

NEWS RELEASE

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The World Diamond Council 2016 Annual General Meeting to be held in New York in September

The meeting will be hosted by the United States Jewelry Council and Signet Jewelers will serve as the event's Premier Sponsor

NEW YORK, NY, August 4, 2016 — The World Diamond Council (WDC) has announced that its 12th Annual General Meeting (AGM) will take place at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York City from Sept. 7 – 9. Hosted by the newly formed United States Jewelry Council (USJC), the body that brings together the views and actions of the U.S. jewelry industry trade associations relative to responsible and sustainable sourcing, the meeting is being generously sponsored by Signet Jewelers, the Premier and Gala Sponsor of the event. Other sponsors include ABN AMRO Bank, Brink's and UL.

Among the items to be discussed during the AGM are the current agenda of the Kimberley Process (KP), the implementation of the WDC's first-ever Strategic Plan, and an enhanced communications platform positioning the WDC as the industry voice to respond to KP and conflict diamond-related issues.

The agenda will start on the afternoon of Sept. 7 with the first of two WDC Board of Directors meetings, followed by a Welcome Cocktail Reception. Mr. Maurice Tempelsman, chairman of the board of Lazare Kaplan International Inc., will make the keynote address at the opening session of the AGM on Sept. 8. He'll be joined by a number of high profile speakers from the diamond industry and government. This meeting will also focus on the upcoming KP Plenary meeting taking place later this year in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

The WDC AGM is open to paid WDC members and invited guests only. WDC members can register at <http://www.worlddiamondcouncil.org/agm-registration-form>. If you are interested in sponsoring the event, please contact Mr. Ronnie VanderLinden, president of the USJC and treasurer of the WDC, at rwdxny@aol.com.

For more information, visit www.worlddiamondcouncil.org or contact WDC Executive Director Patricia Syvrud at patricia.syvrud@worlddiamondcouncil.org.

About the World Diamond Council

Established in 2000, the primary objective of the WDC is to represent the diamond industry in the development and implementation of the regulatory and voluntary systems to control the trade in diamonds embargoed by the United Nations or covered by the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme. Visit <http://www.worlddiamondcouncil.org> to learn more.

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