

# MINUTES

## Standards Committee Teleconference

Monday 30 April 2012

### Teleconference times

- Vancouver/Carlsbad/Seattle @ 0600;
- Salt Lake City @0700;
- New York/Toronto @ 0900;
- London @ 1400;
- Antwerp/Paris@ 1500;
- Johannesburg@ 1500;
- Mumbai @ 1830;
- Melbourne@2300.



### Documents circulated:

- List of Standards Committee participants (including bios)
- 'Recognised Responsible Mining Standard' review of Fairtrade-Fairmined Standard

**Participants:** Charles Chaussepied, Ryan Taylor, Rob Headley, Mark Gershburg, Larry Drummond, Jon Philips, Felix Hruschka, Stephane Fischler, Ngomesia Mayer-Kechom, Steven Oates, Cecilia Gardner, Gemma Cartwright, Jennifer Horning, Patrick Laine, Juliane Kippenburg, Estelle Levin, Fiona Solomon, Marieke van der Mijn

**Apologies:** Wilfried Horner, Michele Bruelhart, Stan Lurie, Alan Martin, Chikashi Miyamoto, Marcelle Shoop, Andrew Parsons, Assheton Carter, Michael Rae

*Attendees are kindly reminded that the RJC is committed to complying with all relevant antitrust and competition laws and regulations and, to that end, has adopted an [Anti-trust Policy Statement](#), compliance with which is a condition of continued RJC membership. Failure to abide by these laws can potentially have extremely serious consequences for the RJC and its members, including heavy fines and, in some jurisdictions, imprisonment for individuals. You are therefore asked to have due regard to this Policy today and indeed in respect of all other RJC activity.*

### 1. Welcome

- Welcome from Co-Chairs: Charles Chaussepied and Ryan Taylor.
- Introductions of new participants: referred to Bio list as circulated with the agenda. An updated Bio list is circulated with the minutes.

### 2. Amendment to RJC Governance Handbook

- The Amendment to clause 5.2 of the RJC Governance Handbook was supported. Following a further editorial suggestion by email, the Amended text for proposal to the Board will be:
  - **Proposed amended text:** RJC Members elected to Committees have the duty to exercise loyalty to the Council's mission, representing the interests of their Member Forum, free of any conflicting interests of a personal or any other nature. Non-RJC Member individuals or organisations appointed to Committees have the duty to provide the perspectives of materially-affected parties and/or their relevant expertise to the Committee's work.

### 3. Minutes of previous meeting

- First meeting of 2012 Committee so no previous minutes

- Results of ballot on TOR for diamond sub-committee: the TOR were approved by the Standards Committee via ballot and have been provided to the diamond sub-committee to frame their work.
- Current participants in the diamond sub-committee are:
 

<a href="#">Karla Basselier</a>	AWDC
<a href="#">Didier Backaert</a>	Bonas
<a href="#">Jamie Clark</a>	De Beers
<a href="#">Ferial Zerouki</a>	De Beers
<a href="#">Fazal Chaudhri</a>	Exelco
<a href="#">John Berglund</a>	Fred Meyer
<a href="#">Sean Murray</a>	Fred Meyer
<a href="#">Donald Palmieri</a>	GCAL
<a href="#">Angelo Palmieri</a>	Gemprint
<a href="#">Nirupa Bhatt</a>	GIA
<a href="#">Pintu Dholakia</a>	Hari Krishna Exports
<a href="#">Rob Headley</a>	Jewelers of America
<a href="#">Damian Gagnon</a>	Lazare Kaplan
<a href="#">Charles Chaussepied</a>	Piaget
<a href="#">Derek Palmer</a>	Pluczenik
<a href="#">John Hall</a>	Rio Tinto
<a href="#">Fatima Van Loon</a>	Rio Tinto
<a href="#">Chikashi Miyamoto</a>	Rosy Blue
<a href="#">Mark Jenkins</a>	Signet Group
<a href="#">Ryan Taylor</a>	The Fair Trade Jewellery Co

  - The sub-committee process is being supported by Michael Rae (RJC CEO) and Graham Nicholls (RJC Adviser).

