



## **Gemmological Commission Meeting**

**Wednesday, November 3, 2021 Time – 16:30 – 17:30 hours CET**

**Location – online congress**

**President: Hanco Zwaan**

**Vice-President: Claudio Milisenda**

**Vice-President: Thanong Leelawatanasuk**

1. Call the meeting to order at 16:30 hours CET, welcome and opening remarks by the Commission President.
2. The roll call on the agenda was skipped because votes on proposals were not expected during this particular meeting.
3. Approval of the minutes of the Gemmological Commission Steering Committee (GCSC) and Gemmological Commission (GC) meetings in Bahrain.  
After a brief explanation of both the steering committee and commission meeting in Bahrain, the minutes got consent approval from the GC.
4. Laboratory book – explanation and discussion of a draft of a chapter on gem varieties (produced by the Committee of Varietal Names (CVN))

Hanco Zwaan introduced the new draft document 'Gem materials list and definitions' prepared by the CVN which is a new committee with the task to find solutions on gem varietal name issues raised during the last congress. He had briefly described the whole idea of the document and showed what has been done so far to the committee members and attendants. However, this document still needs a lot more input from all relevant parties before it is ready to be officially incorporated in the Gemmological blue book. The GC is open to any comments regarding this draft and the CVN will gather all remarks and suggestions to enhance the document before the next congress.

Muna Al Bulushi explained that there are issues with some trade names that are used with the main objective to sell for a higher price, e.g., the name 'Snake egg' is used for a particular jasper. She

suggested that the GC should also include this kind of trade name/misnomer issues in the future work of the committee.

Roland Naftule expressed his appreciation and gratitude to the GC and CVN members and thanked everyone involved in this project for their work and time dedicated to making this document.

5. New working group on standardization of jadeite/Fei Cui terminology and the Fei Cui meeting in Hong Kong (July 2021)

Hanco Zwaan gave an update on the Fei Cui issue, as written in the special Gemmological Commission report, on what has happened after the presentation of the Hong Kong Gemmological Association on Fei Cui at the Bahrain congress. The CVN conducted a survey on the understanding of Fei Cui by many jade experts in Asia, but also throughout the rest of the world. Although the survey showed an overall broad agreement on its meaning and use, there were also differences of opinion. To harmonize on a global level and find a proper solution for the use of this term, the CIBJO board has decided to form a new working group, which will solely focus on this particular issue.

Roland Naftule pointed out the importance of the Fei Cui industry, being as a category only second to diamond in terms of trade value, and the Hong Kong and China jewelry sector want to promote this term to be more acceptable in the trade, and in the western market in particular. He said that this is a very serious concern that needs a special committee to find solutions.

Edward Liu thanked CIBJO for setting up a new committee working on Fei Cui and he also clarified that the Fei Cui definition in the original Chinese version of the GBT16553 standard already includes jadeite, omphacite and kosmochlore, but the English translated version is incorrect to define Fei Cui as only for jadeite. The NGTC will correct this point in the revised version of this standard.

6. Other business

Roland reminded the GC that next year is the year for the Gemmological blue book revision according to the 3 years cycle. The steering committee members are asked to indicate any changes and updates that need to be done as early as possible, so that all changes can be proposed three months before the next congress.

7. Adjournment : Meeting closed at 5.30 PM (CET)