

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

Responsible Jewellery Council

Current Industry Issues



| Question | Answer |
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| <p>Will the RJC system be harmonised with other voluntary initiatives and best practice systems?</p> | <p>The Code of Practices has sought to harmonise with widely accepted international standards wherever possible to reduce duplication. A range of international standards and voluntary initiatives are directly or indirectly referred to. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights• International Labour Organisation (ILO) Fundamental Rights at Work• Kimberley Process Certification Scheme and World Diamond Council System of Warranties for diamond shipments• Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights• SA8000 on Child Labour, remuneration, working hours, workplace discipline and grievance procedures;• International Cyanide Management Code. <p>The Standards Guidance provides more information on relevant international standards and links to online resources.</p> |
| <p>Why does the RJC participate in the Global Compact – Civil Society?</p> | <p>The Global Compact has ten principles in the areas of human rights, labour, the environment and anti-corruption. The RJC Code of Practices (COP) sets standards of responsible business practices for its Members which serve to support the Global Compact agenda. Collaboration with the Global Compact brings added value to the RJC and its membership by developing synergies relating to responsible business practices in the jewellery supply chain.</p> |

www.responsiblejewellery.com

The Responsible Jewellery Council is the trading name of the Council for Responsible Jewellery Practices Ltd, The Council for Responsible Jewellery Practices Ltd, First Floor, Dudley House 34-38 Southampton Street, London, United Kingdom WC2E 7HF. The Council for Responsible Jewellery Practices is registered in England and Wales with company number 05449042.

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| <p>How does the RJC Certification System address conflict diamonds?</p> | <p>Through the RJC Certification System, the RJC requires that its Members must not knowingly buy or sell conflict diamonds, or assist others to do so. The RJC Code of Practices includes four provisions requiring conformance with the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme for rough diamonds and the World Diamond Council System of Warranties. Non-compliance with any of these provisions is considered a 'Critical Breach' under the RJC Certification System, which will trigger disciplinary proceedings leading to sanctions against that RJC Member, which may ultimately lead to expulsion.</p> <p>The RJC Code of Practices also includes specific provisions on human rights, which refer to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights, and ILO Conventions on child labour, forced labour, freedom of association and discrimination.</p> <p>RJC Members must evidence compliance through an independent verification assessment, which involves desktop reviews and site visits. Independent, third party auditors will look for objective evidence of conformance in the form of management systems, observed practices and record-keeping.</p> |
| <p>Marange Diamonds and The RJC Certification System</p> | <p>The reported human rights abuses in the Marange diamond fields in Zimbabwe are of grave concern to all who advocate responsible practices in the jewellery supply chain. The Responsible Jewellery Council (RJC) includes specific provisions regarding human rights and conflict diamonds as part of its Certification System, formally launched in December 2009.</p> <p>In light of the serious situation in Zimbabwe, the RJC will ensure that auditors place an extra level of vigilance on the potential for non-conformances in this area. Auditors will be kept updated on the situation via training delivered by the RJC and alerts on relevant developments.</p> <p>The RJC will continue to monitor progress on KPCS implementation in Zimbabwe and urges all parties to work diligently towards resolution of the situation in Marange.</p> |
| <p align="center">Please also refer to our Website for the latest press releases: http://www.responsiblejewellery.com/news.html</p> | |
| <p align="center">Should you have any further questions please don't hesitate to contact Mila Bonini, Communications Manager on mila.bonini@responsiblejewellery.com</p> | |

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