



PRESS RELEASE

WDC welcomes support of listing countries of mining origin on KP certificates for mixed parcels, at KP Intersessional during the 'Year of Delivery'

Provenance transparency together with digitalization mark a significant step to future proof the KPCS



WDC President Ferial Zerouki addressing the Closing Session of the Kimberley Process Intersessional meeting in Dubai on May 17, 2024.

DUBAI, UAE: MAY 17, 2024 – The World Diamond Council (WDC) concluded the 2024 Kimberley Process (KP) Intersessional with a renewed commitment to ethical practices, transparency and industry reform. The event, hosted by the United Arab Emirates, brought together key stakeholders to discuss the future of the diamond industry under the theme, "Year of Delivery."

In her closing remarks, WDC President Ferial Zerouki honored the late Rory More O'Ferrall, a visionary leader at De Beers and a founding figure in the WDC. "Rory's dedication to positive change in the diamond industry touched many hearts. We are committed to carrying forward his legacy of integrity and compassion," Ms. Zerouki said.

During the week-long session, KP Participants and Observers engaged in meaningful dialogue, demonstrating a shared resolve to strengthen the KP and go beyond the minimum requirements of the Kimberley Process during the current Reform and Review Cycle.

Key highlights included:

Enhanced Transparency: Vast majority support by KP Participants and Observers for proactively listing countries of mining origin on KP certificates for mixed parcels, which complements digitalization efforts.

Reform Progress: Significant steps taken by the Ad-Hoc Committee on Review and Reform, including a broad consensus on expanding the definition of conflict diamonds beyond rebel movements.

Inclusive Leadership: Consensus on the creation of Co-Chairmanship within the KP, increasing representation and promoting equitable opportunities for all Participating countries to lead the KP.

Central African Republic (CAR): Positive discussions on the CAR with the valued contributions of a high-level delegation from CAR and MINUSCA, including plans for a Review Mission in the near future.

"The diamond industry is known for its innovation and agility. We are proud of our achievements, and the decisions taken at this Plenary are a testament to our strength," Ms. Zerouki stated. She emphasized the industry's commitment to transparency and traceability and urged that more needs to be done to tell the natural diamond story, to counter misconceptions about labor practices and industry readiness for reform.

The WDC reiterated its commitment to advancing the Kimberley Process and promoting the positive impact of natural diamonds on development, education, and healthcare worldwide. The President concluded by stating, "Together, with enhanced transparency, we can ensure a bright future for natural diamonds."

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About the World Diamond Council

The World Diamond Council (WDC) is an industry organization focused on preventing conflict diamonds from entering the global supply chain and on preserving the value attached to natural diamonds. Formed in 2000, it is the only organization where the diamond trade is represented in full, from producer to retailer, and includes the most influential commercial businesses, not-for-profit organizations, and individual companies in the industry today. The WDC is the voice of the international diamond industry in a tripartite collaboration with governments and civil society known as the Kimberley Process (KP). The KP secures and manages monitoring processes that have virtually eliminated the trade in conflict diamonds to ensure that the world's supply of diamonds is from sources free of conflict. Visit www.worlddiamondcouncil.org to learn more.