

COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (COE)

CIBJO, The World Jewellery Confederation

September 2020-September 2021

PART 1: Statement by President of Continued Support to Global Compact

CIBJO, the World Jewellery Confederation, is a non-profit business association representing the interests of all individuals, organisations and companies earning their livelihoods from jewellery, gemstones and precious metals. It has been a non-business member of the Global Compact since November 2006, as such has committedly promoted within its sector the principle that building inclusive, resilient, competitive and sustainable communities is fundamental for achieving the SDGs by 2030.

CIBJO is the most representative and oldest organisation in the international jewellery and gemstone sector, having originally been established in 1926. With its membership made up predominantly by national jewellery trade organisations from more than 40 countries around the world, it covers the entire jewellery, gemstone and precious metals sectors vertically, from mine to marketplace, and horizontally within each of the component sectors in the various production, manufacturing and trading centres. Many of the international jewellery sector's leading corporations and service providers are also affiliated to CIBJO through commercial membership.

CIBJO's commitment to the Global Compact principles are embodied in the Cape Town Declaration, which was adopted at its annual congress in 2007, just months after it joined the body. It in CIBJO stated: "The jewellery industry, as a member of the international business community, shares a responsibility toward the greater society in seeking practical solutions towards the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger, as well as to developing a global partnership for development."

As such, CIBJO has and will continue to educate, encourage and assist its member organisations, their respective members and the greater gemstone and jewellery sector worldwide to conduct business responsibly, by aligning their strategies and operations with Global Compact's 10 Global Ten Principles on human rights, labour, the environment and anti-corruption, as well as to take actions that serve the societal needs of all its stakeholders, as embodied in the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

The two-year period running from September 2020 though September 2021 fell in the shadow of the global pandemic, which presented many obstacles to the implementation of the SDGs. These Goals cannot be achieved without the active involvement of the private sector, since there is deficit of political motivation. Despite the challenges, I am confident that CIBJO can be a platform on which the international community builds a better understanding of all factors in the current crisis, and helps realize the vision contained in the UN's agenda for sustainable development.

Dr. Gaetano Cavalieri
CIBJO President

September 2022

PART 2: Description of Actions

Over the course of the past two years, CIBJO's actions, as a Global Compact Business Association, have been concentrated in the three areas:

1. Organising learning and dialogue events, workshops, webinars and training for members on the UN Global Compact and specific topics relevant to corporate sustainability. Many have these dealt with impacts of the COVID-19 health crisis.
2. Developing tools and guidelines that will enable its members comply with the Global Compact Principles
3. Engaging its members and affiliated groups in collective action efforts, at multiple events and locations, on issues related to the UN Global Compact's mission.

These activities have included all four principal areas covered by the Global Compact Principles, including human rights, labour-related issues, the environment and anti-corruption.

CIBJO has managed these tasks in the following ways:

1. Through the organisation of seminars at its own congresses.
2. Through the organisation of workshops and seminars at events co-organised with other jewellery industry associations.
3. Through the organisation of webinars provided to members of the jewellery and gemstone industry worldwide.
4. Through the formulation of responsible business guidelines for the international jewellery and gemstone industry.
5. Through the preparation of digital and printed materials, which are distributed industry-wide, as well as being posted for downloading on the CIBJO website, including tools for complying with its responsible business guidelines, enabling members of the gemstone and jewellery industry to incorporate CSR principles in their own companies.
6. Through courses organised by its educational foundation, the World Jewellery Confederation Educational Foundation (WJCEF), which was created in 2008 specifically to conceptualise, develop and finance training manuals, courses, studies and working papers, educational and didactic tools, and other educational means to promote, increase and improve knowledge of social and economic corporate responsibility in the international jewellery and gemstone industry and trade.
7. By collaborating with other organisations, from within the industry and outside of it, to further the education of the jewellery and gemstone industry in the principles of socially and environmentally responsible business practices, and the creation of mechanisms and programmes by which these can be advanced.

Since 2006, CIBJO is the only organisation in the international diamond sector to have special consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council, which in August 2022 confirmed by CIBJO's position with the international body through 2026. CIBJO delivered statements to the ECOSOC High-Level Segments in 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022, reporting on the programme that it is carrying out in the industry, in cooperation with the Italian Exhibition Group (IEG), a leading jewellery industry trade fair organiser. The programme falls within the framework of SDG 17 (Revitalizing the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development), and

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THE WORLD JEWELLERY CONFEDERATION

CIBJO in partnership with IEG is currently executing a series of projects that are specifically designed to optimize the involvement of the international jewellery sector in achieving sustainable development goals, while at the same time mitigating any negative effects that are directly or indirectly related to the jewellery sector's activities.

CIBJO most recent statement to the 2022 ECOSOC High-Level Segment supports the theme of "Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development," noting that the global pandemic COVID-19 and its aftermath exposed the substantial developmental and economic gaps that still exist among stakeholders within the jewellery industry's supply chains. The necessity to narrow and ultimately eliminate these gaps is a key component of the mission of CIBJO.

