



FOR IMMEDIATE NEWS RELEASE

**World Earth Day 2023: "IC2 Invests In Our Planet"
Artyzen Grand Lapa Macau Joins Forces with Macau IC2
for Sustainable Living and Environmental Protection**

Macau, April 22, 2023 — Artyzen Grand Lapa Macau, a pioneer of sustainable development in the hospitality industry in Macau, is proud to have joined forces with Macau IC2 for the third consecutive year to celebrate World Earth Day. Both Artyzen Grand Lapa Macau and IC2 share the belief and concept of sustainability, and they are committed to doing their part in protecting the environment.

This year's event, themed "IC2 Invests In Our Planet," was focused on promoting a low-carbon lifestyle and sustainable practices for environmental protection. The event highlighted the importance of investing in the planet we all share and featured a variety of activities to engage the community in this important cause.

As one of the key partners of the event, Artyzen Grand Lapa Macau displayed its commitment to contributing to a greener future. The celebration kicked off at 3:40 pm with a Green Walk from Fisherman's Wharf to the beautiful surroundings of Artyzen Grand Lapa Macau resort lawn area. The walk aimed to raise awareness of the importance of environmental protection and sustainable living practices.

Macau IC2 is proud to have organized the World Earth Day event for the third year. The event continued with a series of exciting and educational activities, including Pickleball game demonstration, and an opening speech is given by the Main organizer - **Mr. Antonio Luis Leong, President of Macau IC2**. "As the first rehabilitation organization in Macau IC2 association actively promotes environmental awareness and organizes community activities. In 2021 and 2022, members of the association will personally plan and successfully host World Earth Day activities to arouse citizens' awareness of protecting the earth and caring for the environment. Macau IC2 gets affirmation and appreciation from all walks of life. In 2023, we will continue to carry out today's Earth Day activities regardless of the weather, and do our part to protect the earth." said Mr. Antonio Luis Leong. A short environmental talk by **Ms. Cecilia U, Secretary of the Society of Food & Environmental Health (Macau)** regarding "As this is the second year we support this event, we want to take this opportunity to reinforce that food is the single strongest lever to optimize human health and environmental sustainability on Earth". She encouraged the 150 audiences to be enlightened about the food waste reduction by participating the game booth at the event. Through wise and kind diets with consist of climate-friendly food ingredients, everyone can play a role in mitigating the triple global crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss, pollution and waste.

The occasion was highlighted by its signature tree-planting ceremony featuring the Osmanthus Fragrans tree, which will join the previous planted trees of the past two years, and was conducted to symbolize the importance of investing in our planet. The Osmanthus Fragrans tree, also known as Sweet Osmanthus or Fragrant Olive, is a symbol of perseverance, resilience, and hope. By planting this tree, Artyzen Grand Lapa Macau, Shenmo Star River Public Welfare Alliance and Macau IC2 hope to encourage the



community to take action towards protecting the environment and preserving the planet for future generations.

In addition, IC2 students presented a recycling fashion show and performed a Harmony Choir with sign language. The ceremony concluded with booth games and Green refreshments for all attendees to enjoy, which featured a “*green menu*”, encouraging guests to embrace a low-carbon lifestyle.

"As one of the key partners of this event, Artyzen Grand Lapa Macau is thrilled to play an active role in celebrating World Earth Day 2023," said **Mr. Rutger Verschuren, Area Vice President, Macau Operations of Artyzen Hospitality Group and General Manager of Artyzen Grand Lapa Macau.** "We take pride in sharing emotional wisdom with our guests, covering various bold initiatives that contribute to a low-carbon future. It's encouraging to see our team's passion for hospitality combined with eco-friendly practices, adding an extra level of environmental responsibility."

"We hope that the event inspires people to think about the impact of their actions on the planet and make small changes in their daily lives to reduce their carbon footprint," added **Mr. Verschuren.** "Artyzen Grand Lapa Macau and Artyzen Hospitality Group will continue to promote sustainable practices in the hospitality industry and contribute to a more sustainable future."

Artyzen Grand Lapa Macau and Macau IC2 remain dedicated to their mission of promoting sustainable practices and environmental protection policies in the region. The success of the World Earth Day event is a testament to their commitment and their partnership with the Social Welfare Bureau, Education and Youth Development Bureau, and numerous other partners and organizations (see officiating guest list attached). With over 150 participants, the event shone a spotlight on sustainable practices and environmental protection policies not just in Macau but also in the Greater Bay Area and beyond.

