



CIBJO PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2024/5

The following is a report covering activities of the CIBJO President, Secretariat and Administration for the period immediately preceding the 2024 CIBJO Congress in Shanghai, India, in November 2024, to the period immediately preceding the 2024 CIBJO Congress in Paris, France, in October 2025 2024.

1. CIBJO CONGRESS 2024

The 2024 CIBJO Congress took place Saturday, November 2, Sunday, November 3, and Monday, November 4. Pre-congress steering committee meetings were held on Thursday, October 31, and Friday, November 1.

The venue of the congress, and the official hotel, was the Shangri-La Qiantan in Pudong.

The official host of the 2024 CIBJO Congress in Shanghai, China, were the Donghao Lansheng Group, the China Gems & Jade Exchange and the Diamonds & Gem Administration of China. Coordinating activities was Simon Chen, China Gems & Jade Exchange.

An organising team, comprised of CIBJO and China Gem & Jade Exchange representatives, manage all arrangements leading up to and during the congress. Headed by Gaetano Cavalieri and Simon Chen, it was coordinated by Steven Benson for CIBJO and Laurence Lau for CGJE.

Congress sponsors brought by CIBJO include the Italian Exhibition Group, the De Beers Group, the World Gold Council, Gemfields, Fuli Gemstones and Platinum Guild International.

A comprehensive communications plan was drawn up, with the official announcement of the dates and location of the event being made on May 16, 2024. The dedicated 2024 CIBJO Congress website was launched on May 29, 2024, and consequently online registration opened for the congress. There were 18 further media communications prior to the start of the congress.

As in previous years, all documents and media files related to the congress were uploaded before, during and after the event, and it will be maintained online as a permanent archive.

Congress sponsors brought by CIBJO include the Italian Exhibition Group, the De Beers Group, the World Gold Council, Gemfields, Fuli Gemstones and Platinum Guild International.

Ten pre-congress special reports were produced, and distributed weekly starting August 22, 2024. The final report was distributed on October 23, 2024.

During the three formal days of the congress, reports were produced after each session and uploaded onto the CIBJO and CIBJO Congress 2024 website, together with photos from that session. In total, 18 reports were uploaded.

Following congress, a special review of the congress was added to the CIBJO website, including links to all session reports, special reports and the photo gallery.

A total 134 delegates registered for the congress via the CIBJO website, and attended the event in person, and 22 accompanying persons were registered via the website. There were additionally about 120 attendees registered by the Chinese hosts, providing a total attendance of about 275, most of whom travelled into Shanghai from abroad or other parts of China. This would make it one of the highest ever attended CIBJO Congresses.

The congress was live streamed via the CIBJO YouTube Channel, and parts of it were livestreamed in China via the and parts of it in China via the Xinhau Finance, Tiktok, Huya and Yizhibo platforms. In total, the congress was viewed by a total of 535,00 people, by far the highest number in CIBJO's history.

2. PREPARATIONS FOR CIBJO CONGRESS 2025

Three locations, all in Europe, were considered for the 2025 CIBJO Congress, namely Zurich, Switzerland; where discussion were being conducted with the Zurich Convention Centre; Lisbon, Portugal, where discussions were conducted with the Museu Tesouro Real, the Royal Treasure Museum; and Paris, France, where discussions were being held with Bernadette Pinet-Cuoq, President of l'Union Française de la Bijouterie, Joaillerie, Orfèvrerie, des Pierres & des Perles (UFBJOP).

Following the discussions, it was decided that Paris would be the most appropriate venue for the 2025 CIBJO Congress, with the host organization being UFBJOP. This is underscored by the fact that Paris was city in which CIBJO forerunner, BIBOA, was established in 1926, and the 2025 congress will mark the start of CIBJO's centenary year celebration, which will conclude with the 2026 CIBJO Congress in Vicenza, Italy.

UFBJOP proposed that the 2025 CIBJO Congress be held during the final week of October, following which the dates of November 27, 28 and 29 were agreed upon. It will be a three-day congress, with pre-congress meetings taking place exclusively online. The official venue of the congress would be the UFBJOP headquarters, at 58, rue du Louvre.