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PART 3: Measurement of Outcomes

1. CIBJO-Organised Workshops/Seminars/Conferences/Webinars

- a. With the outbreak of the COVID-19 crisis, a decision was made to create a programme that would address the challenges created by the pandemic. CIBJO launched an original series of webinars entitled “Jewellery Industry Voices” It concentrated on the economic and social impact and implications of crisis from the perspective of different industry figures. Each webinar took the form of a panel discussion, featuring three or four panellists. Broadcast live, they were also recorded and uploaded onto CIBJO’s YouTube channel.
- b. Through September 2020 and September 2022, 22 “Jewellery Industry Voices”: webinars and seminars were conducted, many dealing with issues related to traceable supply chains, responsible sourcing in the jewellery industry, economic and environmental issues, and the SDGs.
- c. CIBJO’s Jewellery Industry Voices series, which to that date had operated exclusively in a webinar format, made its “in person” debut at IEG’s VOICE VicenzaOro show in Vicenza, Italy, in September 2020, the first major international gathering for the jewellery sector since the start of the COVID-19 crisis. Two hybrid seminars, which were live streamed worldwide via the Internet were conducted, with the first looking at Corporate Social Responsibility and sustainability in the wake of the pandemic, and the second focusing on the development of Africa’s home-grown jewellery industries. Participating as panellists in the first seminar were Hanifa Mezoui, AICESIS New York Permanent Representative, United Nations, and Lila Karbassi, Chief of Programmes. The second seminar, which was entitled “Africa is Rising,” focussed on the new generation of African jewellery designers and manufacturers, who are intent on changing the paradigm by which almost all raw materials mined on the continent are exported and processed elsewhere.
- d. The third season the Jewellery Industry Voices webinar was launched with a hybrid live/streaming event at the VicenzaOro Jewellery Show in September 2021. The event focused on industry strategies to support actualization of two of the 17 interlinked Sustainable Development Goals. The first part looked at SDG 5: Gender Equality, and the second part concentrated on SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production.
- e. The CIBJO Congress was held virtually in November 2021, after the congress that was scheduled to take place in Dubai in 2020 was canceled as a result of the COVID pandemic. The first day of the virtual event on November 4, 2021, featured a session of CIBJO’s Responsible Sourcing Commission, Among the panellists was Lila Karbassi, Chief of Programmes at the UN Global Compact, who called on the jewellery industry to do its part in the campaign against climate change.
- f. CIBJO’s General Assembly took place in Vicenza, Italy, in January 2022. It featured a panel discussions that investigated at CIBJO and the jewellery industry’s involvement in the development of a grass roots jewellery industry in Africa, with the involvement of the newly formed African Jewellery Industry Committee, which is now formally operating within CIBJO.

2. Digital and Printed Materials

- a. On September 8, 2020, CIBJO's Marketing & Education Commission released a special report looks at the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the jewellery and gemstone industry, and how the way in which it has adapted will chart its course for the future. It focussed extensively on environmental responsibility.
- b. On September 15, 2021, CIBJO Responsible Sourcing Commission released a special report, which looked at how efforts to enhance supply chain integrity during the COVID, looking specifically at tools and programmes introduced by CIBJO during the past 18 months, all designed to assist members of the jewellery, gemstone and precious metals supply chains implement the principles of responsible sourcing.
- c. On October 27, 2021, CIBJO's Pearl Commission released a special report, which provided a broad overview of an industry that has been dealing with the dual challenges of COVID-19 and climate change for the past two years, with perspectives from Australia, Indonesia, French Polynesia, Mexico, Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates.
- d. On November 3, 2021, CIBJO's Coloured Stone Commission issued a special report, which looked at issues related to ethical sourcing, and how the principles of responsible supply chain management can be implemented without disenfranchising artisanal and small-scale miners, and small and medium-sized enterprises.
- e. On November 10, 2021, CIBJO's Coral Commission issued a special report, which reported on efforts of a research team serving on its steering committee to revive coral reefs, as well as to determining the age of dead coral resources, extracted both from the Mediterranean Sea, the Atlantic and off the coast of Japan. Carbon-14 dating has shown that much of the material used in precious coral jewellery production to be older than 400 years old, with some dating as far back as 7570 BCE, with more than two thirds of precious corals in the Japanese market not being harvested from living colonies. The report also called urged members of the jewellery industry to become carbon neutral, using a service developed by CIBJO. To reduce their environmental footprint in the face of global warming and ocean acidification, which has devastated shallow water coral in large parts of the world.
- f. In June 2022, CIBJO's Responsible Sourcing Blue Book was translated into Japanese and made available for downloading on the CIBJO website.

