

RJC Standards Committee meeting

Date: 16th April 2026

Standards Committee present at the meeting:

Industry Attendees	Non-Industry Attendees	Guest of Committee Attendees
Alethea Inns Alexander Gul Ben Ronca Charlene Nemson Donald Bray Marie-Charlotte Melanie Mater Noora Jamsheer Philippe Telouk Raluca Angel Valerie Michel Wafa Jaffery	Sara Yood (Co-Chair) Abbi Buxton Antonino Serra Cambaceres Chris Vandome	Francesco Giunta Kesah Trowell Kim Wenzel Laure Williams Marco Quadri

RJC Management Team

- Purvi Shah, John Hall, Suzanne Brooks, Richard Williams, Effie Marinos, Caroline Watson, Megan Gannon

Apologies

- Eduard Stefanescu, Maggie Gabos, Marcin Piersiak, Renata Lawton Misra, Monica Barcellos-Harris, Silvia Bezzone

Introductions and Welcome

- Meeting opened by Suzanne Brooks, and attendance was noted for those present online.

RJC Executive Director and Welcome

- The committee was welcomed by Purvi Shah, Executive Director. An overview was provided of the insightful session hosted in Paris by the RJC alongside the UFBJOP, which was well received. Purvi welcomed any feedback from Standards Committee members that were in attendance. A member of the Standards Committee highlighted that the sessions were interesting, technical and well appreciated, especially for small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs). Emphasis was placed on these workshops being

especially important for SMEs as they are now more aware of what resources they have access to as members. The Executive Director emphasised a desire for further member engagement, and to communicate messages clearly, especially with changes to the Assurance Processes detailed in the Certification Process Requirements for Certification Bodies and Auditors and Member Certification Handbook.

- A similar workshop event will be taking place in Germany alongside BVSU sustainability day in July, and the Executive Director looks forward to meeting some of the Standards Committee members in attendance.
- Board elections are currently underway, with nominations now closed and voting opened on the 14th April 2026 and closes on the 22nd May.

Co-Chair Update and Committee Matters

- Sara Yood, non-industry Co-Chair, thanked Purvi Shah for joining, and extended best wishes to all candidates in the board elections.

Committee matters

- The March minutes were approved by Abbi Buxton from non-industry and Melanie Mater from industry.
- The Standards Committee were reminded that their SharePoint site is now live and were notified that this site will hold all documents moving forward. Any member with access issues were told to highlight this to the RJC Standards team. Some members of the Standards Committee mentioned the usefulness of the site.
- The Executive Committee has approved a coterminous committee appointment for industry forum member, Rosy Blue, and a temporary replacement for the Carbon Trust. The Standards team will be reaching out to any other members whose terms are ending in 2026.

Laboratory Grown Diamond Traceability Claims Supplementary Guidance

- A supplementary guidance is currently being developed to address traceability claims for laboratory grown diamonds to stay consistent with the approach of the separate standards. The existing diamond supplementary guidance was used as a baseline, making this version specific to laboratory-grown materials. The new laboratory grown supplementary guidance draft has been circulated to the Standards Committee for review, and the RJC welcomes any feedback by 23 April to move the guidance through the appropriate channels in time for presentation to the next Board meeting in May. A separate toolkit will be required to support members and auditors to sit alongside the one for diamonds.

Diamond Traceability Toolkit

- The Standards Committee was reminded that the Diamond Traceability Toolkit is to be used in support of supplementary guidance, and that it is not a form of mandatory traceability or standard.
- A draft of step 1 of the toolkit will be circulated to the sub-committee, and a second meeting to discuss the draft will be arranged. The feedback provided should be relevant to practical use, the layout, tone and any missing elements etc. This section will be used as an example to inform the rest of the toolkit development.
- Once the diamond traceability toolkit is complete, a separate one will need to be created and adapted for laboratory-grown diamonds.

Coloured gemstones

- Discussions were held between the RJC and the Strategic Taskforce on the 15th April in Geneva to discuss the draft Terms of Reference for establishing a scope of deliverables, candidate criteria, and objective timelines for a Coloured Gemstone Task Force. Next steps include final alignment on the Terms of Reference with agreement by the Board at the meeting in May.
- In response to a question from a member of the Standards Committee, it was clarified the Task Force would be of similar format to the one established for the LGMS Standard technical development and will provide recommendations to the Standards Committee who will have oversight and maintain decision making authority. The Strategic Task force will support in an advisory capacity.
- The Standards Committee were reminded that the creation of an RJC Coloured Gemstone Task Force is still subject to Board approval.

Expansion of COC Mined Materials

- The RJC is currently working on the project scope to expand COC eligible mined material. A proposed draft workplan has been created on the expansion to ASM mined sources and will be shared with the sub-committee for discussion with a sub-committee meeting to be set in the coming weeks.

Programme updates and AOB

- Translations for the self-assessments are complete in the RJC's core languages (Spanish, French, Italian, German).

- Wider benchmarking is in its review stage.
- Alignment is underway for ISEAL, with Standards evaluation beginning in quarter two.
- The Paris event was successful alongside the BJOP. The RJC will be in attendance at the Natural Diamond Council event in London in May.
- Charlene Nemson, an industry member of the Standards Committee gave her thanks to the other members, notifying them that she will no longer be present on the Standards Committee moving forwards. The RJC would like to thank Charlene for all her expertise and contributions during her time on the Standards Committee, and especially for her input into the launch of the revised standards. We wish her well and every success.

The meeting was closed by Suzanne Brooks, with thanks given to the Standards Committee for attendance.