



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **CIBJO certified as being carbon neutral for fifth consecutive year**



MILAN, ITALY: NOVEMBER 6, 2018 – CIBJO, the World Jewellery Confederation, has been certified as being carbon neutral in 2017, which is the fifth straight year that offset its greenhouse gas emissions through the purchase of carbon credits. It did so as part of the CIBJO Greenhouse Gas Measurement Initiative that was launched several years ago to promote environmental consciousness and responsibility in the jewellery and gemstone industries.

“Accelerating climate change through global warming is arguably the greatest challenge of our time,” said Gaetano Cavalieri, President of CIBJO. “It crosses borders and nations, causing havoc and destruction that threaten of all our planet’s children, their children and their children’s children. The vast majority of scientists agree that it largely is a result of the massive quantities of carbon gases that we humans have pumped over many years into the atmosphere, and if the trend is not reversed the consequences will be even more devastating. But no single act will solve the problem. It is up to all of us. The CIBJO Greenhouse Gas Measurement Initiative was established to provide our sector a way for playing its part.”

To become carbon neutral, CIBJO’s carbon footprint first was measured by Carbon Expert, an environmental consulting organisation. It included all greenhouse gases emitted by CIBJO as a result of regular operations during the course of the year, and the annual congress in Thailand in November 2017. This was offset through the purchase and retirement of 131 Voluntary Carbon Units (VCUs), which were invested in a 300 MW hydroelectric project in India, which is a recognised carbon offsetting project.

Greenhouse gases, which radiate and trap heat in the earth’s atmosphere, are considered a primary cause of climate change by the overwhelming majority of experts in the scientific community. These gases include carbon dioxide, whose entry into the atmosphere is accelerated through the use of fossil fuels; methane, which is emitted during the production of coal, natural gas and oil, as well as through emissions from livestock and other agricultural practices, and through the decay of organic waste in municipal solid waste landfills; nitrous oxide, which is emitted during agricultural and industrial activities, as well as during combustion of fossil fuels and solid waste; and fluorinated gases, which are sometimes used as substitutes for stratospheric ozone-depleting substances.



The CIBJO Greenhouse Gas Measurement Initiative was established by the jewellery confederation’s Marketing & Education Commission to help companies within the jewellery and gemstone industries understand their environmental impact, reduce it, and protect themselves and the industry as a whole. Companies that become part of the programme are invited to work with Carbon Expert, which assists them in complying with ISO Standard 14064, specifying 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.

To obtain more information about the CIBJO Greenhouse Gas Measurement Initiative, [PLEASE CLICK HERE](#).

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.