



Standards Committee Meeting

8 June 2020

Summary notes

Standards Committee participants: Jennifer Hillard, Stephane Fischler, Diana Culillas, Purvi Shah (Co-chair), Ainsley Butler (Co-chair) Cecilia Gardner, Joelle Ponelle, Jean-Baptiste Andrieu, Marianna Smirnova, Sara Yood, Natalia Zhulina, Yves Burtran, Kesha Frank, Jean-Claude Michelou. Phaedon Stamatopoulos.

Apologies: Anouchka Didier Mansour

RJC Management Team: Peter Dawkins (Standards Manager), Nawal Ait-Hocine (RJC consultant), Iris Van der Veken (Executive Director) & Harpreet Kaur Hansi (Communications Coordinator).

Materials circulated in advance of call: Presentation slides, minutes from previous meeting

1. Briefing on RJC re-branding and communications

The Standards Committee were provided an update on the recent RJC re-brand and new communications strategy from RJC Executive Director, Iris Van der Veken. This detailed the new communications strategy, RJC visual identity, future outlook and priorities. The strategy covered the RJC "3 pillars" of members first, advocacy for change and partnership for the goals.

2. RJC Board update from committee Co-chairs

The RJC committee co-chairs then provided the group with an update from the recent RJC board meeting, including feedback on RJC standards projects and objectives including the addition of silver to scope for CoC, reviewing of mining standards; specifically IRMA, committee vacancies and the taskforces that have been established including; due diligence pilot; lab taskforce; and coloured gemstones. Finally the co-chairs updated the committee on the boards directives regarding the EU application to become a recognised scheme, refiner data collection and our ISEAL standards code compliance.

3. Introduction

Co-chair Ainsley Butler reminded the committee of the RJC anti-trust policy and welcomed participants to the meeting. The RJC Standards Manager carried out a roll call and Co-chair Purvi Shah summarised the agenda for the meeting. Meeting minutes from the previous standards Committee teleconference on 10 April 2020 were approved by Purvi Shah and Jennifer Hillard.

4. EU application as recognised scheme –RJC update

The RJC's eligibility application to become a recognised scheme under upcoming EU legislation on the importing of 3TGs has been successful and a full update on the process so far and next steps was provided by RJC Standards Manager. The RJC application for eligibility was approved by the EU Commission on 30 March 2020. RJC is now in "phase 2" which is internal RJC staff interviews and the organisation of external stakeholder interviews.

5. Standards Committee composition

The RJC Standards Manager and Consultant, Nawal Ait-Hocine, provided an update to the committee regarding the current composition and vacancies of the committee, we welcomed Eleonora Rizzuto of Bulgari to the Standards Committee. Eleonora filled the vacant industry role in the manufacturing forum of RJC membership. The standards manager informed the committee of the new term limits set in the updated RJC governance handbook. This now requires that members of the committee can only sit a maximum of two terms (3 years per term) therefore a maximum of 6 years before they must step down from the committee.

6. Due Diligence Pilot

The Standards manager provided an update to the committee on the status of the due diligence pilot. The pilot is regarding the due diligence toolkit for diamond and coloured gemstone members. The committee members were provided a copy of V1.3 of the toolkit for review. Minor comments were received from the committee members and were followed up after the call. The standards committee approved the toolkit.

7. Lab & Coloured Gemstone taskforce

The RJC Standards Manager and Consultant provided an update to the committee on the status of the coloured stones taskforce and laboratory taskforce. The coloured stone and laboratory taskforce groups have both had their terms for reference drafted and the process of selecting participants had been finished with invitations sent. The first call for the lab taskforce call is scheduled for the 24th June 2020. The first coloured gemstone taskforce meeting will be on 23rd July 2020. The standards manager and RJC consultant will provide an update to the committee on the progress of both these taskforce at the next committee meeting. The committee members requested that copies of the taskforce terms of references, it was agreed that these documents will be shared shortly after the committee call.

8. AOB

The committee were reminded about the next meetings on the 14 September 2020 and 10 November 2020. There will also be an update at the 14 September 2020 call to the committee regarding the ongoing alignment work against the IRMA standard.