



Confindustria Federorafi  
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## **Impact of conflict mineral legislation on jewellery business to be examined at seminar during VICENZAORO Winter show**

VICENZA, ITALY: DECEMBER 23, 2013 – The new year is likely to be a most significant one in terms of the regulation of minerals from areas of conflict in Africa, including gold. It involves legislation coming into effect in 2014 that will influence the businesses of thousands of jewellers directly or indirectly supplying the U. S. market, and pending legislation that may affect companies importing or supplying jewellery in the European Union countries. The impact of these processes will be the subject of a critically important seminar that will take place on Monday, January 20, during the VICENZAORO Winter show in Vicenza.

Entitled “Conflict mineral legislation in the Europe and the United States: How it impacts on both the domestic and export jewellery business,” the seminar is being organised by Fiera di Vicenza, the Responsible Jewellery Council, CIBJO—the World Jewellery Confederation, and Confindustria Federorafi. It will be held on Monday, January 20, 2014, from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM, in the Palladio Room at Fiera di Vicenza. The host of the event, Fiera di Vicenza, was accredited in March 2013, through CIBJO, to plan and implement a United Nations-endorsed Corporate Social Responsibility programme for the international jewellery industry.

According to the conflict mineral rules contained in Section 1502 of the Dodd-Frank Act, publicly-traded companies in the United States, including major jewellery retailers, will for the first time, in 2014, have to file a report with the Security Exchange Commission, tracing their supply chain. Using a nationally or internationally recognized due diligence standard, companies will need to determine whether their supply chain includes gold sourced from the Democratic Republic of Congo and neighbouring countries.

Another legislative proposal on conflict minerals is being developed in the European Union and is being led by the European Commission's Directorate-General for Trade. It is expected to build on existing efforts and guidelines like the OECD Due Diligence Guidance and the U.S. conflict minerals legislation. It is forecast that a formal regulatory proposal will be brought for consideration before the college of EU commissioners early in 2014.

The seminar in Vicenza will include a blue-ribbon panel that will be presented by Corrado Facco, Managing Director of Fiera di Vicenza, and Gaetano Cavalieri, President of CIBJO. The panelists include Marieke van der Mijn, Standards Coordinator at the Responsible Jewellery Council; Michael Allchin, Chief Executive and Assay Master at the Birmingham Assay Office and the President of the CIBJO Precious Metals Commission; Philip Olden, who is responsible for managing the development and implementation of responsible sourcing protocols for gold at Signet, the world's largest specialty jewellery retailer; Maria Benedetta Francesconi of the Italian Ministry of Economic Development, and a representative of Confindustria Federorafi.

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