ADPA STATEMENT ON THE OUTCOMES OF THE 2024 PLENARY OF THE KIMBERLEY PROCESS CERTIFICATION SCHEME

For Release: 26 November 2024

The African Diamond Producers Association (ADPA) acknowledges the significant milestones achieved at the recently concluded Plenary of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS), Chaired by the United Arab Emirates (UAE) under the theme of 'Year of Delivery'.

Milestones and Achievements

One of the major milestones from the 2024 KPCS Plenary is the lifting of diamond export sanctions on the Central Africa Republic (CAR). ADPA would like to congratulate the Central Africa Republic (CAR) on the lifting of the eleven-year-old diamond export ban and on its readmission as a full member of the KPCS. ADPA is inspired by CAR's resilience during the ban over the years.

ADPA would also like to acknowledge the contributions of all who made this outcome possible, including the KP Chair, South Africa as the Working Group of Monitoring (WGM) Chair and Review Mission Team leader, and all participants of the Review Mission to the CAR, and the greater KPCS family underscoring the KP's dedication to ensuring compliance with its minimum requirements and promoting the good impact that natural rough diamonds have on communities globally. The results of the CAR Review Mission bolster the ideal that KP can and must foster the economic recovery of countries that have turned the tide on issues of conflict, like the CAR.

Additional milestones include four (4) administrative decisions that were successfully passed through consensus, including the admission of the Republic of Uzbekistan as the 60th member of the KP, the approval of the UAE to be the KP Custodial Chair in 2025, the approval the Kingdom of Thailand as Vice Chair for 2025 and KP Chair in 2026. The admission of new members and the approval of Thailand as a Vice-Chair further illustrate the KP's ability to adapt and grow its membership.

Other milestones include a significant list of decisions that were noted through the reports from the various working groups as well as from the Special Plenary held in May, 2024. These included the addition of full members as well as provisional members, to some working groups,

The Kimberley Process: A Collaborative Success

ADPA reaffirms its commitment to the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme as the sole internationally recognized mechanism for regulating the diamond trade, mandated by the United Nations. Therefore, ADPA will continue to support the KP in upholding its mandate and ensuring that those who depend on natural rough diamonds for their livelihoods and future generations benefit equitably from these resources.

ADPA endeavors not only to provide rhetorical support for the KP but also to vigorously defend its legitimacy on behalf of its member states, the African diamond-producing nations.

The Kimberley Process has always been built on collaboration, inclusivity, and mutual accountability; principles embodied in the 60 control nodes spread across member nations. These nodes, which reflect the collective commitment of participating countries, have been integral in maintaining a balanced regulatory framework that respects the sovereignty of each member state over their natural resources and free will to implement the KPCS.

The proposal for a single node means diamond certification and verification will be done through a single centralized point, which will create unnecessary bottlenecks and additional costs. ADPA fully supports the decentralized and representative approach, which ensures that decisions reflect the voices and needs of all stakeholders, safeguarding the rights and stability of diamond-producing countries, particularly in Africa. ADPA, which represents over 60% of diamond production globally, is mandated to protect the interests of its member states and thus demands that its voice is heard, acknowledged, and respected globally as decisions that impact its member states are taken.

ADPA commends the UAE's chairmanship for upholding these principles and fostering constructive dialogue among participants and observers. The achievements of the 2024 Plenary reflect the KP's resilience, especially amid attempts to derail the 21 years of effective work that has led to the eradication of conflict diamonds globally. The KP's ability to regulate the global rough diamond trade has been effective over these years and as such, it must be protected to ensure that it continues to "leave no one behind".

A Call for Unity

The ADPA urges all Kimberley Process (KP) participants and observers to prioritize collaboration and foster mutual understanding, essential for advancing shared goals and ensuring the sustainability of the diamond trade. Building on the accomplishments of the UAE's 2024 chairmanship, we encourage united support for its continued leadership in 2025, a year dedicated to advancing Best Practices. Through this shared commitment, we reaffirm the enduring value of the KP as a mechanism that has proven its effectiveness over the past two decades.

General Information

The African Diamond Producers Association (ADPA) is an intra-governmental organisation representing the interests of African diamond producers and those with the potential to produce diamonds. Founded on the 4th of November 2006 through the Luanda Declaration, ADPA is headquartered in Luanda, Republic of Angola and

provides a platform for cooperation and collaboration for its twenty effective members and observers.

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