

Lisbon, 14 March 2019

Dear ICRI Secretariat,

I hereby declare our interest to become a member of the International Coral Reef Initiative.

The Mirpuri Foundation is a not-for-profit organization that aims to create a better world for future generations, working in six different areas: Marine Conservation, Wildlife Conservation, Performing Arts, Medical Education and Research, Aeronautical Education and Research and Social Responsibility. We strive to foster a spirit of collaboration between global authorities, companies, communities and individuals to positively impact the most pressing issues threatening our planet. The Mirpuri Foundation has grown to become an institution of established influence, setting the bar, leading by example and sharing its best practices to build a better world.

To name a few examples of our projects, we sponsored the Turn the Tide on Plastic boat competing in the 2017-17 Volvo Ocean Race and carried an innovative and groundbreaking scientific equipment onboard that collected water samples and mapped plastic pollution all over the world. To take this cause one step further, the Foundation partnered with the aircraft wet leasing company Hi Fly to make single use plastic-free flights a reality; celebrating the International Year of the Reef, the Mirpuri Foundation painted an Airbus A380, the biggest commercial aircraft in the world, with its Save the Coral Reefs campaign livery, now flying all over the planet with a strong sustainability message, supported on land by a digital campaign to raise awareness to the issue. Furthermore, the Foundation has installed Portugal's first ever Seabin at the Cascais harbor, placing the country as the first member of the Seabin Share Program, designed to help mitigate ocean pollution through the sharing of high-quality data on the health of the ocean.

The world and its ecosystems are changing at an unprecedented pace and at a scale never witnessed before, so we are now called to find a new balance between progress and sustainability. The Mirpuri Foundation is made of visionary leaders whose mission is to have a positive impact in the reshape of economic, social, ecological and cultural contexts and is committed to doing so based on the values of hope, integrity, persistence, courage and innovation.

With half the world's corals already gone, and fully conscious of their vital importance to the planet, we now aim to give a step forward in our commitment to protect the ocean and life on it. Confident that we share the same goals and vision, the Mirpuri Foundation wishes to strengthen its network and, through relevant partnerships, fight for the protection of coral reefs and act as catalysts for positive change. As an ICRI member, the Mirpuri Foundation seeks to address this urgent issue by providing experience as a socially responsible organization while sharing best practices and engaging in top-level conversations.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Paulo Mirpuri  
President of the Mirpuri Foundation