



**Economic and Social  
Council**

Distr.: General  
... June 2020

Original: English and French

ADVANCE VERSION

---

**2020 session**  
7 July 2020 – 16 July 2020  
Agenda item 5  
**ECOSOC High-Level Segment**

**Statement submitted by non-governmental organizations in  
consultative status with the Economic and Social Council \***

The Secretary-General has received the following statements, which are being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 30 and 31 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

**Table of Contents**

CIBJO - The World Jewellery Confederation

## **CIBJO - The World Jewellery Confederation**

CIBJO, the World Jewellery Confederation, remains committed to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and to furthering this objective through the leadership, educational activities and other services that it provides globally within the greater jewellery industry, along its full value chain, from the mining regions through to the retail markets. More specifically, it supports the theme of the 2020 ECOSOC High-Level segment “Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development” obligating itself to sustained action within its sector and among its stakeholders during the final ten years of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Understanding that all 17 SDGs are inter-related, through its involvement with the greater jewellery industry, CIBJO specifically addresses areas of good health and well-being (SDG 3), quality education (SDG 4), clean water and sanitation (SDG 6), energy (SDG 7), decent work and economic growth (SDG 8), sustainable cities and communities (SDG 11), sustainable consumption and production (SDG 12), climate action (SDG 13), life below water (SDG14), life on land (SDF 15), peace, justice and strong institutions (SDG 16) and partnerships for the goals (SDG 17).

The current COVID-19 pandemic, which poses massive health and economic challenges to the world community in general, represents a particular risk to the sector that CIBJO serves, and more particularly to those individuals and communities in developing countries, who rely on the support and economic leverage provided by the jewellery, precious metals and gemstone sectors, which currently are under threat. At the same time, new technologies and processes that are being applied to cope with the pandemic and its various impacts provide the promise of improving CIBJO’s ability to better serve its stakeholders beyond the crisis. Most importantly, COVID-19, which does not discriminate between people, nations and regions, underscores the degree to which all of humanity is interdependent.

Since the start of the worldwide lockdown that followed the outbreak of COVID-19, CIBJO has initiated an industry-wide forum to discuss its impacts and formulate collaborative solutions, including those directed at stakeholders in developing countries. A webinar programme that currently is being conducted is drawing between 350 and 700 participants per session.

These activities complement a series of actions that CIBJO has been involved in over the course of the past 12 months. These include the introduction in January 2019 of the first universal set of standards for the responsible sourcing of materials in the jewellery industry, called “The Responsible Sourcing Blue Book”. It follows the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Due Diligence Guidance for

Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas, and supports the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

Much activity over the past year has focused on environmental sustainability. This has included CIBJO's Jewellery Industry Greenhouse Gas Measurement Initiative, and a programme being conducted with research bodies in Italy, Monaco and Japan, looking at reviving coral reefs that have been impacted by global warming and ocean acidification.