#### 4. Standards Committee work program – 2012-2013

Project	Timeframe	Description	Status
<b>RJC Code of Practices review</b>	Formal review commencing in mid-2012	<p>Objectives include to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formally include Platinum Group Metals in the Code of Practices and increase clarity of applicability to lab-grown diamonds.</li> <li>• Identify and address any gaps in the CoP and/or guidance applicable to grading, appraising and assaying.</li> <li>• Address questions/issues that arise during implementation experience re interpretation of standards and/or guidance.</li> <li>• Continue multi-stakeholder engagement on key mining issues, including mercury, Indigenous Peoples, and mining in conflict zones.</li> </ul>	<p>Any suggestions on the objectives are welcome.</p> <p>Time frame will be at least a minimum of 12 months, commencing mid-2012 and will probably include 2-3 rounds of public comment.</p> <p>Preliminary analysis of this data log has commenced.</p> <p>Comment from participants to</p>

			<p>address UN Guiding Principles (Ruggie) and include child labour as a separate key issue.</p> <p>The approach to the review and issues identified will be brought to the next Standards Committee meeting for further discussion.</p>
<p><a href="#">Chain of Custody</a> – Standards Committee to oversee work of diamond sub-committee. Review matters for CoC Standard precious metals as required.</p>	2011-2012	<p>The CoC Standard applicable to Precious Metals was launched in March 2012.</p> <p>A sub-committee of the RJC Standards Committee is undertaking further consultation on the draft Chain-of-Custody standard's applicability to diamonds. The Chain-of-Custody standard and associated documentation for precious metals was approved by the RJC Board in February 2012.</p>	<p>Terms of reference for the diamond sub-committee have been agreed. Next meeting is being convened for May.</p>

## 5. Review of Fairtrade-Fairmined Standard as 'Recognised Responsible Mining Standard'

- ARM, Fairtrade and RJC have collaborated on a draft review of the Fairtrade-Fairmined Standard for the purposes of it becoming the first 'Recognised Responsible Mining Standard' under the RJC Chain-of-Custody standard.

The Committee approved the release of the discussion paper on the FT-FM Standard as a Recognised Responsible Mining Standard for a one month public comment period. Felix Hruschka (ARM) summarised the positive alignment between the FT-FM Standard and RJC CoP. He noted that the FT-FM Standard will be revised this year but that it is not expected to impact the alignment between the two standards.

Gemma Cartwright (Fairtrade) emphasised that the main objective of this recognition is more positive access for ASM to formal markets. Under the proposed RJC recognition, when Fairtrade and Fairmined Gold is sourced under RJC Chain-of-Custody Certification, it is not able to be labelled 'Fairtrade and Fairmined' without additional compliance with the Fairtrade system's registration, licensing and audit protocol. Fairtrade encourages CoC Certified companies purchasing gold from Fairtrade and Fairmined certified producers to register with their local Fairtrade Labelling Initiative to use the dual label and raise awareness of the challenges for ASM and the work they are doing to bring formalisation to the sector through Fairtrade and Fairmined product certification.

## 6. Update on other relevant initiatives

- ISEAL Membership: RJC is currently an Associate Member of ISEAL and in March submitted its application for Full Membership. The review of RJC's application is currently taking place and RJC expects to hear the outcome around mid-year.
- OECD Due Diligence Guidance – Gold Supplement: The Gold Supplement is expected to be formally adopted by OECD Council in May or June 2012. RJC, along with a number of Committee members, will attend OECD Implementation Meetings in Paris in May 2-5, and participate in an LBMA event on May 1.
- London Bullion Market Association: RJC co-presented with LBMA at Baselworld on the RJC Chain-of-Custody standard and the LBMA Responsible Gold Guidance. The session was well attended by a range of stakeholders, mostly from the watch and jewellery supply chain.
- World Gold Council Conflict-Free standard: WGC released an Exposure Draft of the Conflict-Free Standard in early April. WGC requests feedback by June 30 and is organising a number of consultation meetings.
- EICC- GeSI Conflict-Free Smelter assessment program: UL (RJC Accredited Auditors) are developing a combined refiner audit protocol for EICC and RJC CoC, building on the CoC Assessment Toolkit.
- Initiative for Responsible Mining Assurance (IRMA): update from Rob Headley (Jewelers of America). The IRMA Steering Group will meet soon to discuss progress and current drafts of standards. IRMA is also considering applying for ISEAL Associate Membership.

## 7. Any other business

## 8. Standards Committee schedule – 2012 dates:

- Proposed next teleconference: Monday 25<sup>th</sup> of June