



## TO THE ANTWERP DIAMOND COMMUNITY

Dear friends and colleagues,

It goes beyond saying that the COVID pandemic is putting a lot of strain on our industry, our community and our lives.

The global diamond business, with such a distinct international character both on the supply and demand side, is hit particularly hard, and I know many of you are suffering because of the consequences of this crisis on your business. The uncertainty, the worries about the wellbeing of our families and friends, are also weighing heavy on our hearts. Unfortunately, COVID-19 is leaving none of us unharmed, one way or the other.

But, friends, throughout this crisis, so far, Antwerp has been able to demonstrate its resilience as the world's diamond capital. Despite severe lockdowns and restrictions, Antwerp has remained operational in the past months, and we are slowly, but steadily climbing out of the crisis, this in stark contrast with the situations in other diamond hubs across the globe.

The reason why Antwerp has managed to do so, is through the responsible actions to stop the virus from spreading, taken by all of you, the members of our community;

- By respecting social distancing at all times, whether you are on the streets, in the lobbies, elevators and offices.
- By wearing face masks in public areas,
- By providing disinfecting gels and washing our hands,
- By limiting our face-to-face interactions and adhering to guidelines

Friends, colleagues, we are facing a global second wave, and we need to act now.

I call upon each and every one of you, as the virus is lashing out again, to continue those efforts; to maintain social distancing at all times, to provide and require every staff member and visitor entering your office or building to wear a face mask and supply sufficient hand hygiene tools and finally to encourage each other to observe these restrictions and guidelines.

In short, I ask of all of you to make sure we protect and safeguard the continuity we have fought so hard for in the past months.

Please be aware that these are the minimum, compulsory requirements, if you do not comply you not only endanger our entire community, you also risk to be fined by the authorities.

We are the Antwerp diamond community, and we will not give up on each other. Together, we can keep our industry safe.

Thank you

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ari Epstein', written in a cursive style.

Ari Epstein  
CEO AWDC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nishit Parikh', written in a cursive style.

Nishit Parikh  
President AWDC