

Standards Committee Meeting Minutes Summary

Date: 18th September 2024

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

Location: On-line Teams meeting

Standards Committee Participants: Purvi Shah (Co-chair), Ainsley Butler (Co-Chair) Philippe Telouk, Didier Backaert, Marie-Charlotte Druesne-Chancogne, Jennifer Hillard, Joëlle Ponnelle, Marcin Piersiak, Renata Lawson- Misra, Sara Yood, Gavin Hilson, Lea Meheust, Marco Quadri, Laurent Massi, Kim Wenzel, Alexander Gul, Monica Barcellos Harris, Noora Jamsheer.

RJC Management Team: Melanie Grant, Suzanne Brooks, Caroline Watson, Effie Marinos, Daniel Finn, Rachael Morey, John Hall and Jasmeet Kaur Baggha.

Apologies: Robin Kolvenbach, Charlene Nemson, Salah Hussein, Eduard Stefanescu, Maggie Gabos, Gavin Hilson.

Materials circulated in advance of call:

1. Presentation slide deck.
2. Minutes from the meeting held 14 August 2024 – for approval in the meeting.

1. Opening:

Meeting commenced with introductions and a welcome from the Co-Chair and Senior Standards Manager.

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.

A formal introduction was given to Monica Barcellos Harris who will be a non-industry expert in biodiversity, Alexander Gull who will be a new member Industry Forum member for Diamond and coloured gemstones trader, cutter and/or polishers and Kimberley Wendell joined as a guest of the committee.

The August meeting minutes were approved by Jennifer Hillard and Joelle Ponnelle.

2. Executive Update:

The Executive Director thanked the committee for joining the special committee meeting on 16/09 and summarised the discussion. Preparation for the board meeting is ongoing and further thanks are extended to the committee for their contribution.

3. Standards Committee Composition:

A welcome was provided to three new committee members. An update is provided on committee extensions for 2025 to be proposed at the Board meeting in September. A summary was provided of the current composition of the committee in 2024. Questions were asked on the governance around new members of the committee, term extensions, terms related to the extension and the inclusion of a new Lab grown producer forum at board level and within the committee.

4. Standards Programme Updates:

- **Code of Practices:**

The COP Guidance is being finalised and a reminder that the deadline for providing guidance feedback was extended. A few outstanding areas are to be finalised in the draft standard and guidance. RJC teams are in the final stages of identifying a designer, and the committee were asked to contribute any design features they would like to see. The draft guidance is to be shared with the committee on 30th September in preparation for the COP workshop.

- **Chain of Custody:**

The COC Guidance and Standard have been finalised based on the workshop. Movement to final sign off will commence after the Board meeting on 25th September. The committee are reminded to share cases studies and examples which can be input into the guidance with a deadline of Friday 20th. A question is asked over the transition period from the 2017 COC to the 2024 COC and the proposed transition plan was explained.

- **Laboratory- Grown Material Standard:**

The round 2 consultation closed on 25th August. Responses will be provided to comments received in the consultation and the draft will be amended with the LGM Taskforce input. The LGMS draft will be shared with the committee prior to the October in-person [update/will be available for discussion at the meeting]. An update was provided on next steps regarding consultation. A question was asked around the LGMS rationale and the next steps. The question was answered and development of the LGM Standard will seek to incorporate the feedback from the most recent consultation.

5. October COP in-Person meeting:

A summary of the COP in-person workshop agenda was shared with the committee with the locations and the schedule. The committee were provided with high level details of the 3-day agenda. Materials for the in-person will be shared on 30th September.

6. Any other Business (AOB):

A summary of upcoming events, committee meetings and RJC at industry events were shared with the committee. In response to a question, it was noted that work on the EU recognition process and the provenance claim derogation is ongoing.

Closing: Closing comments by Co-Chair Purvi Shah.

Next Meeting: COP In-person meeting, 16-18th October in London.