



TO THE ANTWERP DIAMOND COMMUNITY

As representatives of the Antwerp diamond community, the Antwerp World Diamond Centre (AWDC) and the Federation of Belgian Diamond Bourses (FBDB) are jointly calling on members of the trade, all service-providers and ancillary businesses in the area to relinquish the traditional summer recess, typically halting most of the activity in the Antwerp diamond square mile for three weeks between the beginning and the end of August.

As the COVID-19 pandemic has forced business communities across the globe to close offices for several weeks, we believe that actively keeping the sector open, is a vital step to a much-needed recovery of trade in the remainder of the year.

While Antwerp as well as many parts of the world slowly re-emerge from this crisis, we need to make the most of the time we have left this year to make up for lost business.

In addition, in today's interconnected world, where typical buying and selling moments in the seasons are no longer a mantra, and many industry events on the calendar are rescheduled, we strongly feel our industry should adapt with flexibility.

By relinquishing the traditional summer recess, we want to signal to the world that Antwerp is and will be open for business.

Yours sincerely,

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

Nishit Parikh & Ari Epstein

PRESIDENT & CEO AWDC

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

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

Philippe Barsamian

PRESIDENT FBDB