A Save the Date announcement was sent out on April 2, 2025, and it included a logo design for the 2025 CIBJO Congress.

The CIBJO President and Communications Director visited Paris in early May to begin preparations for the 2025 CIBJO Congress, together with the congress host, the Union Française de la Bijouterie, Joaillerie, Orfèvrerie, des Pierres & des Perles (UFBJOP), its Executive President, Bernadette Pinet-Cuoq, and Executive Director Laurence Chevillon.

CIBJO's Communications Director Steven Benson and BJOP's Executive Director Laurence Chevillon would coordinate arrangement for the congress.

It was agreed that the official venue of the congress, and the site of sessions and meetings on Day 3 (Wednesday, October 29) would be the l headquarters of UFBJOP, but due to space restrictions the opening day and second day (Monday, October 27 and Tuesday, October 28) would be held at the Comet Bourse (35 Rue Saint-Marc, Paris), which is about a 10 minute walk from UFBJOP provides an appropriate auditorium with a capacity of an audience of 280. An agreement was signed to reserve the location.

Given the specifics of Paris, it was decided that there would not be a single congress hotel, but rather a series of 4-star recommended hotels, all of which are within walking distance from UFBJOP and which have offered special rates to congress attendees. Hotels were visited during the pilot trip to Paris, and offers were received from them.

Official dinners were organized for two nights, on October 27 at Halles aux Grains at Bourse du Commerce – Pinault Collection, and on October 28 at Palais du Luxembourg, the seat of the French Senate.

Registration for the congress began on June 3, 2025, with the launch of a dedicated congress mini-website. In addition to enabling online registration, it provides links to the various recommended congress hotels, a preliminary agenda, travel information and news. As the congress approached, additional sections on the website were added, including special reports, the digital binder and more.

During the leadup to the congress a comprehensive communications plan was implemented, with included six reminders to register, 10 special reports, five press releases and two short video promotional clips, as well as social media banners on LinkedIn, Facebook and Instagram.

In early September, the Élysée Palace, the official seat of French head of state, confirmed that the congress would be under the official patronage of Emmanuel Macron, the President of the Republic of France. The agreement of the French President to be the official patron signifies that this year's event aligns with the values, interests and priorities of the French state.

Congress sponsors brought by CIBJO include the Italian Exhibition Group, the De Beers Group, the World Gold Council, Platinum Guild International and Roberto Coin.

With a week to go to the start of the congress, registration stood at about 210, with 40 accompanying person and 20 members of the media. This the highest registration total ever recorded for a CIBJO Congress.

3. UNITED NATIONS ENGAGEMENT

As it is obliged to do on an annual basis, on May 5, 2025, CIBJO submitted its formal report to the United Nations Economic and Social Council, on how it and the jewellery industry are acting to fulfil the Sustainable Development Goals and 2030 Agenda.

The statements was published by ECOSOC in July 2025, and was made publicly available together with a set of declaration submitted by Non-Governmental Organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council. All supported the 2025 ECOSOC theme, of “advancing sustainable, inclusive, science- and evidence-based solutions for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals for leaving no one behind.

Since 2006, CIBJO is the only organisation in the international diamond sector to have special consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council, which in August 2022 confirmed by CIBJO's position with the international body through 2026. CIBJO delivered statements to the ECOSOC High-Level Segments in 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 2022, 2023 and 2024, reporting on the programme that it is carrying out in the industry

4. WORLD JEWELLERY CONFEDERATION EDUCATION FOUNDATION (WJCEF)

Educational programmes in general are conduct under the umbrella of WJCEF, which was established by CIBJO in 2008 to help finance and administer an educational programme or series of programmes to promote the principles of Corporate Social Responsibility throughout the greater jewellery industry worldwide. The proposed purpose of such programmes is to educate members of the industry about how to engender the principles of CSR in the countries and/or constituencies in which they are active, and how to create and support initiatives at the grassroots level through which the jewellery business assists in bringing about sustainable economic and social development.

