GOODWILL AMBASSADORS



BERTRAND PICCARD at the Paris Climate Meeting, where he became UNEP's newest Goodwill Ambassador



JACK JOHNSON during a World Environment Day beach cleanup in the Bahamas.

Switzerland's Bertrand Piccard, the visionary behind the only airplane capable of flying day and night, without a drop of fuel, and acclaimed musician Jack Johnson became UNEP's newest Goodwill Ambassadors in 2015.

To bring the world's attention to the potential of solar energy, Mr. Piccard and his colleague André Borschberg are flying around the world in an exclusively sun-powered airplane, Solar Impulse. They have already covered 19,957 kilometres between Abu Dhabi and Hawaii.

"This designation is an encouragement to continue showing how many incredible things can be done with renewable energies, but also to implement more energy efficient technologies in our world," said Mr. Piccard as he took up his role during the Paris Climate Meeting in December 2015.

As a UNEP Goodwill Ambassador, he will use his popularity to convince the world's policy-makers, entrepreneurs and communities that a carbon-neutral world is no less possible than flying around the world without fuel. He will also use the remaining stages of his solar journey to engage with children and youth, raising their awareness of efficient energy consumption.



RAGHEB ALAMAGoodwill Ambassador, Arab Region



YANN ARTHUS-BERTRAND Goodwill Ambassador



LI BINGBINGGoodwill Ambassador



GISELE BÜNDCHEN
Goodwill Ambassador



DON CHEADLEGoodwill Ambassador



PATRICK MAKAU Patron for Clean Air



SUZANNA OWIYO Goodwill Ambassador, Kenya



LEWIS PUGHPatron for Oceans



IAN SOMERHALDER Goodwill Ambassador



PAVAN SUKHDEVGoodwill Ambassador



YAYA TOURÉ
Goodwill Ambassador



ERIC WAINAINAGoodwill Ambassador, Kenya

Mr. Johnson, the multi-platinum recording artist, widely acclaimed for his environmental work, took up his mantle on World Environment Day (WED) – the United Nations' principal vehicle for raising worldwide awareness and encouraging action for the environment, celebrated in more than 100 countries.

"Becoming a UNEP Goodwill Ambassador is an honour for me," said Mr. Johnson. "In Hawai`i, when we work together we say Laulima, which means 'many hands'. It is always impressive to see what can be accomplished when you build the right team and get all those hands working together. I see this relationship with UNEP as a way to inspire more people to be active in their local communities."

WED 2015 – held under the slogan 'Seven Billion Dreams. One Planet. Consume with Care' – focused on the theme of sustainable consumption as a means to achieve equitable and inclusive development while minimizing the overexploitation of natural resources and adverse environmental impacts.

Since 2001, Mr. Johnson's albums have sold over 20 million copies worldwide. His Brushfire Records label and touring crew have been leaders in the greening of the music industry and his All At Once social action network has mobilized millions of young people to become active in environmental protection. Mr. Johnson will help to generate interest and mobilize positive action for environmental causes in support of UNEP's work. He will focus particularly on issues such as marine litter and promoting sustainable food systems and plastic-free initiatives.

UNEP's existing 12 Goodwill Ambassadors and Patrons in 2015 continued to use their fame to raise awareness of, and prompt action on climate change, the illegal wildlife trade and marine protection – engaging in events such as WED and the UNEP Champions of the Earth awards. UNEP would like to express its appreciation for the commitment of all its Ambassadors and Patrons to changing public attitudes to the environment.

For more information, visit www.unep.org/gwa