



September 7, 2005

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**A JOINT STATEMENT  
BY  
CIBJO, The World Jewellery Confederation,  
World Federation of Diamond Bourses (WFDB),  
International Diamond Manufacturers Association (IDMA)**

We the undersigned, CIBJO, The World Jewellery Confederation, the World Federation of Diamond Bourses (WFDB) and the International Diamond Manufacturers Association (IDMA), would like to express our reservations about the planned structure and system of operation of the Council for Responsible Jewellery Practices (CRJP).

Following CIBJO's withdrawal from CRJP, WFDB and IDMA will be declining the council's invitation to join CRJP at this time.

Our organizations, which together represent the overwhelming majority of companies and individuals involved in the diamond and jewellery industry, are committed to the wellbeing of our member organizations, and, consequently, the thousands of individual jewellers and diamantaires that make up their respective memberships. We are also committed, of course, to the principles of social and ethical responsibility and transparency in the jewellery industry, and we actively promote them. We will continue to become involved in projects that we believe will defend these values and at the same time serve the interests of all the legitimate stakeholders in our industry. But we do not believe that CRJP, with its currently proposed structure and with its system of operation, will serve the interests of most of the industry.

Regrettably, as a result of the council's exclusionary activities to date, many members of the industry are concerned that commercial agendas, which run contrary to the interests of an overwhelming portion of the trade, have become entwined with the good intentions of CRJP. CRJP has taken a direction which aligns it exclusively with large corporate entities, with their sizeable infrastructures and budgets, without taking into consideration the needs of the medium and smaller independent firms that comprise the majority of participants in our industry.

Above all, we are committed to defend and protect the interests of our memberships and oversee the preservation of this vital segment of the industry.

Signed,

Jeffrey H. Fischer  
President  
IDMA

Shmuel Schnitzer  
President  
WFDB

Gaetano Cavalieri  
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[A joint media release from the World Federation of Diamond Bourses \(WFDB\), the International Diamond Manufacturers Association \(IDMA\) and CIBJO, The World Jewellery Confederation.](#)