WJCEF's educational programmes are delivered to the jewellery industry in a number of ways. These include: (1) materials delivered through CIBJO's member organisations, who themselves have direct contact with many hundreds of thousands of industry members around the world; (2) programmes run at industry events, some of which are organised directly by CIBJO/WJCEF and some by third parties, such as trade shows; and (3) through arrangement with third-party organisations with which CIBJO/WJCEF have formal agreements.

CIBJO/WJCEF has a standard agreement with the Italian Exhibition through which it delivers CSR and sustainability-related seminars during major trade shows in Italy, which are simultaneously broadcast via a streaming service around the world.

WJCEF is a foundation registered in Switzerland, and as such is subject to all laws and regulations pertaining to non-profit organisations operating in the country. As such, and as is the case each year, a report on its activities was issued to the Swiss Federal Supervisory Authority for Foundations in August 2025.

5. THE CIBJO ACADEMY

The CIBJO Academy was established in 2023 to prepare and deliver educational programmes and materials, suitable for jewellery professionals and the consuming public, about standards, operating principles and terminology developed within CIBJO's various commissions and expert committees. Its Founding Dean is Kenneth Scarratt, CIBJO Vice President and President of Sector A.

The essential course materials for the CIBJO Academy are the various CIBJO Blue Books and guides, relating to the entire spectrum of the gemstone and jewellery industries, covering natural diamonds, laboratory-grown diamonds, coloured gemstones, pearls, coral, precious metals, principles of responsible sourcing, the operation of gem laboratories, marketing, ethics and legal issues, and more.

The first set of CIBJO Academy courses were conducted in with Gem and Jewelry Institute of Thailand (GIT). The idea of collaborating with industry organisations is a core component of the CIBJO Academy's delivery strategy. Programmes similar to those being conducted in Thailand are currently being planned with industry associations in Bahrain, Germany and Italy.

Mr. Scarratt has presented over the past year at a number of industry events, including during the long-standing seminar series that CIBJO organizes together with the Italian Exhibition Group, the organizer of VicenzaOro, each January and September.

Currently being planned is a series of CIBJO Academy sessions presented on-line and in-person by Rui Galopim de Carvalho, a popular gemmological educationalist.

6. INTERNATIONAL FINE JEWELLERY ACADEMY

The International Fine Jewellery Academy, an educational institute based in Milan, Italy, catering to the requirements of jewellery industry and providing sources to students from around the world, was formally registered with a public notary in Milan on July 2, 2025, by the CIBJO President and Chief Financial Officer, acting as officer in WJCEF.

IFJA is being created as a partnership involving CIBJO; ConfCommercio, Italy's largest trade association, which is active in 155 different sectors, including jewellery; Foundation Mani Intelligenti, a body based in Valenza whose mission is to train the next generation of Italian

goldsmiths; and CAPAC – Politecnico del Commercio e del Turismo, a non-profit foundation that has been operating in the professional training sector since 1961.

As part of the venture, CAPAC will provide the International Fine Jewellery Academy facilities in the centre of Milan, where in-person training and education will take place. This will be complemented by hands on training delivered by some of the world's most skilled jewellery artisans, at partner companies in northern Italy.

IFJA will target students from ages 19 to 30, provide specialized courses ranging from 250 to 1,000 hours, including on-the-job training with partner companies. The hands-on approach will ensure that students not only learn theory but also gain practical experience, which is crucial in the high-skill vocational field of jewellery. Classroom instruction will be in English.

Initially, during its the start-up stage, IFJA will have at least one fully equipped production lab and one theoretical classroom, at the CAPAC training facility. But a partnership with a state vocational institute is planned and, through it the organisers foresee a doubling of the lab spaces and expanding up to five the number of classrooms dedicated to theory. This is expected to take place over a three-to-five-year period from the launch of operations.