-End-



Photos Download

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	Photos	Caption
1		Group Photo from Green Walk Participants
2		Tree Planting Ceremony (Left to Right) Founder of Shenmo Star River Public Welfare Alliance, Ms. Emily Ye, President of Macau IC2 , Mr. Antonio Leung and Area Vice President, Macau Operations of Artyzen Hospitality Group and General Manager of Artyzen Grand Lapa Macau Mr. Rutger Verschuren
3		Group Photo of all officiating guests with Mr. Leung and Mr. Verschuren
4		World Earth Day 2023 is successfully hosted at Artyzen Grand Lapa Macau

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Officiating Guest List

#	Organization and Title	Name
1	Member of Legislative Assembly of Macau	Ms. Carmen Lo
2	Member of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Committee of Guangxi Yulin and the Honorary Chairman of Macau Dragon Voyage Sport Association	Mr. Lenlison Lo
3	Assistant of Department of Social Affairs, Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the Macao Special Administrative Region	Ms. Yang Hui Yan
4	Director of Centro de Educação Moral, Education and Development Bureau of Macao Special Administrative Region	Representative
5	Chief Rehabilitation Case Service Unit, Social Welfare Bureau Government of Macao Special Administrative Region	Mr. Lao Kit Man, Anson
6	Area Vice President – Macau Operations, Artyzen Hospitality Group and General Manager – Artyzen Grand Lapa Macau	Mr. Rutger Verschuren
7	CEO of XDChannel Consultant Ltd. And The Director for EVENT organizing Course for Macau IC2	Mrs. Ada Lo
8	Principal of Shenmo Star River Public Welfare Alliance	Ms. Ye Xiuhua
9	Director of Concordia School for Special Education	Ms. Lam Kim U
10	The Chairperson of The Society of Food and Environmental Health (Macao)	Ms. Ruby O
11	Chairlady of the Executive Board, Association of Parents of the People with Intellectual Disabilities of Macau	Ms. Wong Kam Fong
12	Head of Delegation of the Orient Foundation	Ms. Catarina Cottinelli
13	Philanthropist	Mr. Lei Tim Meng
14	Vice President, Macau Down Syndrome Association	Ms. Leong Lai long
15	President of Macau IC2 Association	Mr. Antonio Luis Leong

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Sustainable practice advocated by Artyzen Grand Lapa Macau

A commitment to sustainability is evident in every last detail at Artyzen Grand Lapa Macau. The hotel strives to reduce energy consumption, improve waste management and minimize food wastage, while also promoting low-carbon living. Since the hotel's renovation in 2018, Artyzen Grand Lapa Macau has minimized the use of plastic bottles for its bathroom amenities and guest supplies. In addition, biodegradable straws have been implemented for beverages, and plastic packaging has been banned for takeaways. The hotel is also a pioneer in equipping itself with its Nordaq water bottling facility and introducing this premium water brands, which is used by many of the world's top hotels, chefs and sommeliers.

In order to promote a culture of environmental sustainability, the hotel actively participated in local major green activities, from Green Weeks to Earth Hours; red-packet recycling to Mooncake box collection; The "No Shark Fin - Artyzen Group Policy" was implemented, and sustainable seafood is now served in all restaurants. To promote an inspiring future, the hotel recently launched its Green Menu for a sustainable and responsible lifestyle. The hotel is awarded the Silver Award of the Macau Green Hotel Awards by Macau Environment Protection Bureau.

Brief Introduction of Macau IC2 (The main organizer of World Earth Day)

Macau IC2 has been established by a group of people with autism and intellectual disabilities and it is still the only Macau government registered "non-profit organization" managed by people with disabilities since August 2016. The Abbreviation "IC2" stands for I CAN TOO, which means "I can do it, too". IC2 believes in equality and that every human being is as important. All humans should be able to speak for themselves, share their thoughts, make friends, exchange information, promote and advocate the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and arouse social awareness. IC2 has found its way from managing a cafe via Catering Training Project to contributing to the society, i.e. Prepare free handmade sandwiches and visit to the caring elderly homes. From train-the-trainer program, they have begun to transform from "seeking other to help them" to "reaching out to help others". Up to March 2022, they have 165 members and they don't actively promote themselves but the people from the same background would find them from word-of-mouth. They also reach out to help those people with disabilities in the mountainous part of China who has limited knowledge about Autism and intellectual disabilities. All small steps have been accumulating experience along the way and enhancing the quality of life of Macau IC2 members.