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REPORT OF THE THIRD GENERAL MEETING OF THE PEACE DIAMOND ALLIANCE 17-18 AUGUST 2005 – KOIDU, SIERRA LEONE

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17-18 AUGUST 2005 – KOIDU, SIERRA LEONE



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Third Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Peace Diamond Alliance (PDA) was held in Koidu, Sierra Leone on August 17-18, 2005. The first day provided an opportunity for Kono's PDA Executive Committee to report back to PDA members on progress made during the past year and for the Membership to address PDA governance issues, such as the size and composition of the Executive Committee. The morning of the second day focused on reflecting on the Integrated Diamond Management (IDM) program, including experience under the cooperative scheme in 2005 and suggestions for revision and expansion for the coming year. The afternoon was occupied with information exchange, learning, and planning for the year ahead.

Key accomplishments of the period included:

- Continued endorsement of the PDA by the Government of Sierra Leone, United States Government, Traditional Leaders, cooperatives, investors, and members.
- Reduction in the size of the PDA's Kono Executive Committee from 17 to 12 members (including a non-voting Donor post.)
- Passionate election of a new Executive Committee (EC) to serve in the coming year, after acknowledging underperformance in the past year.
- Revitalized interest in ensuring that the EC is more productive this year.
- Observation that diamond production by PDA-supported cooperatives was less than had been hoped and commitment to learning why this was so and rectifying any problems, particularly with acquiring more productive land.
- Commitment by investors to stand by the PDA and to consider additional investments in the future.
- Consideration of alternative models that might be included in the IDM model as we move forward, including:
 - Small Mining Enterprises (SMEs), where a typical supporter/miner/laborers relationship would be improved by adherence to best business practices, most likely targeted at even higher standards than the current Code of Conduct.
 - A cooperative diamond buying scheme.
- Sharing of lessons learned through EC study tours during the period.
- Preliminary exploration of options for increasing value gained from mining, considering gold and other minerals present in the region.
- Discussion of the mechanisms and potential for pursuing fair trade diamonds and gold through the cooperatives.
- Adoption by the PDA of an ambitious set of objectives for the coming year.

The balance of this paper will summarize the activities as they occurred on each day, followed by appendices that will provide greater detail on specific sessions.

Day 1

The second Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Peace Diamond Alliance (PDA) was held at the Kaamayamusu Women's Resource Centre on August 17-18, 2005.

The Chairman, Mr. Mohamed Jabbie, welcomed participants to the Third Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Peace Diamond Alliance. He observed the presence of the representative of the U.S. Ambassador, investors, and Traditional Leaders, all of whom had made valuable contributions to the work of the Peace Diamond Alliance during the past year. On behalf of the Executive Committee (EC), the Chairman expressed appreciation to all participants, and especially to those who had traveled from afar. He hoped that the deliberations of the next two days would help enhance the future work of the Alliance. The facilitator of the meeting, Mrs. Mary Musa, joined the Chairman to welcome participants. (See Appendixes **A** & **B** for full list of participants.)

Key sessions included the following:

1. Paramount Chief Melvin Aiah Ngekia (Kamara Chiefdom), on behalf of all Kono paramount chiefs, reaffirmed Traditional Leaders' support of the Alliance. He expressed the view that the work of the Alliance was within the framework of other efforts to bring about much needed development in the Kono district.
2. Mr. Gregory A. Vaut, Regional Public-Private Alliance Builder for USAID West Africa Program, served as representative of the US Ambassador to Sierra Leone. He noted that the Alliance was a necessary pathway to Sierra Leone's socio-economic development, which depended on sound management of its diamond resources, including the effective utilization of the DACDF. This fund, currently estimated at 2.5 billion Leones per annum (approaching \$1 million), is meant to enhance development in mining communities, such as Kono and Tongo Fields. Mr Vaut reaffirmed the US government commitment to support efforts that would make the management of the diamond industry more effective. (See Appendix **C** for the full transcript of the statement).
3. The Deputy Minister of Mines, Mr. Morlai Bai Kamara, stated that efforts of both government and partners (World Bank, USAID, DfID) since 2002 have led to significant progress in the diamond industry. The increase in export value, formation of mining cooperatives by the Alliance, reclamation of mined-out areas by FORPS, the implementation of a cadastre system, and increase of the DACDF contributions reflect such progress. The Deputy Minister recognized the great efforts of Mark Renzi, Paul Temple, Frank Karefa-Smart, all of the USAID-funded Integrated Diamond Management Program (IDMP), as well as that of Mr. Jan Ketelaar and Sam Koroma (DfID) and Mr. Simon Gilbert of De Beers. (See appendix **D** for the full transcript of the statement).
4. The Mines Engineer in Kono, Mr. Jonathan Sharkah, stated that the cadastre system was an advanced surveying and monitoring tool. Utilizing a modern technology, known as the Global Positioning System (GPS), and the application of simple coordinates (Northing & Easting), the system would enable the Ministry to provide accurate information on licenses, secure accurate diamond production data, and facilitate efficient management of extension services. (See Appendix **E** for the full transcript of the statement).
5. Mr Sahr S. Nyandemoh, making a statement on behalf of the mining cooperatives, recalled the history and rationale behind cooperative mining. He extended appreciation to Mr. Joseph J. James, of Kono's Hope, and Mr. Martin Rapaport, of the Rapaport Group, both of whom provided the initial funding to support the operations of the IDMP's cooperatives. He noted that issues of safe mining and environmental concerns, as dictated by the Alliance's Code of Conduct, have been duly adhered to. However, Mr Nyandemoh noted that because of early rains and late commencement of mining operations, the diamond production results have not been particularly productive in the last mining season. He concluded his statement with a three-point recommendation for the next mining season. (See appendix **F** for the full transcript of the statement).

6. The Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Alliance, Mr. Mohamed Jabbe, delivered the third annual report on behalf of the EC; the key points being that;
 - CASM (Community and Small Scale Mining Secretariat of the World Bank) supported EC capacity building, including attendance at CASM's annual conference in Colombo, Sri Lanka, and the Ghana Study Tour (discussed more fully below.)
 - Six EC members completed a professional computer course.
 - Four EC members attended Logistics Management training at IPAM.
 - A Training of Trainers (TOT) on Small Stones has been extended to eight zonal communities, of which four have now been identified as pilot communities.
 - A total of 30 cooperatives have so far been formed and continue to get assistance in various trainings.
 - Campaigns on improved environmental management are on going in various artisanal mining communities.
 - Since the last AGM, the PDA has hosted a number of both local and international events including:
 - A two-week diamond photo exhibition in Koidu, in partnership with NIZA (Netherlands Institute for Southern Africa.)
 - Managed the visits of Global Witness, the Kimberly Process Review Team (KPRT), and the Mines Ministry and UNDP of Liberia.
 - Participated in the Kimberly Process Plenary Session in Ottawa, Canada.
 - The program conducted a DACDF workshop for 26 chiefdoms in Kenema.

The Chairman concluded his statement with a three-point recommendation. (See Appendix G for the full transcript of the statement).

7. The Team Leader of the Integrated Diamond Management Project (IDMP), Paul Temple, reporting on the progress of the IDMP, noted that last year's expansion of the PDA Executive Committee (to 17 members) had resulted in a cumbersome scale that retarded decision-making, threatening the Alliance's ability to effect change in the diamond industry. He highlighted the IDMP's role as Secretariat to both the Technical and High Level Diamond Steering Committees in Freetown. Projected at almost \$1 million this year, Mr. Temple reiterated the need to effectively utilize the DACDF monies and hence the rationale for the DACDF workshop in Kenema, which attracted representatives from 26 chiefdoms and councils. He also informed the assembly about progress made in improving relations between Koidu Holdings and the Affected Property Owners as a result of the PDA intervention. He commended DfID's support towards the development of a modern cadastre system, which in the long term will enhance regulation of the diamond industry. He recalled his visit, on behalf of the PDA, to Israel as a basis to explore ways for the development of a diamond bourse and mentioned that the PDA will continue to pursue this with the Ministry of Mineral Resources. After pointing out that a research paper by the PDA was now available, he went on to explain that collaboration with Global Witness had helped to improve the internal monitoring capacity of the PDA. He concluded by emphasizing the need to evaluate cooperative mining in order to improve on the last mining season.
8. The Roles and Responsibilities of the Alliance were reiterated, as follows:
 - To set strategies and direction for the Alliance.
 - To pursue and support overall PDA objectives.
 - To demonstrate commitment, honesty and accountability.
 - To amplify PDA messages throughout the community.