7. JEWELLERY INDUSTRY VOICES AT VIZENZAORO

The sixth season of Jewellery Industry Voices (JIV) will kick off in January 2025, with seven hybrid seminars – in person during the VicenzaOro Show, at the Fiera di Vicenza exposition centre in Italy, which will be simultaneously live streamed, on January 18 and 19, 2025. They WERE hosted by the Italian Exhibition Group, which also is providing technical support.

The seminars In January covered the following topics:

1. An ESG model for the jewellery industry
2. De Beers new paradigm for the diamond market
3. The technology of traceability
4. Shaping responsible value chains through supplier engagement (organized together with the Watch & Jewellery Initiative 2030)
5. The role of the next generation: succession and heritage
6. Precious metals prices and their impact on the jewellery industry
7. The meaning of 'origin' in the coloured gemstone trade

A total of 34 moderators and panellists will participate in the presentation of the January seminars.

A further ix Jewellery Industry Voices seminars were held at VicenzaOro on September 6 and 7.

Four focused in on key industry topics:

1. Sustainability in the gold & precious metals sectors
2. Turning ESG Principles into Practice, focusing on tools to advance jewellery sustainability
3. The evolving perception of "precious" in the jewellery industry
4. Leveraging technology to drive sustainability and traceability in jewellery marketing and retail operations, with a particular focus of fitting, displays and packaging

Two additional seminar essentially could be considered industry events:

1. Final public consultation of the Blue List
2. Launch of the International Fine Jewellery Academy (IFJA)

A total of 33 moderators and panellists participated in the September seminars.

Video recordings all seminars have been available online.

3. JEWELLERY INDUSTRY SUPPLY CHAIN NOMENCLATURE COMMITTEE

More than four years after it began work on the project, CIBJO's Jewellery Industry Supply Chain Nomenclature Committee released a draft of the "The Blue List" for public consultation. Once approved, it will serve as the universally accepted glossary of terminology for the jewellery, gemstone and precious metals industries related to responsible sourcing and sustainability.

The committee is multinational task force of experts working under the CIBJO's umbrella, with representatives from all key industry sectors. It was charged with creating a harmonised set of definitions of words and terms used to describe responsible supply chains, especially when marketing jewellery, ensuring that they are accurate, substantiated, clear and easily understood by all stakeholders and consumers.

The committee was co-chaired by Gaetano Cavalieri, CIBJO President, and Feriel Zerouki, Chief Trade and Industry Officer at the De Beers Group. Its lead is Purvi Shah, Head of Ethical and Sustainable Value Chains at the De Beers Group.

The launch of public consultation began on May 5, 2025, with a presentation of the draft document at the headquarters of UFBJOP, on the sidelines of the OECD Forum on Responsible Mineral Supply Chains, which also is taking place in Paris. Also on May 5, a dedicated Blue List public consultation page was launched on the CIBJO website, which enables participants to download and read the document, and then complete the process by filling in an online form. This will be the primary method of collecting information during the four-month process.

It concluded on September 6, 2025, with a seminar/webinar in Vicenza, Italy, during the VicenzaOro jewellery show.

Two additional public presentations of the Blue List were conducted, at the JCK Show in Las Vegas on June 7, 2025, and the Initiatives in Art and Culture Gold + Diamond conference in New York on July 16.

4. ESG INITIATIVES

One year after its release of a breakthrough guidance document that first outlined environmental, social and governance (ESG) principles for the jewellery industry, CIBJO followed up with a set of guidelines for measuring ESG performance in the distribution chain. And while the first document was geared primarily for companies handling laboratory-grown diamonds, the new document's recommendations can be applied in different parts of the industry and distribution chain, and by larger and smaller companies.

Called the "CIBJO Guidelines for Measuring ESG Performance," like the first ESG document the new guideline was developed by the CIBJO Laboratory-Grown Diamond Committee, headed by Wesley Hunt, working with independent advisers, Key & Co., who collaborated closely with CIBJO's Sustainable Development Commission, headed by John Mulligan. It was authored by ESG experts

Jon Key and Helen Mitchell, and was first presented at the 2024 CIBJO Congress in Shanghai, China, in November 2024, and again at the VicenzaOro jewellery show in Vicenza, Italy, in January.

