

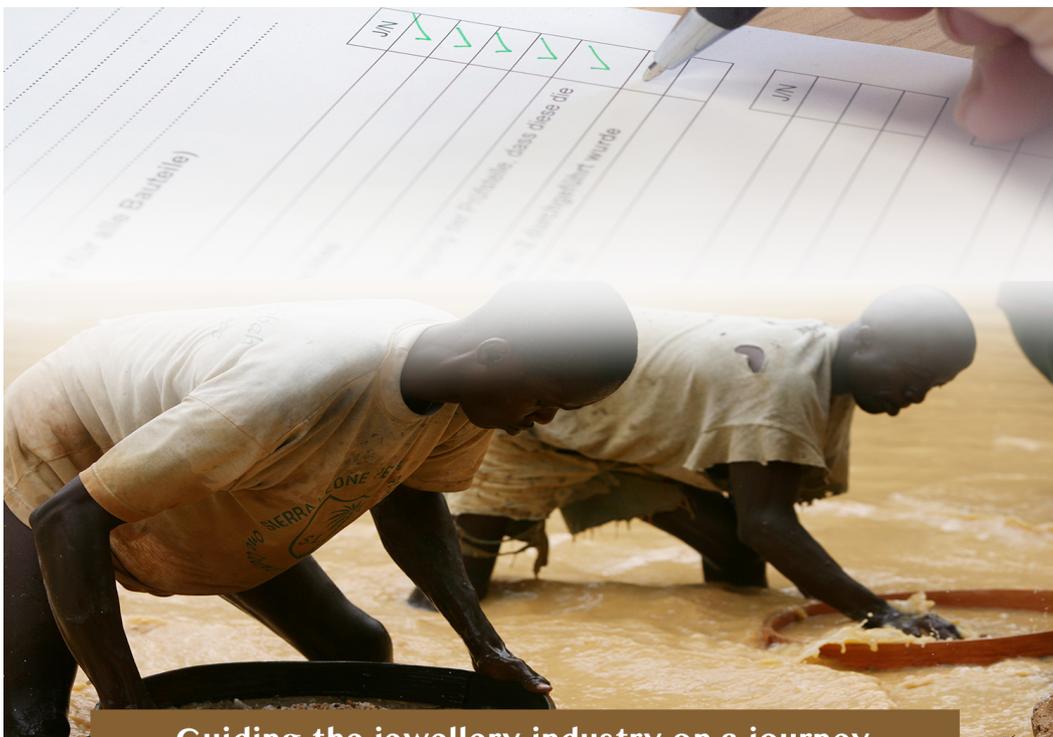


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Steven Benson

+972-52-280-2322

communications_1@cibjo.org



**Guiding the jewellery industry on a journey
of continuous improvement to Responsible Sourcing**

CIBJO releases Responsible Sourcing Special Report, describes principles applicable to all members of industry

MILAN, ITALY: SEPTEMBER 18, 2018 - With fewer than nine weeks to go to the opening of the 2019 CIBJO Congress in Manama, Bahrain, on November 18, 2019, the second of the CIBJO commissions' Special Reports has been released. Prepared by the CIBJO Responsible Sourcing Commission, headed by Philip Olden, the report provides an overview of the first Responsible Sourcing Blue Book, which was approved in January of this year. It defines a universally agreed-to set of recommended responsible sourcing principles, which can be applied by all members of the greater jewellery industry.

“CIBJO has steadfastly stated that no ethical member or company in the jewellery business should be denied the opportunity to participate because, at any particular point in time, it lacks the financial capacity to meet the demands of a compliance system. At the same time, CIBJO does not accept the contention that a company with limited financial resources should be exempt from conducting any form of responsible sourcing due diligence,” writes Mr. Olden.

“The Responsible Sourcing Blue Book indicates what initial steps can be taken at minimal expense and effort, and proposes a programme of continual improvement, which companies can apply at their own pace,” Mr. Olden adds. The system suggested is based on the OECD’s Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas.

The special report also outlines a programme that CIBJO’s Responsible Sourcing Commission has initiated with the Coloured Gemstone Working Group, facilitated by The Dragonfly Initiative, involving the creation of an online toolkit that will provide supporting documentation to help companies address the Responsible Sourcing Blue Book guidance. It will be presented at the upcoming CIBJO Congress in Bahrain, and subsequently will be made available to the industry at no cost.

To download a full copy of the CIBJO Responsible Sourcing Commission’s special report, [PLEASE CLICK HERE](#).

The 2019 CIBJO Congress will take place in Manama in the Kingdom of Bahrain, November 18-20, with pre-congress meetings on November 16 and 17.

Hosting the CIBJO Congress 2018 is DANAT, the Bahrain Institute for Pearls and Gemstones.

The official venue of the CIBJO Congress 2018 is the Grand Hyatt Bogotá is the Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay, and 5-star hotel accommodation can be booked at special rates at the Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay and the adjacent Wyndham Grand Manama.

More information is available and registration possible on the dedicated CIBJO Congress website at: <http://www.cibjo.org/congress2019/>

CIBJO is the international jewellery confederation of national trade organisations. CIBJO's purpose is to encourage harmonisation, promote international cooperation in the jewellery industry and to consider issues which concern the trade worldwide. CIBJO's chief mission is to protect consumer confidence in the industry.