9. On the subject of PDA membership, 21 organizations with appropriate registration documents were said to be in good standing with the PDA while 19 others have so far failed to attain that status. There was some controversy regarding the status of some members. After much discussion, it was resolved that all current members would be regarded as being in good standing, pending submission of registration materials. Since the Milestone Company had no representative present at the meeting, the EC will decide at a later date whether to accept or reject Milestone Company as a new member of the PDA.

10. The roles and responsibilities of the Kono EC were reiterated, as follows:

- Monitor program progress.
- Monitor adherence to the PDA Code of Conduct.
- Elect new EC Chairman.
- Provide overall leadership.
- Demonstrate qualities of commitment, intelligence, and ability to negotiate with stakeholders.
- Ability to speak for, and adequately represent, the PDA.
- Possess adequate understanding of the PDA vision, activities and must be accountable.
- Represent the interests of – and report to – their respective constituencies.

It was resolved at this point that the membership of the EC should be reduced from 17 to 12, to enhance its effectiveness.

11. Mr. Joe James of Kono’s Hope moved to expand PDA support to individual miners, much as is now done with cooperatives. The General Assembly accepted this motion, emphasizing that such support should be incorporated into the PDA process.

12. Towards the end of the first day, the following members, representing their constituent organizations, were elected to the new Executive Committee (EC) in a manner that was both transparent and energetic. The new EC will elect its Chairman at their first meeting. The new members are:

ORGANIZATION	REPRESENTATIVE TO THE EC
Donors	USAID
Civil Society	Mr. Mohamed Jabbie & Mr. Tamba Moiwa
Industrial Mining	Mr. Rex Bonapha
Small Scale Mining	Dr. A. T. Kpetewama
Women’s Interest	Mrs. Sia E. Tongu
Cooperatives	Mr. Fengai A.S. Manyeh
Kono District Council	Mrs. Esther Baryoh
Koidu/New Sembehun Town Council	Mrs. Mary S. Musa
Traditional Rulers	Paramount Chief A. M. Ngekia
Ministry of Mineral Resources	Mr. Jonathan Sharka
Exporters/Dealers	Mr. Prince K. Saquee
Ex-Officio (Member of Parliament)	Hon. Emmanuel Tommy

Day Two

Below is a continued summarization of events during Day Two:

13. Mr Tamba Sandi, IDMP Coordinator for Kono, presented the results of the past year's pilot cooperative mining activities. He noted that artisanal mining is inherently associated with poverty, a phenomenon largely due to miners' and laborers' inability to access finance. He therefore emphasized the need to continue and expand the cooperative mining initiative, based on lessons learned in the pilot season. Mr. Sandi pointed out that 30 cooperatives have so far been formed, five of which were funded by The Rapaport Group (four cooperatives) and Kono's Hope (one cooperative), with a total amount of \$75,000. A combined total of 222 diamonds, weighing 42.6 carats were produced by the four cooperatives supported by The Rapaport Group. Kono's Hope's coop is still washing. While this may not sound like a substantial return, Mr. Sandi cautioned that the scheme was yet at a pilot phase, with potential to improve during subsequent mining seasons. He cited unproductive land, late initiation of mining operations, and lack of heavy machinery as the main reasons for poor production in 2005. (See Appendix H for the full transcript of the statement).
14. Mr. Vinod Kuriyan, on behalf of The Rapaport Group, read aloud an eight-point resolution of his Company. (See Appendix I for the full transcript of the statement).
15. On behalf of Kono's Hope, Mr. Joe James made a statement highlighting three important points important for the future relationship between his group of investors and the mining industry in Kono. These points were: operational issues, policy/legislation and public relations/marketing. (See Appendix J for the full transcript of the statement).
16. The general Alliance assembly was divided into five Rolling Centers to discuss and explore ideas around the following topics: Gold and other Value Added, The CASM trip to Sri Lanka, The Ghana Study Tour, The Ottawa, Canada Kimberley Process Plenary Meeting, and Environmental Awareness/Zonal Meetings. The outcomes of these discussions are summarized below:

Gold and other Value Added:

While the IDMP is not yet involved with assisting people in the field of gold mining, efforts there could produce complementary benefits. As with the diamond industry, there is need to reduce smuggling while increasing income for producers and revenue to government. The following were identified as characteristics of gold mining in Kono, as a result of discussions in the Rolling Center:

- Gender: Gold mining is almost entirely a women's activity.
- Pricing dynamics: Gold has a relatively fixed price at the local level (5,000 to 7,000 Leones per carat) but a more volatile world price (currently at 8, 600 Leones per carat.)
- Production: During the wet season, production takes place at mining sites; production takes place at river beds/banks during the dry season.
- Marketing: Gold is purchased on site by "circuit riders," who generally participate in buying 'syndicates' smuggling goods to Gambia, Senegal, and Guinea. Some production is destined to dealers and jewelers in Koidu and to tourists in Freetown.
- Production: There is no reliable information on overall production.
- Legal Export: Virtually all production is smuggled out of the country, depriving Sierra Leone of revenue and producing a potential threat to security.

CASM trip to Sri Lanka:

- 150 people participated in the CASM (Communities and Small Scale Mining) conference.
- The World Bank's CASM Secretariat funded the trip.

- The team visited mining sites in Sri Lanka.
- Sri Lanka mines mostly sapphire, but also other minerals.
- Sri Lanka has established cutting and polishing factories.
- Workers are mostly citizens.
- Winnings are shared on percentage basis.
- Sri Lanka has standard mining policies.
- Marketing differences can easily be spotted.

Ghana Study Tour:

- Ghana features open-cast mining operations similar to those in Sierra Leone.
- The regions visited looked very much like Kono.
- There was a tributor system in one of the mines.
- Government has monopoly over the diamond industry.
- Diamonds are mostly meles and industrial, unlike in Sierra Leone.

The Canada Trip:

- Discussed the Kimberly Process Certification Scheme (KPCS.)
- Was able to source funding for four cooperatives.
- The Eskimo community presence helped to create awareness regarding how to make leaders responsible and best governing practices.

Environmental Awareness/Zonal Meetings:

- Raised Issues such as:
 - Kaisambo
 - Getting back reclamation fees to work.
 - Koidu Holdings.

17. Defining Fair Trade as ‘putting the miner at the centre of the process’, Mr. Greg Valerio, a businessman, environmentalist and campaigner for Fair Trade, emphasized the importance of empowering people over their future. He stated that this can only be achieved by looking at trade issues in a holistic way and that trade should have an impact on all parties involved in the process. Fair Trade should be transparent with an independently certified chain of custody. Mr. Valerio concluded by stating that there was now a customer-consciousness of Fair Trade and that this is a potential approach to fighting poverty. (See Appendix L for the transcript of statement).

18. Pending issues: The following represents potential issues identified by the Membership to be addressed by the newly-elected Executive Committee in the coming year:

- Evaluate potential mining sites by October 2005, using local sampling methods.
- Explore ways to harmonize industrial mining and community interests.
- Integrate the PDA’s Executive Committees (Kono & Tongo Fields.)
- Explore possibilities to improve Small Medium Enterprise procedures.
- Explore ideas and put modalities in place for the establishment of a Cooperative Buying Scheme.
- Examine issues of sustainability and selection of mining processes.
- Increase collaboration with the Association for Responsible Mining (ARM.)
- Address issues of environmental concerns/impacts.
- Pursue appropriate law reforms for a transparent diamond market (buying/selling.)
- Widen PDA’s scope for inclusive representation (possibly at provincial level.)