The measurement guidelines are built around 14 environmental, social and governance (ESG) themes, identifying between four and 16 measurement areas, as well as sample metrics for each theme. They represent a subset of widely used measures relevant to the jewellery industry, to enable companies to take action.

In preparing the guidelines, CIBJO recognised that the jewellery industry and value chain are highly fragmented, diverse and multi-layered, and that there are significant differences in practices and differing levels of sophistication between countries and sectors, including precious metals and gemstones. The guidance document takes into account that some sectors such as coloured gemstones, are dependent on artisanal mining sources and SMEs, which can make ESG measurement more challenging.

The new guidelines also present a 10-step approach for members of the jewellery industry on their ESG journey, and also a glossary of terms explaining what to many may be new and confusing terminology.

The new guidelines are aligned with CIBJO Blue Books and other resources, such as the CIBJO Sustainable Development Commission's ESG and sustainability roadmap, which will be published in the near future as a Blue Book. It also complements other ESG initiatives underway, such as that of the Watch and Jewellery Initiative 2030.

The work of ESG group is ongoing and will be reported on at the CIBJO Congress in Paris. This includes a Double Materiality Assessment (DMA) guideline. The DMA is a core component of the European Union's (EU) Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive. It requires that companies assess how they impacts the environment and society through their activities (impact materiality), and at the same time assess how sustainability issues affect the company's development, performance, and position (financial materiality).

5. NEW CIBJO MEMBERS

Over the course of 2025, CIBJO has welcomed seven new members:

- a. Association Française de Gemmologie (AFG), France
- b. Brandart S.p.A., Italy
- c. Consorzio Physis S.r.L. S.B., Italy
- d. Fura Gems, UAE
- e. Hari Krishna Group, India
- f. Kimberly Laboratory for Diamond and Gemstone Testing, Qatar
- g. Petramundi S.r.L., Italy

Additionally, IBGM – Brazilian Gems and Jewellery Trade Association, whose membership lapsed several years ago, has rejoined CIBJO>

Several other candidate applicants are being processed, and are expected to become full members during the course of 2026.

6. JCK SHOW BOOTH

CIBJO participated as an exhibitor at the JCK Show in Las Vegas, June 6-9, 2025, under the terms of the long-standing barter agreement with the show organizer, RX.

The CIBJO Booth was hosted in an area reserved for industry associations. It consists of a step-and-repeat backdrop with the CIBJO logo, and two extractable side banners, one of which explains CIBJO mission and the other promoting the 2024 CIBJO Congress.

Handout materials were also prepared for the booth. New flyers were prepared for the CIBJO Congress in Paris, the CIBJO Academy, the ESG guidance documents and the Blue List presentation that was held at the show on June 7.

The booth was staffed by the CIBJO Communications Director.

7. KERING GENERATION AWARD X JEWELRY

CIBJO was a partner with the Kering luxury group in the Kering Generation Award X Jewellery, with the scientific coordination of Poli.Design – Politecnico di Milano. The final stage took place on June 7, 2025, at the JCK Show in Las Vegas.

For the inaugural edition of the award, participating students and startups were invited to design a piece or collection of jewellery inspired by the theme “Second Chance, First Choice.” In May, shortlisted candidates presented their concepts to the jury, and then four finalists were selected—two from the student category and two from the startups category.

The award invited both students and emerging businesses to reimagine waste as a valuable resource, encouraging designs that transform discarded materials into meaningful and desirable jewellery.

The finalists presented their final projects to the jury on June 7. It included the CIBJO President; Marie-Claire Daveu, the Chief Sustainability and Institutional Affairs Officer of Kering; Francesca Manfredi, Head of Sustainable Innovation Watches & Jewellery at Kering; Sarin Bachmann; Senior Vice President and head of the jewelry portfolio at RX, the organizer of the JCK Show; and Iris Van der Veken, Executive Director of the Jewellery and Watch Initiative 2030.

