenneth Scarratt, it focuses on the growing commitment of pearl farmers from around the world to set the golden standard for sustainability in a marine environment.

“Mankind’s impact on the earth’s environment is not simply related to saving the elephants, lions and the rhinoceros, or wild orchids, while these have great urgency. But they are no greater than

the significant issues surrounding how we control the massive volume of rubbish generated globally that enters our oceans and seas,” wrote Mr. Scarratt.

Surveying a list of ongoing projects from the Philippines to Australia, the Indonesian archipelago to West Papua, and Fiji to Bahrain, Mr. Scarratt describes a community whose long-term livelihood is dependent on its ability to maintain a pristine ocean environment, and to provide economic opportunity to the far-flung indigenous communities where pearling is carried out.

“Pearl farming has often been described as ecological aquaculture,” notes Mr. Scarratt, quoting the Blue Pledge, a new initiative that aims to unite pearl farmers who actionably seek to contribute to the health of the oceans and the global climate. “Pearl oysters are filter feeders that require pristine water conditions in order to produce high-quality pearls. They are also recognised as an indicator species, meaning that any decline in water quality has a direct impact on oyster health, pearl quality, and oyster mortality.”

“Thus, while the world around us appears to be desperately struggling with man’s ineptitudes, let us take comfort in the fact that our pearling community can stand proudly as shining examples to the rest of humanity,” Mr. Scarratt writes.

To download a full copy of the CIBJO Pearl Commission’s special report, [PLEASE CLICK HERE](#).

The 2018 CIBJO Congress will take place in Bogotá, Colombia, October 15-17, with pre-congress meetings on October 13 and 14, and the World Emerald taking place on November 4.

Hosting the CIBJO Congress 2018 are Fedesmeraldas, the National Federation of Emeralds of Colombia, and the CDTEC gemmological institute.

The official venue and hotel of the CIBJO Congress 2018 is the Grand Hyatt Bogotá.

More information is available and registration possible on the dedicated CIBJO Congress website at: <http://www.cibjo.org/congress2018/>

CIBJO is the international jewellery confederation of national trade organisations. CIBJO's purpose is to encourage harmonisation, promote international cooperation in the jewellery industry and to consider issues which concern the trade worldwide. CIBJO's chief mission is to protect consumer confidence in the industry.