- Continue and expand zonal awareness raising of the mining industry.
- Increase diamond valuator movement as a strategy to increase valuation services to mining communities.
- Increase mining information networks.
- Embark on effective monitoring of the DACDF fund.

The AGM left it to the Executive Committee to determine priorities among the above list during their first meeting.

19. Alliance Member Pledges: It is a tradition that at the end of every AGM, Alliance members make pledges to the Alliance. Below are some pledges made by members on 18th August 2005. (See Appendix **M** for the full transcript of the list of pledges).

APPENDIX A: LIST OF ATTENDEES (DAY ONE)

PDA 3rd Annual General Meeting 17th August 2005

NO.	NAME	ORGANIZATION
1	Mariama Bayoh	50/50 Group
2	Tamba Brima Musa	Paramount Chief Rep – Mafindor
3	Sia Mary Musa	Koidu New Sembehun Town Council
4	Sia E. Tongu	50/50 Group
5	Divid T. Mafinda	SAMCO Group
6	Mark Renzi	IDMP
7	John Kanu	IDMP
8	Michael Jalloh	IDMP
9	P.C. Aiah M. Ngekia	Council of Paramount Chiefs
10	Sahr Nyaama	IDMP
11	Sahr Aruna	IDMP
12	Dr. Sahr J. Tongu	IDMP
13	Abu Bakarr Kamara	IDMP
14	Kumba C. Gbamanja	NAADA
15	Mohamed Jabbie	MOCKY
16	Agnes K. Sebba	Fiamo Cooperative Society
17	M.A. Morsay	Tankoro Development Association
18	T. Alpha Kpekewama	Meya Development Company
19	S.B. Gando	Meya Development Company
20	Aiah J. Mbriwa	Meya Development Company
21	Nancy Mani	Cooperative Rep.
22	Alisha Eisenstein	Management Systems International
23	Joe James	Kono's Hope, UC
24	Kumba Fillie	Kuendondoya Women's Association
25	S.E. Ngegba Jonsie	GRAFARMCO (SL)
26	Sahr R. Sam	GRAFARMCO (SL)

NO.	NAME	ORGANIZATION
27	Kumba Komeh	Kono District Women multipurpose cooperative
28	Gladys Sheku	Yorkordu Mining Cooperative
29	Musa Sawaneh	Demamah
30	Princess Didy Pratt	Komafeneh Mining Cooperative
31	Rev. Eric T.M. Mondeh	Moindefeh Multipurpose Cooperative
32	Kumba D. Tamba	Tenekoe women's Cooperative.
33	Simon Gilbert	De Beers Group
34	Gred Vaut	USAID
35	Samuel Koroma	DFID DSP
36	Amie B.S. Alu	Fiama Dev. Multipurpose
37	J. Ketelaar	DFID DSP
38	Komba Sumana	DFID DSP
39	Mohamed Y. Jalloh	Taking Drum Studio
40	Sahr Komba	Peyee Miners Cooperative
41	Cherinoh A. Jalloh	Koakoyima Diamond Mining Cooperative
42	Sahr A. Komba	Koakoyima Diamond Mining Cooperative
43	Sahr T. Baryoh	Nyundema Mining Cooperative
44	Tamba T. Moiwa	Diamond Dealers Association
45	Prince K. Saquee	Diamond Dealers Association
46	Jibao A. Moosa	Tongo Fields Kenema District Council Rep.
47	Francis A. Koniwa	Tongo Fields
48	Joseph B. Braut	National Revenue Authority
49	Nancy Gando	Tongo Fields Executive Committee
50	Amara Gando	Tongo Fields Executive Committee
51	Solomon B. Caulker	Swamaya Cooperative Society
52	Albert A. Kebbie	Kono Human Right Committee
53	Tamba N. Moiwa	Sierra Leone Teachers Union – Kono
54	Tamba B. Gbenda	Komafeneh Mining Coop.
55	Greg Valerio	CRD Jewellery / ARM
56	Vinod Kuriyan	Rapaport Group
57	A.M. Karlba	Sierra Leone Police
58	Daniel B. Samu	IDMP – Tongo Fields
59	Sheku Farma	Chairman PDA Tongo Fields
60	Kenneth Sourie	Sandor Chiefdom
61	Moi Musa	Observer
62	Ettie Cole	Diamond Valuer – Ministry of Mines

NO.	NAME	ORGANIZATION
63	Aiah R. Komba	UNDP /AFD
64	Kabba Melvin D.	Vice Secretary General
65	Maada Gandema	Secretary General
66	Margret Momoh	Sinava – Tongo Fields
67	James B. Samba	Vice Chairman – Tongo Fields
68	Sahr S. Thomas	Secretary General
69	Ibrahim S. Mansaray	Komafeneh Cooperative
70	Rebecca Y. Kamara	Komafeneh Cooperative.
71	Sahr S. Tamba	Koakoyima Cooperative
72	Sahr S. Nyandemoh	Danaya Cooperative
73	Mohamed Leigh	Danaya Cooperative
74	Florence F. Musa	Tenekoe Cooperative
75	Theresa K. Gborie	WONA Cooperative
76	Sahr Tuito James	Koaoyima Diamond Mining Cooperative
77	Aiah Ngauja	Tayorma Cooperative
78	James Mbombor	Tayorma Cooperative
79	Aiah Mattia	Tayorma Cooperative
80	John Kpakiwa	Koidu Cooperative
81	Daniel S. Fafaluk	KONDAMA
82	Sahr D. Alpha	Tankoro Youth
83	Mohamed Aruna	Moindefeh Cooperative
84	Denis A.M. Ngegba	Danaya Cooperative
85	I.S. Barrie	Mines – Kenema
86	J.A. Shaka	Mines – Kono
87	Aiah Komba	USAID
88	Mohamed Musa	Kenema
89	Musa Sam	Kenema
90	CPI Francis Bayoh	Kenema
91	Sahr James	NAADA – Kono
92	Anne Mohai	Tongo Fields
93	Patrick Mohai	Tongo Fields
94	Sahr F. Mondeh	Peyee Mining Cooperative
95	Sahr M. Gborie	Peyee Mining Cooperative
96	Rev. Saa P. Missah	Sandor Diamond Mining Cooperative
97	Madan Patricia S. Missah	Sandor Diamond Mining Cooperative
98	Sidney M. Koroma	MOCKY

NO.	NAME	ORGANIZATION
99	Alex Kaloko	BRAVE HEART Cooperative
100	Brima Lebbie	ADAGMAK
101	Gladys Ngekia	Tayorma Cooperative
102	Hon. E.W. Tommy	Member of Parliament
103	Tamba Nyangba	Komafeneh Cooperative
104	Esther Baryoh	Councillor Kono District
105	Ibrahim T. Konteh	MLSSIR
106	Buntin J. Caulker	Swamaya Cooperative Society
107	Fengai Mayeh	PDA Executive Committee
108	John Bonah	UNAMSIL – P/S
109	Sam Masoh	UNAMSIL – Civil Affairs
110	Sellu Dagbee	NAADA
111	Francis T. Quee	SINAKOA Mining Cooperative
112	Paul Temple	IDMP
113	Tamba D. Sam-Sheku	IDMP
114	Tamba Sandi	IDMP
115	Ibrahim Sebba	IDMP
116	Sahr Foday	IDMP
117	Tamba Amara	ADAGMAK
118	Aiah M. Lebbie	Chanja-Bumpeh Cooperative
119	Ibrahim S. Bangura	ADAGMAK
120	Hon. A.B. Torto	Member of Parliament
121	Brian Thomas	Rokel Commercial Bank (SL) Ltd.
122	Mohamed Dogba	ADAGMA
123	Joseph Kapindi	Mines Office – Kono
124	Dominic E. Kabba	BENKOMA Mining Cooperative
125	S.E. Frank Karefa Smart	IDMP
126	Francis T. Quee	SINAKOA Mining Cooperative
127	Ibrahim Conteh	IDMP
128	Morlai Bai Kamara	D/Minister MMR
129	Joseph J. James	Kono’s Hope LLC
130	Gregory Vaut	USAID/WARP
131	Mamoud Feika	IDMP

