

The Organizing Committee of the 32nd World Diamond Congress

Logo IDE

Logo IsDMA

Logo IDI

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT

Ya'akov Almor

Tel: +972-52-352-2685

E-mail: almor@mdirect-business.com

WFDB-IDMA Congress to be held in Israel, June 26-29, 2006, organizers aim to highlight country's leading role in diamond industry,

Ramat Gan, January 30, 2006 —The World Diamond Congress, which is the official forum where the general assemblies of the World Federation of Diamond Bourses (WFDB) and the International Diamond Manufacturers Association (IDMA) meet, will be held at the Tel Aviv Hilton Hotel, Israel, from June 26-29 this year.

Preparations for the 32nd edition of the congress, which are now in full swing, are coordinated by an all-industry organizing committee headed by Yair Sahar, a 47 year old diamond manufacturer who currently serves as Treasurer of the Israel Diamond Exchange (IDE) as well as of the Israel Diamond Manufacturers Association (IsDMA). Israel has not hosted a World Diamond Congress since 1996. While it was designed to host the 30th World Diamond Congress in 2002, it was instead held in London, due to the outbreak of the second Palestinian Intifada. "After a ten-year absence, the World Diamond Congress is back in Tel Aviv. We look forward to welcoming back lots of old friends, as well as lots of new one," Sahar noted. "However, we have no doubt that guests who have not visited us since, will be dazzled by the enormous progressive changes that the Israeli diamond center—as well as the country itself—has undergone."

IDE president Avi Paz said that the congress would prove an excellent opportunity to showcase the Israeli diamond center. "We're expecting many hundreds of guests, from more than 30 countries, among them delegates from the 25 WFDB-affiliated diamond bourses, as well as representatives from the diamond mining sector, supporting economic sectors, such as the international banking community, and governmental functionaries.

IsDMA president Motti Ganz said that congress participants would be able to collect first hand demonstrations impressions of the Israeli diamond manufacturing industry's international reach and strength. "Israel remains the leading manufacturing force of high-value, top quality polished diamonds in the world," stated.

Simcha Lustig, chairman of the Israel Diamond Institute, the Israeli diamond industry umbrella organization, said that congress would also serve as the launching platform of the Israeli Diamond Branding Campaign a project that is to enhance the awareness of Israeli-made diamonds in the downstream jewelry retail and consumer markets.

#####

