



PRESS RELEASE

Antwerp, 19th april 2013

Reactive statement on the involvement in Offshore Leaks of Antwerp World Diamond Centre Board Member, Mr. Santosh Kedia

“Today, we have taken note of the press, communicating that a member of our Board of Directors, Mr. Santosh Kedia, allegedly would be involved in the 'Offshore Leaks' - .

In the interest of the integrity of the Antwerp World Diamond Centre as organisation and the industry as a whole, Mr Kedia has taken the initiative to temporary withdraw from the AWDC Board of Directors, awaiting the outcome of a potential investigation.

As the representative organisation of the Antwerp diamond sector, AWDC will aim all its efforts at the continuing strive for a transparent and clean diamond trade.

For many years already, AWDC has been striving for a transparent and clean diamond trade. Together with the international Financial Action Task Force (FATF) AWDC has contributed to the development of diamond-specific international anti-money laundering rules and regulations, and their implementation in Antwerp.

In collaboration with the European Commission, AWDC worked on the development and implementation of measures aimed at combatting the trade in conflict diamonds.

For more than 15 years already, AWDC has been collaborating with the Belgian tax administration on a workable and efficient tax controlling mechanism for the diamond sector.

AWDC will continue to work towards the further development of the international diamond trade in Antwerp, in close collaboration with the international, federal, Flemish and local authorities.

Diamonds love Antwerp