APPENDIX B: LIST OF ATTENDEES (DAY TWO)

PDA 3rd Annual General Meeting 17th August 2005

NO.	NAME	ORGANIZATION
1	Sahr Nyaama	IDMP
2	Sia Mary Musa	Koidu New Sembehun Town Council
3	Rev. Eric T. M. Mondeh	Moindefeh Cooperative
4	Kumba C. Gbamanja	NAADA
5	Buntin Jessie Caulker	Swamaya Cooperative Society
6	S.E. Ngegba Jonsie	GRAFARMCO (SL)
7	Sahr Richard Sam	GRAFARMCO (SL)
8	Joseph A. Kapindi	MMR
9	Charles K. M'bayo	FORPS
10	David T. Mafinda	SAMCO
11	Sia E. Tongu	50/50 Group
12	Theresa K. Gborie	Wona Women Mining Cooperative
13	Tamba Sandi	IDMP
14	Ibrahim Sebba	IDMP
15	Tamba B. Gbenda	Komafeneh Cooperative
16	Sahr S. Aruna	IDPM
17	Alhaji I.B. Kabba	IDMP
18	Sahr T. James	Koakoyima Diamond Mining Coop.
19	M.A. Morsay	Tankoro Cooperative Society
20	Agnes K. Sebba	Fiama Cooperative Society
21	John Kpaiwa	Kiodu Mining Cooperative
22	Tamba Brima Musa	IDM
23	Anne Mohai	Tongo Fields
24	J. Katelaar	DFID
25	Nancy Gando	Tongo Fields EC
26	Amara Gando	Tongo Fields EC
27	Patrick A. Mohai	Tongo Fields EC

NO.	NAME	ORGANIZATION
28	Daniel B. Samu	IDMP
29	Dr, Sahr J. Tongu	IDMP
30	Aiah Ngaujah	Tayorma Mining Cooperative
31	Moinina Conteh	Observer
32	Aiah A. Mattia	Tayorma Mining Cooperative
33	Sahr S. Thomas	Tayorma Mining Cooperative
34	Abu B. Kamara	IDMP
35	Mohamed Jabbie	MOCKY
36	Maada Gandema	Moindefeh Mining Cooperative
37	Fengai Mayeh	PDA E.C
38	Anne B.S. Abu	Fiama Cooperative
39	Solomon B. Caulker	Swamaya Mining Coop.
40	Kowah Albert Mani	IDMP
41	Sahr T. Baryoh	Nyundema Cooperative
42	Tamba T. Moiwa	Nyundema Cooperative
43	Ibrahim S. Mansaray	Komafeneh Mining Cooperative
44	Cherino A. Jalloh	Koakoyima Cooperative
45	Sahr D. Alpha	Observer
46	Mariama Bayoh	50/50 Group
47	Margret Momoh	SINAVA Women's Association
48	Sahr A. Komba	Koakoyima Diamond Mining Cooperative
49	James Morsay	KONDAMA Cooperative
50	Esther Baryoh	Councillor – Kono District Council
51	A.M. Karlba	Sierra Leone Police
52	Michael Jalloh	IDMP
53	Aie B. Sesay	UNDP/OMAT
54	Musa Sawaneh	IDMP – Tongo Fields
55	Francis A. Koniwa	Dealers Rep. - Tongo
56	Balema Samba	LBYC - Tongo Field
57	Jibao A. Moosa	Councillor's Representative Tongo Fields
58	Kabba Melvin Dauda	Zonal Head Representative
59	Sheku Farma	EC Chairman – Tongo Fields
60	Sahr F. Mondeh	Peyee Mining Cooperative
61	Mohamed Dugba	Demamah Cooperative.
62	Dr. T Alpha Kpetewama	MEYA Development Company
63	S.B. Gando	MEYA Development Company

NO.	NAME	ORGANIZATION
64	Moi Musa	Observer
65	Sahr Komba	Peyee Mining Cooperative
66	Nancy Mani	Morlatay Cooperative
67	Mohamed Musa	Tongo Fields
68	Dominic E. Kabba	BENKOMA Mining Cooperative
69	Kenneth Sourie	Sandor Chiefdom
70	Musa Sam	Tongo Fields
71	Brima Bayoh	Tongo Fields
72	Mohamed Y. Jalloh	Talking Drum Studio
73	Michael A. Aruna	FORPS
74	Pecos Lamin	IDMP
75	P.C. A.M. Ngekia II	Council of Paramount Chiefs
76	Aiah J. Mbombor	Tayorma Mining Cooperative
77	Sahr M. Gborie	Peyee Mining Cooperative
78	Mustapha Koroma	Peyee Mining Cooperative
79	Kumba Fillie	Kuendondoya Women's Association
80	Ibrahim T. Konteh	MLSSIR
81	Samuel Koroma	DFID DSP
82	Sahr S. Tamba	Koakoyima Cooperative
83	John Kanu	IDMP
84	Albert A. Kebbie	Kono Human Rights
85	Paul Temple	IDMP
86	Sahr S. Nyandemoh	Danaya Mining Cooperative
87	Frank Karefa Smart	IDMP
88	Denis A.M. Ngegba	Danaya Mining Cooperative
89	Ibrahim Conteh	IDMP
90	I.S. Barrie	MMR Mines – Kenema
91	Mohamed Aruna	MMR Mines – Kenema
92	Kai P. Joseph	Tayorma Cooperative
93	J.A. Shaka	MMR – Mines
94	Sia Missah	Sandor Mining Cooperative
95	Finda Gladys Ngekia	Tayorma Cooperative
96	Finda Gborie	Tayorma Cooperative
97	Rev. Saa P. Missah	Sandor Mining Cooperative
98	Aiah R. Komba	UNDP /AFD
99	Hon. A.B. Torto	Member of Parliament

NO.	NAME	ORGANIZATION
100	Princess Didy Pratt	Komafeneh Mining Cooperative
101	Patrick Tongu	NMJD
102	Rebecca Y. Kamara	MOCKY
103	Prince Kai Saquee	Diamond Dealers Association
104	Hon. E.W. Tommy	Member of Parliament – Chairman
105	Tamba N. Moiwa	Sierra Leone Teachers Union – Kono
106	Komba Sumana	DFID
107	Ibrahim S. Bangura	ADAGMAK
108	Aiah J. Mbriwa	Meya Development Company
109	Ettie Cole	Ministry of Mineral Resources
110	Salieu Mansaray	Diamond Dealers Association
111	Aiah M. Lebbie	Chiefdom Speaker
112	Tamba D. Sam-Sheku	IDMP
113	Sahr Dagbee	NAADA
114	Stevens G. Dugba	Chairman Kono's comm.
115	D.M. Sesay	Mines Division
116	Alex Kaloko	BRAVE HEART Cooperative Society
117	Brima Lebbie	ADAGMAK
118	Tatafoe Tumoe	Press
119	Mark Renzi	IDMP
120	Gregory Vaut	USAID/WARP
121	Joseph J. James	Kono's Hope LLC
122	Vinod Kuriyan	The Rapaport Group
123	Arnold Brima Kamara	Campaign for Good Governance

APPENDIX C: STATEMENT BY MR. GREGORY A. VAUT, ON BEHALF OF THE US AMBASSADOR

Good Morning:

I am here today to represent both the US Ambassador and the USAID country team. Unfortunately they are unable to be with you today but send both greetings and best wishes for the success of the Peace Diamond Alliance Annual General Meeting and for your continued good work.

The government and people of the US have stood by the people and government of Sierra Leone. We have invested several million dollars in Sierra Leone's recovery. Two major new programs have been launched through USAID this year to strengthen livelihood initiatives and democratic governance, especially in the Eastern Province.

One of the United States Government's significant programs continues to be to improve the management of the important diamond resource. The sound management of the resources of Sierra Leone is critical to the economic recovery of the nation and its people. The United States Government considers the Peace Diamond Alliance vital to ensuring that control of the Sierra Leone's diamond resources is improved and that benefits from the resource are managed for the benefit of the people of Sierra Leone.

The Alliance, in bringing together miners, diggers, local business, international business, government and donors, builds a solid bridge between business and the government and people of Sierra Leone, and it is this private and public combination, which can be very powerful. Through the US development assistance agency, USAID, we have helped the people of Kono and Tongo Fields develop a stronger and more legal diamond market. As the value of official diamond exports continues to improve, it is vital that the goals of the Alliance are pursued still more strongly:

- that the benefits to local miners, diggers and their communities are maximized
- that the improvements toward transparent operations and fair marketing are maintained
- that greater local surveillance improves the tracking of diamond production

For without these fundamental goals being achieved, the people of Kono and Tongo fields who do the work will not enjoy the fruits of their labor. Neither will they be able to use the benefits from their diamonds to rebuild their lives and to ensure that peace is maintained.

Significant importance, both locally and nationally, is being placed on the effective use of the Diamond Area Community Development Fund. This is the proportion of export taxes being returned to communities for their development. The fund, now valued at around 2.5 billion Leones annually, must be seen as a continued reason for improving diamond management.

At last year's Annual General Meeting, the Deputy US Ambassador heralded the "the dawn of Integrated Diamond Management" as the way forward so that the people who produce and sell diamonds to the world can:

- Support themselves and their families,
- Support their communities and the development of schools and clinics and other things you need,
- And support true economic and human development in Sierra Leone.

I am informed that encouraging progress has been made since the last Annual General Meeting, as some of the mining co-operatives received financing for operations. During the next two days, the progress made and the way forward will be discussed. For although much has been accomplished, there is always more to do.

The importance of your efforts is being closely observed by the world at large, as evidenced by the international visitors present. The U.S. government and USAID remain committed to assisting you during the coming season. As you take the next steps in working together, we will continue to help in ensuring that the diamond sector works for you and for Sierra Leone.

Accountability is very important. None of the progress you have made will count unless you make sure that all procedures are fair and open. Let this meeting of the Peace Diamond Alliance continue to demonstrate your own 'good governance' through sound conduct, fair processing and open decisions.

So, now the time has come for Alliance members to report on progress during the General Assembly. It is time for you, the members, to consider your vision for the future. It is time for you, the members, to hold the Executive Committee responsible and accountable for its performance. It is time for members to again vote for the membership of the Executive Committee.

The United States government and people's contribution to Sierra Leone's recovery is an investment in the people of Sierra Leone who are prepared to exert effort to improve their country and make a better future for themselves and their children. We are proud to be a partner in that effort, and this partnership involves the entire U.S. Mission to Sierra Leone.

As I look forward to your deliberations, on behalf of the U.S. Government, USAID and the American people, I wish to reaffirm our commitment to the people of Kono and Tongo Fields.

APPENDIX D: STATEMENT BY MR. MORLAI BAI KAMARA, DEPUTY MINISTER OF MINERAL RESOURCES

Mr. Chairman, Hon. Minister, Members of Parliament, HE the Ambassadors, Paramount Chiefs, UN Representative and Representative of IDMP, DFID, Councilors, Party Members, Executive, Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen.

Thank you for inviting me to this important meeting.

Before making my short statement, I must first of all recognize the presence of Mark Renzi, Paul Temple, Frank Karefa-Smart, Jan Ketelaar, and Simon Gilbert, who have keen interest in the development of the Alliance and the mining industry, particularly that of miners.

History:

Since 2002, the Ministry of Mines and the diamond industry have made significant progress through DFID, WB, and USA. A mining policy has been put in place.

Disbursement of millions of Leones through the DACDF has reached many chiefdoms where diamonds are mined – this has never happened before in the history of Sierra Leone. These funds are being raised for Chiefdom Development.

Cooperation with Dealers Mining Companies and Exporters is in progress.

Focus on the miners has taken an important position in the minds of all stakeholders in the mining industry so that the miners can benefit a lot without being marginalized.

Mining cooperatives are now in operation through the effort of the Alliance. Mined out areas are being rehabilitated. Kaisambo is one of them. More Mines Monitors and Mines Wardens are being employed, although this number is still not enough to cope with illicit mining and smuggling. All mining communities are now being involved in the industry. The Mining Engineer, resident in Kono, will explain the Cadastral and Extension services.

APPENDIX E: STATEMENT BY MR. JONATHAN SHARCAH, MINES ENGINEER -KONO

The Cadastral system is a survey system that utilizes the Global Positioning System (GPS) developed by the U.S military. It uses the simple coordinate system (Northing and Easting.) It can even show elevations.

The idea is to accurately map out all claims, including simple and multiple licenses. These are entered into a computer. This data will eventually eliminate boundary disputes. By the end of next month, a computer system will be set up in Kono to start this process on a full scale. When issuing any mining license, the coordinates will be taken, and a plotter will produce the map. This map will be used to issue any future mining license. All miners are also required to record their winnings. That information should be handed to the mines office every month. A form where all sales will be recorded, which should be checked every month will also be issued. The sales data will be crosschecked with dealers' records to make sure that all diamonds are monitored from earth to export.

The aim of the extension program is to ensure that the miners get maximum services in their operations. That is, when allocated a plot of land to mine, one can go to the mines office and ask the advice of a geologist who will be able to tell you what to expect. The extension engineer will also be available to help you with your mine layout and subsequent operations. Finally, the Diamond Valuator will be able to tell you how much money you should expect for your diamonds. All these services are free to the miners.

APPENDIX F: STATEMENT BY MR. SAHR S. NYANDEMOH, REPRESENTATIVE OF MINING COOPERATIVES

I warmly wish to thank the Peace Diamond Alliance and my colleagues in the Registered Cooperative Societies for this unique opportunity to make a submission on our behalf. As a Chinese philosopher noted, “a journey of a thousand miles begins with one step.”

The inauguration of the Peace Diamond Alliance by His Excellency Dr. Ahmed Tejan Kabbah and Vice President Solomon Berewa, in August 2003, paved the way for the registration and training of the cooperatives by Paul Temple and his team. The promises by our President to free all miners from the debt burden, and as the outgoing American Ambassador Peter Cheavas observed, “Enable us to get a better share of our diamond (winnings)” were like a dream.

This dream finally came true in March 2005, when funding by two private investors, through the PDA, was extended to five cooperatives:

- Tayorma Cooperative Society
- Koakoyima Coperative Society
- Komafeneh Cooperative Society
- Danaya Cooperative Society
- Peyee Cooperative Society

We were informed that Mr. Martin Rapaport and Mr. Joe J. James took compassion and funded the cooperatives. Agreements were duly signed between the cooperatives, the investors and the PDA. We are very grateful to Mr. Rapaport and Mr. James, and we thank them very much.

Diamond mining by the cooperatives commenced in March 2005. This implies that the mining started late. Mining in Kono begins in December and January, but 2005 was like a year gone mad. March, which is the hottest month in the year, became the wettest month. Rain poured down in heavy thunderstorms. In spite of these setbacks, the cooperatives worked hard. In the end, however, not much gravel was extracted. Washing of gravel started in July and ended the same month. The overall diamond production is very poor this year.

During our operations, Mr. Paul Temple visited and encouraged us. He kept our morale high in difficult times. Representatives of Global Witness, led by Susie Sanders, visited us from the forward preparation of the sites to the extraction and washing of gravel. Her visits to the remote Danaya camp were usually done on foot. The safety of workers and environmental concerns were her major concerns. The terracing method adopted by the cooperatives was successful and all our operations were accident free. Our technical adviser, Mark Renzi, was indeed an inspiration. He visited all our operation sites. We thank him very much for traveling across continents for the future of our nation and of our children. It is indeed soul touching. Diamond production this year, as I noted earlier, is poor.

Secondly, many Paramount Chiefs did not believe that Temple's dream would come true. But it has, and many paramount chiefs are eager to come on board. For example, the Paramount Chief of Nimikoro has given four more licenses to the Danaya cooperative. Given another opportunity, we promise to deliver. Koakoyima has been given a rich diamond plot at Waidala.

Suggestion/Recommendation:

1. That Mr. Temple and his team must immediately work with MSI to introduce the diamond-buying scheme. The PDA has trained over twenty cooperative members in small stones valuation. These trained men and women can serve as the vanguard in community networking to buy the diamonds.
2. Our Government must enact or reinforce laws to create a fair competitive diamond market. That is, laws to reward honest dealers and punish rogue buyers and dealers. The story of Skippa is fresh in our minds.
3. Local and international press must be invited to all our AGM meetings. We believe that there are no more blood diamonds in Sierra Leone. Rather, a group of evil men with blood on their hands came to Sierra Leone and stole some of our gemstones. Through the press the world should know that there are no blood diamonds in Sierra Leone, but rather Peace Diamonds through the PDA.

APPENDIX G: ANNUAL REPORT DELIVERED BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, MR MOHAMED JABBIE

Introduction

Your Excellency the Ambassador of the United States of America, Paramount Chiefs and sub-Chiefs, Chairpersons and Chief Administrators of both District and Town Councils, Councilors, Financiers of the Cooperatives – Martin Rapaport and Joseph James, colleague Executive Committee members of PDA and the general membership, distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen. Good morning to you all.

Today marks another milestone in the history of Kono District, and, in particular, of the Peace Diamond Alliance, as we observe the 3rd PDA Annual General Meeting since its launch on the 27th of August 2003 by His Excellency the President Alhaji Dr. Ahmad Tejan Kabbah, when he charged the PDA with the responsibility to bring sanity to the Diamond industry of Sierra Leone.

On the 29-30 September 2004, the PDA had its second Annual General Meeting wherein the General Assembly, in its wisdom, appointed a seventeen-person Executive Committee, and charged it with the responsibility of administering its policies, as enshrined in the Code of Conduct, in collaboration with the Secretariat support staff for the year under review. The Executive Committee and the Secretariat endeavored to carry out the responsibilities charged them in the face of numerous challenges. The following are noteworthy among several:

E.C. Capacity Building

During my tenure of office as the Chairman of the EC, the Committee focused on almost all the assignments that were given to it by the General Assembly, among which was the sustainability policy. It is the cherished ambition of this body that, at the close of the day, this institution should be capable of standing on its own; in terms of improved human resource, infrastructure and assets. Appreciative of the efforts and support we are currently enjoying from MSI/USAID, I wish on behalf of the EC, and my humble self, to inform you about the donation tied to specific purpose (Capacity Building) received from World Bank (CASM) as a result of MSI initiative and effective coordination. The PDA, and especially the EC, enjoyed a series of programs geared towards capacity building. The following were achieved by the use of the funds:

- A three-man delegation from the PDA attended the 4th CASM conference in Colombo, Sri Lanka, on 12-16 October 2004. Upon their return, they shared with both the EC members and the Secretariat the experience they acquired in fair trade and certification initiatives.
- On Sunday May 8, 2005, an eleven member delegation that comprised members of both the Secretariat and ECs from Kono and Tongo Fields went on a five-day tour to Ghana and

exchanged ideas with their counterparts in diamond mining and marketing. Some of the good experiences acquired there are also replicated here by the Alliance.

- Four EC members successfully completed a two-week short course in Logistics, Cash and Credit Management at the Institute of Public Administration and Management (University of Sierra Leone) from 13th - 24th June 2005.
- On the 25th of July 2005, six EC members were trained for two weeks in computing. The AITH computer school in Kenema was brought into Koidu to handle this training.

Small Stones Training:

In the area of increasing the awareness of the various diamondiferous communities that are engaged in mining, the PDA carried forward the small stone identification and classification-training scheme by visiting some communities and training residents through TOT (training of trainers.)

Pursuant to one of the decisions at the second AGM of the PDA, the mining communities in Kono District were organized into eight zones. In taking the training in small stones to the communities, four of the zones were selected as a pilot project. As a result, two Alliance members – MOCKY and ADAGMAK – provided two members each to be trained and equipped and to replicate the training in the four identified zones of Boroma, Peyima, Bongema and Tefeya in the Gbense, Kamara, Nimikoro and Sandor Chiefdoms respectively. This has been one of the initiatives of PDA that most people have appreciated highly. I hope more training will be done in the future, since a master trainer in this field by the name of Councilor Tamba Nelson Moiwa, a member of the EC, is still living with us.

Cooperatives

One of the major undertakings by the project in recent times has been centered around the formation, training and funding of mining cooperatives. We now have a total of thirty such cooperatives formed in Kono. This year, we have been able to secure funds from two of our international investors – Martin Rapaport and Joseph James – who have provided funds for five of these mining cooperatives. I express my sincere gratitude on behalf of the people of Kono to these two men. I hope you will continue with this investment by funding more cooperatives. Mr. Sandi, the project coordinator, will later explain the details of the cooperatives.

Environmental Awareness/Zonal Meetings:

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, whilst the PDA continues with its main challenge of maximizing local beneficiation of diamonds, we are not oblivious to the environmental consequences that accompany mining activities. It is in this vein that, over the past one year, we have, through our Environmental Officer, participated in a number of environmental issues, all with the aim of enhancing sound environmental management within the diamond Industry.

Some of these issues include:

- Monitoring the Kaisambo land reclamation project.
- Working with Chiefs to get lands declared mined out for reclamation so as to create opportunities for alternative use of lands.
- Assist Community Based Organizations to access funding to reclaim lands. The proposed Tombodu reclamation site to be implemented by the Forest Resource Promoters (FORPS) is a case in point.
- Wider community awareness on environmental issues, especially those relating to mining as it was demonstrated during our June 5 World Environmental Day Celebration

- The Alliance, through our primary funding agency (USAID), is currently working with the CEMMATS Group of consultants on the implementation of Sustainable Artisanal Mining and Environmental Procedures (SMARTER) project, so that mining activities are better planned in order to mitigate some of the environmental consequences of the industry.
- Information dissemination among local community members has always been an insurmountable problem in the mining industry. In this view, it was deemed necessary for us to take such vital information to the mining communities by the creation of mining zones.

During the course of this general meeting, you will break out into smaller groups, referred to as rolling centers, where you will meet with Mr. Barba Turay, the Environmental Officer, for more information on the Environment.

Diamond Photo Exhibition

In addition to progress made, PDA-Kono hosted a two week exhibition of diamond photos by Mr. Kadir van Lohui Zen of Holland. Public reaction to this exhibition was very positive and reported to be educational.

Visits to PDA

Also during the year under review, the PDA received very important visitors, such as:

- Global Witness – recently, a member of this group had an interview with the BBC on the roles of PDA.
- CEMMATS – worked with the Environmental officer on the proper management of the Environment.
- UNDP/MMR Liberia delegation visited Sierra Leone to learn from PDA experience for possible replication in Liberia.
- A nine-member delegation from the Kimberley Process; reactions by the delegates were very positive.
- A team from France visited PDA and shared with us their experiences with Gold and Diamonds from several African countries.

The PDA in July this year conducted a workshop in Kenema on the effective utilization of the DACDF that involved twenty-six Chiefdoms and three District Councils.

Problems and Constraints:

- During this year under review, the EC continually faced the problem of forming quorums at meetings due to the large number of people on the committee, thereby delaying progress of the PDA. I hope this body will take this into consideration when electing the Executive Committee.
- Funding is also a major constraint of the Alliance. As a result, some of the programs have yet to be implemented.

In conclusion, I wish to express the profound gratitude of the Alliance to all, including USAID, the World Bank, Paramount Chiefs, the MMR and other local partners for their tireless support. Let me also assure you that PDA will live to improve the mining industry.

I thank you for your attention.

APPENDIX I: STATEMENT BY IDMP KONO COORDINATOR, TAMBA SANDI

Excellencies, Local dignitaries, members of mining co-operatives, investors into our co-operative scheme, ladies and gentlemen, I am happy to be with you here today to do a short presentation on behalf of the IDMP of which the PDA is an integral part on Mining Cooperatives' Results.

Before giving you the results of these cooperatives, let me give you a brief background as to how we came to establish these cooperatives in the first place. Since the start of the project way back in 2002, our partners, especially USAID, and we have always been convinced that the multi-faceted problems plaguing the diamond industry in the country need to be addressed. These problems include poor conditions of work for the hard-working diamond diggers, under-pricing of production, lack of sufficient knowledge about the true value of diamonds, environmental degradation resulting from uncontrolled mining, smuggling, money laundering, and the potential of the diamond resource being used by terrorist groups amongst others. One of the greatest ways of addressing these concerns that could have the greatest impact on the greatest number of people at one stroke -we are convinced- is by forming miners into mining cooperatives and providing them with loan money to facilitate digging for themselves.

Diamonds have been mined in our communities for over 70 years now. Take a close look at these communities however and you won't have to be a rocket scientist to find out that these communities have almost nothing to show for having such a precious and valuable asset. One would be tempted to ask oneself-Is this an act of God? No. Poverty and misery are not acts of God, they are failures of society. The Government of Sierra Leone too does see the need to address this ignoble state of local deprivation in the midst of a vast ocean of such a valuable mineral possession that the world so envies. That is precisely the reason why the government instituted the Sierra Leonean-only-artisanal-license-holding-policy.

But we in our project are convinced that unless and until such a laudable policy is backed up with finance, the people will keep scouting for finance elsewhere to support their mining activities. These finances oftentimes are provided by the very same source that the Sierra Leonean-only-artisanal-license-holding-policy was meant to neutralize. A source that could, at best, be described as a rip-off. Conditions attached to such finances oftentimes pay little or no regard to the inherent dignity of the human person. To have access to mining lands but without humane finance to mine these lands is to me tantamount to sending a man into the boxing ring with both hands tied behind his back. Finances need to be provided that has humane conditions attached. In this way, the ugly state of the debt bondage scenario can be fiercely attacked. This then is the rationale behind mining cooperative formation and funding in our project.

A cooperative is basically an assembly of ordinary miners/diggers who come together in a group of between 50 and 70 members. These people are determined to mine with honesty and hard work with the sure hope of getting the highest rewards for their diamonds as well as working under conditions that take cognizance of the inherent dignity of the human person. For some of our people, diamond mining has become a way of life. We at the IDMP encourage them because we are determined to address the problems of equity that has plagued our diamond industry for far too long now. We are here to work with these cooperatives to improve the benefits of mining to the ordinary diggers. We are here to create

transparency in mining thereby demolishing that wall of secrecy that has plagued the industry for far too long. We are here to promote realistic trading agreements in the industry, to enhance realistic prices for winnings, to demonstrate responsible mining practices and generally promote wealth creation amongst other things.

Present status/results

Under our cooperative pilot scheme, 30 such mining cooperatives are already formed in Kono and so far this year, five met our selection criteria and were selected for funding to mine. These are DANAYA, KOAKOYIMA, KOMAFENEH, TAYORMA and PEYEE Cooperatives. We cried to the world to help us with funds for these coops to mine. The world heard. Two great persons heard and responded-the great Martin Rapaport of the Rapaport Group here represented by Vinod Kuriyan and the great Joe J. James of Kono's Hope (let's put our hands together for our heroes).

These two gentlemen provided funds for our coops to the tune of approximately \$75,000. Their response was like a manna that falls in the way of starved persons. People became happy. People heartily started mining with better conditions and hope. The status of the cooperative diggers became conspicuously far better than those diggers of non-cooperatives- they themselves admitted to me. At long last, people who had long sat at the mouth of the crater of despair and despondency suddenly began to see light at the end of the tunnel. The inherent dignity of the human person was again restored. In the words of Luigi N. Tessori, UNDP Decentralization and Local Governance Policy Advisor in his visit to some of these coops this year said: "One of the major differences between coop and non-coop diggers that I see very clearly is the human dignity and pride I see in the coops..."

Without mentioning the impartial monitoring role on this scheme provided by one the world's greatest impartial NGO's, Global Witness, it will be like spending a whole summer holiday in the romantic state of Haagra in India without visiting the Taj Mahal. Ladies and gentlemen, let's put our hands together for Global Witness.

All these five funded cooperatives put together have so far produced 222 stones, with a total weight of approximately 42.6 carats. Washing still continues with one of the cooperatives. These results may not look impressive by some people but we consider these initial results as not bad. Indeed to penetrate and throw light on an industry that has been shrouded in ironclad secrecy and exclusivity for over half a century now is no mean achievement to say the least.

Do not forget that this is a pilot scheme; beginnings are not always easy. So we the brave little lizards of PDA that have jumped from the high Iroko tree to the ground, say we will praise ourselves if no else does. (Please clap for us). Let us also broaden our horizon and know that human development goes beyond mere monetary quantification. Real human development addresses problems of fairness and equity-this is what we largely achieved through our cooperatives. People carried hope and pride.

As already said, we did not achieve the little we did achieve without encountering some major obstacles. It's almost a universal law that any new transformation process encounters difficulties and our coop pilot scheme was no exception. First I would philosophize that this innovative scheme looked too good to be true to most of the community members for a start, people who had undergone decades of exploitation in the diamond industry. Consequently, people who had access to lands were only willing to give up lands to cooperatives that they themselves considered secretly less productive-my investigation reveals. This state of affairs was compounded by the fact that the government of Sierra Leone until recently had not come out with a policy allowing co-operatives to possess mining lands on their own.

Another major obstacle was timing. The funds for the coops to start their mining work arrived late to say the least and before the cooperatives could get into full gear, the rains were here which had dire consequences on most coop activities. Yet still, the coops lack of heavy machines like caterpillar and excavator, also literally forced coops to look out for lands that were easier to mine irrespective of whether they were productive or not. It would probably be of interest to note that the remaining lands in Kono now that appear to be productive are also lands that are difficult to mine. Little wonder then why it's mostly huge capitalists that continue to mine productive lands.

Another major constraint, which is not peculiar to the cooperatives but obtains generally in the diamond industry is the risk associated with diamond mining. Outcomes may fall far below expectations. An investment of a hundred thousand dollars has almost equal chances of bring in millions of dollars as well as bringing in zero dollars. But risks must be taken for the greatest risk in life is to risk nothing.

As we forge ahead with this scheme, we will face these challenges head –on:

- better site selection,
- improved management systems,
- a possible expansion of the scheme to include individual private miners etc.

We are determined to learn about areas we got right and about areas we got wrong from this pilot scheme. If we are able to convince ourselves beyond all reasonable doubt that the scheme is not worth the salt after persistent trials, then we would try other alternatives but let's not jump in hasty conclusions yet.

In conclusion therefore, despite the obstacles, which we continue to encounter and surmount, the project is determined to forge ahead with the cooperative scheme and we therefore appeal to all well-meaning citizens of the world to give us a hand in this moral crusade. Your contributions both morally and financially may well help eradicate the nightmarish scenario, which has led to a new nomenclature entering the international vocabulary “Blood Diamonds”. It is our resolve to convert the negatives into positives, create diamonds for development not war and destruction. By helping us with our cooperatives, you will be providing most of the youth, the constituency that formed the bulk of the fighting forces in our just concluded war, with jobs. In this way, you will be contributing towards the consolidation of peace, which had evaded us in this part of the world for over a decade.

I want you to know that a country is not necessarily at peace because it is not technically at war. Peace is much more than the absence of war. Recent international events seem to have brought us face to face with the stark reality that insecurity anywhere is insecurity everywhere. Therefore by making your own little contribution towards this direction, you will be helping the family of humanity achieve world peace. I know we will tread on many toes in this crusade but change is not without inconvenience, even change for the better. I hold my peace.

APPENDIX J: STATEMENT BY THE RAPAPORT GROUP

1. The Rapaport Group supports the continued efforts of the Peace Diamond Alliance.
2. We recognize and commend PDA efforts to create a socially responsible community of diggers.
3. We strongly support the development of efficient, fair, competitive and legitimate diamond markets in Sierra Leone.
4. We caution that future support of diggers cooperatives must be economically viable and lead to sustainable development. We are against subsidizing unsustainable development because this leads to great disappointment for diggers, investors and donors. Unsustainable development also displaces alternative economically viable sustainable programs.
5. We encourage and support the development of a dealers cooperative that will ensure fair pricing to diggers, provide a communal export license to black dealers and enable direct access by indigenous Sierra Leone dealers to competitive foreign markets and international pricing.
6. We encourage the establishment of socially responsible and well monitored brokers and coaxers association that will assist diggers in obtaining fair prices for their diamonds while assuring that the diamonds are sourced from diggers that comply with internationally recognized best practice principles.
7. We encourage the establishment of diamond education and training programs for indigenous black diggers and dealers.
8. We encourage the establishment of a diamond cutting pilot project with two diamond cutting wheels in Koidu. We believe that diamond cutting can provide a viable source of employment in Sierra Leone and that such cutting activity will greatly help the local diamond community understand and appreciate the value of the rough diamonds they produce.
9. The Rapaport Group commends and thanks the efforts made by Paul Temple, Mark Renzi, the entire PDA team and the governments of the United States and Great Britain for their sincere efforts to improve the lives of the people of Sierra Leone.

APPENDIX K: STATEMENT BY KONO'S HOPE, LLC

Good morning

My comments are arranged into three areas, concerning how we can be more successful in our mining efforts:

- Operational
- Policy & Legislation
- Public Relations & Marketing

Operational

1. Although Kono's Hope, LLC strongly supports the continuation of the coop program, it also recommends a Pilot Project for assisting small miners' enterprises (SME's) and recognizes the following:
 - Administrative Burdens on PDA/MSI
 - Need for Screening Process – Sites & Miners
 - Need Additional Investors
 - Need Proper Agreements, Including Code of Conduct, etc.
 - Share of Profits & GDD Pricing of Stones
2. The following, to maximize the accumulation of gravel:
 - Need Early Start
 - Need Increased Mechanization (Digging & Washing)
3. Other:
 - Need Internet Access for Coops & SME's to Inform Investors
 - Make more use of GDD Valuator
 - Need Regular & Timely Reporting from MSI/PDA
 - Need Reasonable Rate of Return for Investors

Policy & Legislation

1. In order to gain as direct a link to the market as possible, it is suggested that we seek clarification or change to regulations or law that would allow PDA/MSI-Assisted SME's to export, like coops.

Public Relations & Marketing

1. We need to change the world's image of the diamond industry in Sierra Leone, so that the world understands that Sierra Leone is no longer at war and that "Blood Diamonds" are no longer being produced.

- Thank MSI for filming project.
 - We need to collaborate with Sierra Leone’s Tourist Board, which is involved in marketing Sierra Leone.
 - Kanye West’s “Diamonds of Sierra Leone” song creates a marketing opportunity. Encourage the President to invite him to Sierra Leone, to do a follow-up video about Sierra Leone’s diamonds.
2. At a time when rough is so hard to obtain, there are some things we can do to have New York diamond users (Kono’s Hope Investors) come and purchase diamonds in Sierra Leone. We need to create a “Bourse”-like market (\$250,000 and up) in Sierra Leone and these users will come and buy and pay higher prices.
 3. We should send a Sierra Leone Diamond Exhibit on Tour in US and UK markets.

APPENDIX L: STATEMENT OF GREG VALERIO

Ladies and Gentlemen, Madam Chairwoman, friends in the PDA.

I heard a rumor in the United Kingdom that there was a Peace Diamond in Sierra Leone.

As a Jewelry man, I want to see Freetown Jewelry - certified available to the customer. I am an environmentalist and an antipoverty campaigner.

1. Fair Trade is a unique approach:

- It puts the producer/miner at the center of the process
- It gives them power over their land license
- It is committed to addressing the social, environmental, and livelihood challenges faced by mining communities.
- It creates a transparent and certifiable (independent) supply chain from miners to customers
- It provides a certificate for the finished product that ensures the product exploitation free to the consumer
- It ensures fair wage price for product
- Fair trade fights poverty.

2. International Association of Responsible Mining (ARM):

Set up to:

- Train independent monitors to certify mining techniques.
- Encourage ASM to be legalized in all communities where it is illegal
- Pressure the local environment system for the benefit of the whole community restoration. Food security.
- Improve the working situation of Small Scale Miners.

The Peace Diamond – Adds value to your diamonds for the consumer.

APPENDIX M: MEMBERS' PLEDGES

NO.	ORGANISATION	PLEDGES
1	Danaya Cooperative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Helping in the dissemination of PDA information
2	Koakoyima Cooperative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring the buying scheme
3	Benkoma Cooperative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dissemination of PDA information
4	Meya Development Company	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Helping the EC to deal with issues raised
5	SL Teachers Union	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Helping with responsible mining
6	COC (Council Of Chiefs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will discuss with chiefs to give better lands to cooperatives
7	Kono District Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will report later to office
8	The 50/50 Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Helping RC to realize the assignment given
9	Naada	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Giving a mining license to one of the cooperatives
10	Mortatay Cooperative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sensitization of cooperatives on environmental concerns
11	Wona Womens Cooperative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promotion of cooperating women
12	Tayorma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Package the good image of PDA
13	Kuendondoya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sensitization on child labor issues
14	Peyee Cooperative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued pledging of land to the cooperative and seedlings
15	Komafeneh Cooperative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supervision of DACDF use
16	Rapaport Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taking a Paramount Chief to attend its conference in New York City
17	Kono's Hope LLC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explanation of small miners support Support cooperatives Making PDA work Helping to bring in more buyers
18	Grassroot Farmer Multi-Purpose Cooperative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Helping to reclaim mined out lands
19	Moindefeh Cooperative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promotion of unity amongst PDA members
20	Demamah Cooperative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reclamation of mined out lands
21	Fiama Mining Cooperative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promotion of self-reliance
22	Sandor Mining Cooperative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dissemination of the good news about the

NO.	ORGANISATION	PLEDGES
		PDA
23	FORPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reclamation • DACDF monitoring
24	Kono Darganetry Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forwarding of PDA concern to government.
25	BRAVE HEART	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of responsible mining practices like fair share of winnings
26	MOCKY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Just mining campaign • Viable projects for PDA • Provision of Human resources • Identification of viable mining sites • Contact investors to support micro enterprises • Sensitization of civil societies
27	SWAMAYA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer of agricultural inputs (seedlings) to cooperatives.