3. Tools and Systems Enhancing Responsible Business Practices

- a. On April 22, 2021, CIBJO launched an online Responsible Sourcing Toolkit designed to enable all members of the jewellery and gem sector to conduct responsible sourcing due diligence on their supply chains. The digital files of which the toolkit is comprised can be downloaded at no cost from a dedicated mini-website. The Toolkit supports the CIBJO Responsible Sourcing Book, launched in 2019, which provides companies in the jewellery supply chain with a framework and guidance for due diligence for the responsible sourcing of gem materials and precious metals. It comprises nine modules, each one of which relates to a specific section of the Responsible Sourcing Blue Book. Each module provides a detailed explanation of that section, and also a number of downloadable files. They include templates, forms, sample declarations and additional information. Most of the tools

provided can be used with no additional costs involved. A small number will require support of third-parties, and in those cases, the Toolkit lists appropriate alternatives.

- b. On November 4, 2021, CIBJO launched the second edition of the CIBJO Retailer's Reference Guide, which is an in-store resource for sales staff in retail jewellery outlets. Made available in interactive PDF format, it can be downloaded free of charge from the website. The new edition of the guide, which was first released in 2009, includes a section of responsible sourcing practices.
- c. CIBJO continues to provide its Jewellery Industry Greenhouse Gas Measurement Initiative, which it first introduced in 2014. Jewellery industry organisations and companies who become part of the initiative, are invited to work with CIBJO's partner, Carbon Expert, an environmental consulting organisation, which will assist them in complying with ISO Standard 14064, which specifies how to quantify and report greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and removals, and apply ISO Standard 20121, which offers guidance and best practice for controlling the environmental impact of events. Serving as a model for the industry, CIBJO has now been carbon neutral for the past eight years.

4. World Jewellery Confederation Education Foundation (WJCEF) Programmes

- a. WJCEF was established by CIBJO in 2008 to help finance and administer an educational programme or series of programmes to promote the principles of Corporate Social Responsibility throughout the greater jewellery industry worldwide. The proposed purpose of such programmes is to educate members of the industry about how to engender the principles of CSR in the countries and/or constituencies in which they are active, and how to create and support initiatives at the grassroots level through which the jewellery business assists in bringing about sustainable economic and social development.
- b. WJCEF's educational programmes are delivered to the jewellery industry in a number of ways. These include: (1) materials delivered through CIBJO's member organisations, who themselves have direct contact with many hundreds of thousands of industry members around the world; (2) programmes run at industry events, some of which are organised directly by CIBJO/WJCEF and some by third parties, such as trade shows; and (3) through arrangement with third-party organisations with which CIBJO/WJCEF have formal agreements.
- c. CIBJO/WJCEF has a standard agreement with the Italian Exhibition through which it delivers CSR and sustainability-related seminars during major trade shows in Italy, which are simultaneously broadcast via a streaming service around the world. Although the trade shows were truncated by the COVID pandemic, eight such seminars were conducted between September 2020 and September 2022.
- d. In June 2021 CIBJO/WJCEF had concluded an agreement with Intertek Italia SpA., the Italian subsidiary of the Intertek Group PLC, a multinational assurance, inspection, product-testing and certification company, which assists companies ensure that their operating procedures and products meet quality, health, environmental, safety, and social accountability standards in markets around the world. According to the agreement, WJCEF and Intertek would work together toward the development of the International Council for Sustainable Business, which will be an academy dedicated to educating company officers and other interested

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individuals about the requirements and procedures necessary for operating socially responsible and sustainable businesses. The academy will issue certification indicating that graduates of its courses have met the requirements that qualify them to serve as CSR and sustainability compliance officers.

- e. Work on building the International Council for Sustainable Business programme commenced in 2021, with six educational modules, ranging in length 8 and 16 hours of instruction time, being prepared and recorded for online delivery. The first five modules are deal with general principles of operating as a sustainability officer, while the sixth unit includes materials specific to the jewellery industry. The CIBJO/WJCEF-Intertek Italia SpA training programme is scheduled to be launched during the fourth quarter of 2022.

5. Collaborative Efforts with Other Organizations

- a. In March 2021, CIBJO was approached by a group of jewellers to examine how the confederation may provide support for the jewellery sector in a number of sub-Saharan African states, whose goal it is to become development hubs, using materials that are mined locally in their respective countries. A regional association was formed, with CIBJO's assistance, called the Jewellery and Gemstone Association of Africa. Its goal is to become an umbrella body for the entire sub-Saharan region. CIBJO was asked to assist in its development, and also to help develop a training program and other services that will enable the African industry come into line with world standards.
- b. CIBJO has been supporting a research project of the Alliance for Sustainable Development (ASviS), which is looking at the relative success of the G20 countries in advancing the Sustainable Development Goals, and considering areas of potential international cooperation among them. The research is being conducted during a period during which Italy holds the presidency of the G20.
- c. As part of the ASviS, in October 2021, the CIBJO President participated as a panellist at a conference in Rome, which was the keynote event of its Sustainable Development Festival (Festival dello Sviluppo Sostenibile), organised by the Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development (ASviS), taking part in cities around the country between September 28 and October 14. As a member of a panel discussion that considered ideas for a global recovery from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, the CIBJO President highlighted the jewellery industry's ability to empower societies and economies.
- d. CIBJO collaborates closely with other jewellery industry association concerned with developing and promoting responsible business practices and standards, including the Responsible Jewellery Council and the Watch & Jewellery Initiative 2030.