



India to Chair Kimberley Process

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India will chair the **Kimberley System Certification Scheme (KPCS) which is also known as Kimberley Process (KP)** from **January 2019**.

- India took over the Chairmanship of the Kimberley System Certification Scheme (KPCS) during the KPCS Plenary 2018, which was held in **Belgium in November, 2018**.
- The 4-day Plenary also witnessed discussion on **environmental challenges in diamond mining and industry responsibility**.
- India, during its chairmanship will continue with the tradition and aim to support the artisanal and small-scale mining, capacity building, technical assistance and education on valuation, differentiation between natural and lab grown diamonds, importance of legal and formal mining practices.
- The **next Intersessional session is slated to be held in India** with Botswana and the Russian Federation serving as Vice-Chair during the period of 2019-2020.

Kimberley Process

The Kimberley Process (KP) is a commitment to remove **conflict diamonds** from the global supply chain.

Conflict diamonds, **also known as 'blood' diamonds**, are rough diamonds used by rebel movements or their allies to finance armed conflicts **aimed at undermining legitimate governments**.

- It is an international certification scheme which **came into force in 2003** to regulate trade in rough diamonds. It aims to prevent the flow of conflict diamonds, while helping to protect legitimate trade in rough diamonds.
- The Kimberley Process is **also described in the United Nation Security Council (UNSC) Resolutions**.
- The Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS) outlines the rules that govern the trade in rough diamonds. The KPCS has developed a set of minimum requirements that each participant must meet.

- The KP is not, strictly speaking, an international organisation: it has **no permanent offices or permanent staff**. It relies on the contributions – under the **principle of 'burden-sharing'** – of participants, supported by industry and civil society observers.
- The Kimberley Process (KP) is a **binding agreement** that imposes extensive requirements through the **national legislations** of its participants.
- **India is the founding member** of Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS).