

Standards Committee Meeting Minutes Summary

Date: 13th November 2024

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

Location: Teams meeting.

Standards Committee Participants: Ainsley Butler (non-industry co-chair), Purvi Shah (industry co-chair), Kimberly Wenzel, Marco Quadri, Jennifer Hillard, Joëlle Ponnelle, Marcin Piersiak, Monica Barcellos Harris, Robin Kolvenbach, Sara Yood, Noora Jamsheer, Marie-Charlotte Drusene Chancogne, Alexander Gul.

RJC Management Team: Suzanne Brooks, Caroline Watson, Effie Marinos, Daniel Finn, Charlotte Stanbridge. Sonnet Dowden and Clark McEwan (RJC Consultant)

Apologies: Melanie Grant (RJC Executive Director), Didier Backaert, Ilan Keplan, Charlene Nemson, Silvia Bezzone, Salah Husseini, Maggie Gabos, Gavin Hilson, Renata Lawson-Misra, and Eduard Stefanescu, Tehmasp Printer, Trisevgeni Stavropoulos.

Materials circulated in advance of call:

- Presentation slide deck

1. Opening:

Meeting commenced with introductions and welcome from Ainsley Butler (non-industry Co-Chair and Senior Standards Manager. No approval of previous meeting minutes required due to the October COP in-person meeting.

The committee were reminded about RJC's conflict of interest policy, Chatham House rules, and anti-trust statement and an overview of the meeting agenda presented.

2. Executive Update:

In place of an executive update, the Senior Standards Manager shared that preparations to present the COP and COC standards at the RJC Board meeting on 19th November were underway for anticipated sign-off at the meeting.

3. Standards Committee Composition:

The committee updates are shown on screen and term extensions were discussed. There is full quorum on the committee until end of 2025. Planning will start in early 2025 for the new additions to the committee in 2025 and beyond. 2025 meetings and structure are also discussed. Smaller working groups may be used also. There will be one in-person meeting will be planned for 2025 – topic and timing to be decided.

A question was asked on the chain of custody for diamonds. The RJC explained that the decision on this (and other strategic topics) sits with the new RJC Strategic Committee, and no decision has been made yet.

Standards Programme Updates:

- **Code of Practices:**

The final version of the 2024 standard is anticipated to be published during the w/c 2nd December. *[edit update: date now confirmed for 10 December.]* Latest comments continue to be included into the COP draft guidance document with final release projected for w/c 16th December. The design agency continues to work on the guidance layout ahead of publishing.

The EU Derogation will be released with communications in December.

A question was asked on the EU CMR Recognition audits timelines for audit reports. Further updates on the ongoing process will be provided at the December committee meeting.

A question was asked regarding scope 3 requirements for mines. This will be addressed in the guidance and further in 2025. Furthermore, the Committee raised a question on GHG emissions calculations for recycled gold and how communications around the high level guidance on carbon footprint calculations and other ESG topic such as water and carbon emissions would be needed.

- **Chain of Custody:**

COC to be presented to the Board on 19th November for final sign-off. Legal review and proofreading being finalised. Language translations (for the COC and COP) will commence in January.

- **Laboratory- Grown Material Standard:**

Round 2 of the public consultations completed in August 2024. An update was provided on the additional targeted engagement and no significant changes were made as a result of this. A high-level timeline was presented of future dates regarding LGMS release.

The committee are reminded of the points of difference in the LGMS to the COP and these were presented for discussion and feedback from the Committee. The Committee was asked to review the draft standard and provide additional written comments by 30th November.

A new member forum at the RJC Board level will be established as a result of the LGMS being created.

5. Any other Business (AOB):

The committee are made aware of the December meeting date and time.

Closing: Closing comments are provided from Ainsley Butler as Co-Chair and the Senior Standards Manager.

Next Meeting: 12th December 2024, 14:00-15:30pm.