

## **RJC Standards Committee meeting**

**Date:** 12<sup>th</sup> November 2025

### **Standards Committee Attendees:**

- Purvi Shah, Ainsley Butler, Philippe Telouk, Didier Backaert, Marie-Charlotte, Noora Jamsheer, Joelle Ponnelle, Kim Wenzel, Jennifer Hillard, Laurent Massi, Silvia Bezzone, Charlene Nemson, Monica Barcellos Harris, Robin Kolenbach, Gavin Hilson, Sara Yood

### **RJC Management Team:**

- Suzanne Brooks, Melanie Grant, Effie Marinos, Caroline Watson, Megan Gannon, Lorenzo Colini

### **Apologies:**

- John Hall, Maggie Gabos, Marco Quadri, Salah Husseini, Alexander Gul, Ilan Keplan, Trisevgeni Stavropoulos, Tehmasp Printer, Marcin Piersiak, Renata Lawton Misra, Sara Yood, Eduard Stefanescu

- **Introductions and Welcome**

Meeting was opened by Purvi Shah, Industry Co-Chair and roll call was taken. Previous meeting minutes were read as approved by Jennifer Hillard (non-industry) and Silvia Bezzone (industry).

- **Supplementary Guidance**

The RJC confirmed that the supplementary guidance was presented to the Executive Committee on the 7<sup>th</sup> November, and is to be presented at the board meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup> November for further discussion, and then to January board meeting for final approval<sup>1</sup>. The RJC thanked the committee for their input and discussions on the draft guidance and confirmed that feedback will be provided to the committee after the November board meeting. The RJC highlighted that if the supplementary guidance is approved at the board meeting, it could be released prior to the year-end, however this is not guaranteed. The timelines for the supplementary guidance and toolkit will be discussed at the in-person Standards Committee meeting in December. Effie Marinos, Special Advisor Technical Standards confirmed that depending on the result of the board meeting, a mitigation strategy document could be developed, including auditor guidance, however, it was noted that any mitigation documents will not hold the authority of the supplementary guidance. With potential delays factored in, the toolkit release will be subsequently rescheduled for release in Q2 2026.

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<sup>1</sup> The Supplementary Guidance was taken for approval at the board meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup>, and has now been passed and is uploaded on to the RJC website.

- **EU Conflict Minerals Regulation Update**

In line with the EU commission, a third shadow audit has been confirmed for 20<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> November with a refinery in Ghana. The RJC team continue to focus on refiner summary publications which are available on the website. The EU commission has published details on all scheme applications including the RJC on their website. The RJC interviews with Kumi will take place after the audit. A query was raised from a member about why the shadow audit is taking place at a refinery outside of Europe. The RJC team noted they will come back to the committee pending an internal clarification. Another committee member raised a question regarding the selection criteria for the audit, to which the member was reminded of the process. Melanie Grant, an RJC consultant noted that shadow audits often took a while to book as members had to voluntarily accept to have their audit shadowed, and this took time.

- **Standards Update**

Following the release of the Standards and Guidance, the RJC noted some minor updates may be required early next year. The first phase of benchmarking is currently underway, with its final stages in progress. Translations of the remaining documents, including the self-assessments, are also ongoing, while the lab-grown self-assessment is currently in its testing phase. The RJC recently conducted a training session on Climate and Emissions, with the potential for another session planned for 2026. The India roadshow in Mumbai and Surat is coming up with attendance from Suzanne, John and Andreea. Additionally, the RJC visited New York recently to hold member meetings, which received positive feedback. Looking ahead to strategic priorities for 2026, the Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining (ASM) workstream will be a key focus, alongside working groups on diamond traceability and potential scope expansion for coloured gemstones, following recommendations from the Strategic Taskforce. The Impacts team will also advance work on the Theory of Change, with progress to be reviewed at the in-person meeting in December. Finally, outreach for new committee members is complete, with final board approval scheduled for 20<sup>th</sup> November.

A query was raised from a member regarding the COC standard, as there is currently a recognition of some mining standards, such as the ICMM, and that a cross-recognition should be completed for the new consolidated mining standard. The RJC confirmed this will form phase 2 of the benchmarking project, which includes reviewing eligible sources and recognitions for COC materials. The RJC will welcome suggestions for which standards to review. IRMA and the Consolidated Mining Standard were raised as a suggestion from a member to review to increase scope of LSM materials. It was noted that, in line with the ASM project, the RJC is actively working to consider broadening ASM sources as part of this benchmarking for the COC, recognising that aligning with ISO 17065 must be considered.

- **Standards Committee In-Person meeting 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> December**

The RJC thanked all the committee members who will be attending the committee meeting in December. The committee was reminded that anyone who cannot attend in-person is able to join online. Updated invites, including preparation materials will be sent next week, such as breakout group information, Terms of Reference outlines, and brief agenda slides. The committee was reminded to complete the survey to allow the Standards team to allocate representatives into the breakout groups for the December in-person meeting. An overview of the three-day agenda was provided. The committee was advised that if they can't attend online or in-person, they are welcome to share their thoughts prior to the meeting. The RJC reminded the committee of the four working groups working groups (Diamond Traceability, ESG and Regulation, Artisanal and small-scale mining, and Coloured Gemstones), and the associated working group of Theory of Change with Impacts, which will be covered in the meeting.

- **AOB**

The Standards Committee reformation and presentation of new members is being presented to the board for approval on the 20<sup>th</sup> November, and a formal communications campaign will be released following this. The Strategic Taskforce meeting was held on the 30<sup>th</sup> October to align on roadmaps for the rest of the year. Jean-Pierre, Strategic Taskforce Co-Chair, will provide more detailed information on review of these in the December meeting. Confirmation of the next meeting being 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> December was provided.

The meeting was closed with thanks from Purvi Shah, Industry Co-Chair.