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Registration for 2011 WFDB Presidents Meeting to close March 30, DMCC to gather African mining ministers for summit on April 13

Antwerp, March 24, 2011 – Registration for the 2011 WFDB Presidents' meeting, to be held April 11-13, will close on March 30. Registration for the event is being conducted via a special website http://www.presidentsmeeting2011.com/WFDB_Registration_form.pdf. An updated, detailed programme of the three-day meeting will be posted on the event's [website](#) at the same time.

WFDB President Avi Paz said he hoped that the presidents of all 29 bourses affiliated to the WFDB would be in attendance, as the importance of the upcoming meeting could not be understated. "Our organization exists to protect and guard the ethical standards on which our industry is founded. As the industry's chief guardian, we'll need to reinforce our position and role with regard to recent developments in the diamond supply pipeline," he stated.

Peter Meeus, chairman of the Dubai Diamond Exchange (DDE), said that as part of the WFDB Presidents' meeting, the DDE and the Dubai Multi Commodities Centre (DMCC) are organizing the "WFDB African Summit," with the participation of a number of mining ministers from leading African diamond producing countries on April 13.

Among the participating officials will be: Martin Kabwelulu Labilo, Minister of Mines and Mining Development, the Democratic Republic of Congo; Susan Shabangu, Minister of Mineral Resources, the Republic of South Africa; Obert Mpofu, Minister of Mines and Mining Development, the Republic of Zimbabwe; Joaquim Duarte da Costa David, Minister of Geology, Mines and Industry, Luanda, Angola; and Rui Jorge Carneiro Mangureira, Secretary of State, Foreign Affairs for Administrative Organization, the Republic of Angola

"We're pleased that we have been able to integrate this special summit into a prestigious event such as the WFDB Presidents' Meeting," Meeus remarked. "The events and developments in the leading African diamond producing countries are fast-paced and this summit will enable all participants to receive a snapshot of the current developments in Africa's diamond producing centres," he said.

Two other African leaders, Thabo Mbeki former president of South Africa, and Mathieu Yamba, Kimberley Process Chair, from the Democratic Republic of Congo, will be guests of honor at the World Federation of Diamond Bourses (WFDB) 2011 Presidents' Meeting. They will address the event's Gala Dinner, following the Summit, on April 13 at the Jumeirah Meydan Hotel in Dubai.

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Committee meetings will be held on April 11, with the Presidents' Meeting official opening session on April 12. The Presidents' Meeting's opening session will address the role of Dubai in the global diamond industry and also include a special presentation by renowned industry analyst Chaim Even Zohar, entitled "The Post Crisis Diamond Pipeline: Outlooks and Forecasts in Supply, Demand, and the Development of Future Markets."

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