The winning design was created by Lee Min Seo, a student from South Korea.

8. RECYCLED GOLD RECOMMENDATION

On March 18, 2025, CIBJO formally recommended a new definition of “recycled gold” to be used in the jewellery and watch sectors, so as to provide greater clarity and consistency both within the industry and marketplace. CIBJO will henceforth include the definition in the guidance documents it produces.

The definition, which covers recycled materials recovered during manufacturing and fabrication processes before being sold to consumers, and also gold recovered from materials after they have been sold to consumers, was developed through extensive discussions among industry experts. It is designed to set stricter criteria for secondary and circular gold supplies, and aims to improve the identification of inputs and outputs in the gold refining and fabrication processes, as well promoting transparent and responsible sourcing.

The new definition is based on a draft proposed within the International Standardisation Organization (ISO), which is part of a wider standard ISO was developing for responsibly sourced gold, a project in which CIBJO was an active participant.

The proposal was not successful in obtaining the necessary number of votes required to get it approved as an official ISO standard, but in addition to CIBJO it has been accepted as a substantial improvement by leading jewellery industry participants and associations, and key industry bodies,

including the London Bullion Market Association (LBMA) and the World Gold Council (WGC), which currently are considering how to incorporate the main elements of this definition into their guidance and responsible sourcing practices. The Responsible Jewellery Council (RJC) has already included a definition based on the same criteria in its updated Chain of Custody standard.

9. JOINT STATEMENT WITH AGTA AND ICA ON GEMSTONE COLOUR INSTABILITY

The World Jewellery Confederation (CIBJO), the American Gem Trade Association (AGTA) and the International Colored Gemstone Association (ICA) put out a joint statement on March 24, 2025, expressing their concern about the presence in the marketplace of irradiated rubies and sapphires, particularly sourced in Sri Lanka.

The materials were earlier reported upon in a 2022 press release entitled “Irradiation of Rubies: a Cautionary Note.” The issue was also addressed in the 2024 pre-CIBJO Congress Special Report produced by the CIBJO Coloured Stone Commission, which drew attention to the colour stability of yellow, orange and padparadscha coloured sapphires.

More recently, AGTA highlighted the issue in an “Important Notice,” raising the concerns in the United States, where it is reported that many dealers have been forced to stop purchasing from Sri Lankan merchants yellow, peach and padparadscha sapphires, as well as rubies, because of concerns about their colour stability. A significant number of these gemstones are reportedly unstable, with the colours fading to almost white or light pink tones, or, in the case of irradiated rubies, turning dark red over time. AGTA also reported that vendors may be using radiation from various sources to create the temporary, undisclosed treatments.

In the public notification, CIBJO, AGTA and ICA call on the authorities in Sri Lanka and elsewhere to address the concerns expressed about irradiated rubies and sapphires. This, the stated, should be done with urgency, since if the present situation is allowed to continue it will undoubtedly have a negative impact on the industry, and by extension on consumer confidence in coloured gemstones.

VISITS/PUBLIC APPEARANCES BY THE CIBJO PRESIDENT

The CIBJO President travelled extensively during the course of the past year, and addressed multiple industry events over the course. The following are just several of the gatherings at which he spoke.

1. The CIBJO President attended 24 Karat Weekend 2025, New York, USA
2. 2025 Annual meeting of the International Diamond Manufacturers Association, New York, USA
3. India Silver Conference 2025 in Udaipur, India
4. 75th Anniversary, Sveriges Gemmologiska Riksförening (Swedish Gemmological Society), Stockholm, Sweden,
5. Launch of construction of the Shanghai International Jewellery and Fashion Functional Area, Shanghai, China
6. 2025 congress of the International Colored Gemstone Association (ICA), Brasilia, Brazil
7. 50th anniversary of the Full Time Training Centre, of the German Gemmological Association, Idar Oberstein, Germany
8. 2025 Presidents Meeting of the World Federation of Diamond Bourses, New York, USA