



## News Release

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### **WFDB Expresses Shock at Killings in Brussels**

*Antwerp, Belgium* – March 22, 2016: The World Federation of Diamond Bourses (WFDB) has expressed its horror at the bomb attacks carried out in Brussels today, and sends its best wishes to the families of the people killed in the bombings and a speedy recovery for those injured.

"It was with enormous shock that I heard about the bombings in Brussels," said WFDB President Ernie Blom. "Along, I am sure, with many thousands of members of the diamond industry around the world, I have passed through the departure halls of Brussels Zaventem airport scores of times as I left Belgium after meetings or business in Antwerp.

"Seeing the images on television and the Internet of the wrecked check-in counters therefore brings home to all of us even more strongly the shocking nature of this cowardly attack on innocent people. We send our sincere best wishes to the citizens of Belgium and stand in solidarity with them at this terribly difficult time.

"I have not heard of any members of the Belgian diamond industry being victims of these attacks and I hope that continues to be the case. As with many other diamantaires, I have very many friends in Belgium. Indeed the WFDB's offices are based in Antwerp. On behalf of the WFDB and its members across the world, I send our sincere best wishes to the Belgian public," Blom added.

#### **ABOUT THE WFDB:**

The World Federation of Diamond Bourses (WFDB) aims to professionalise the diamond industry by promoting better understanding and closer cooperation between people around the world who earn their livelihood in the diamond trade.

The WFDB protects the interests of its 30 bourses and their members, and enables the amicable settlement or arbitration of disputes between individual members and/or between affiliated bourses. Members of affiliated bourses pledge to uphold the traditions, principles of mutual trust, consideration and friendship which prevail among the members of the bourses world-wide.

The WFDB has established The World Diamond Mark, a not-for-profit organisation, to promote consumer desirability and confidence in diamonds.