

Standards Committee Meeting notes

13th March 2024

Standards Committee Participants: Purvi Shah (Co-Chair), Ainsley Butler (Co-Chair), Marcin Piersiak (left at 15:00pm), Jennifer Hillard, Sara Yood, Maggie Gabos (left at 15:05pm), Marie-Charlotte Druesne Chancogne, Didier Backaert, Noora Jamsheer, Gavin Hilson, Charlène Nemson, Lea Meheust.

Guests of the Committee: Ebony Yeboah- Amankwah, Eduard Stefanescu (left at 14:30pm)

RJC Management Team: Suzanne Brooks, Caroline Watson, Daniel Finn, Alyssa Fontaine, Jasmeet Kaur Baggha, Melanie Grant, Sonnet Dowden, Effie Marinou

Apologies: Joelle Ponnelle, Ilan Keplan and Salah Hussein.

Standards Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: 13th March 2024

Time: 14:00-15:30pm (GMT)

Location: Virtual via Teams link

Materials circulated in advance of call:

- Presentation slide deck.
- Meeting Minutes from the 14 February 2024 – for approval in the meeting.
- Link to RJC guidance document on the G7 Diamond import restrictions.
- Link to a short survey for the Standards Committee to provide feedback.

1. Opening

The meeting commenced with the meeting Co-Chair and Senior Standards Manager providing introductions and welcoming all attendees. Approval of the February meeting minutes was confirmed by Jennifer Hillard and Philippe Telouk. Attendees were reminded of the RJC's conflict of interest policy, Chatham House rules, and anti-trust statement. An overview of the agenda for the meeting was presented.

2. Executive Update

The Executive Director (ED) informed the committee of her current location in New York attending an event with numerous meetings. Further updates were provided regarding the G7 import restrictions, with ongoing rolling updates noted. A warm welcome was extended to Effie who is joining the RJC to work more closely with the Standards team as a Strategic Technical Adviser.

3. Standards Committee Updates

Updates on the Standards Committee included re-engagement with DDI/RESOLVE as a non-industry member. The committee was informed of two remaining industry vacancies and the need to increase non-industry membership. Attendees were reminded to complete the standards committee feedback.

4. Meeting Dates and Important Workshops

Committee members were informed about upcoming meeting dates and significant workshop schedules for their reference.

5. Standards Programme Updates

The Senior Standards Manager expressed gratitude for the committee's ongoing involvement and valued contribution and provided a summary of developments since the last committee meeting.

6. Code of Practices (COP)

Discussion ensued regarding actions from the December in-person workshop. Pending actions were addressed with specific committee members for input. The committee deliberated on a potential change to COP 14 and its implications, including discussions on various types of claims and the need for enforceability and auditability. Plans to draft wording on claims for inclusion in the standard were proposed, this would then be shared with the committee.

The COP high level timetable is shared on screen for the committee to review.

7. Chain of Custody (CoC)

The committee was reminded of the closure of the second round of consultation and subsequent roundtable discussions. The Senior Standards Manager gave a summary of the discussions held at the special drop-in session on 5th March on the definition of recycled gold. A comparison table articulating the risk and impacts on RJC's next steps would be circulated as a discussion paper ahead of a follow-up session to be scheduled for April, pending further RJC internal alignment. Plans for a third round of consultations on the definition of recycled materials was outlined. The draft guidance was discussed, and approach will be shared at the next meeting.

8. Laboratory- Grown Materials Standard (LGMS)

Updates were provided on the establishment of the LGMS taskforce and its initial meeting in late February. The committee was informed about future steps in LGMS development and the need for their involvement. Members of the LGMS task force were presented, and further recommendations were sought from the committee.

9. Any Other Business (AOB)

The Senior Standards Manager shared upcoming events the RJC is involved in.

10. Closing Comments

Co-Chair Purvi Shah concluded the meeting with closing remarks and expressions of gratitude to all participants for their contributions.

Next Meeting: 17th April, 14:00pm (GMT), Virtual via Teams link