

## 73rd Session of the UNGA

### The role of diamonds in fuelling conflict - Item 33

Statement by  
Mr. Alok Vardhan Chaturvedi, Director General,  
Directorate General of Foreign Trade  
Chair of the Kimberley Process

United Nations General Assembly

1 March 2019

**Madam President,**

I speak in my delegation's capacity as chair of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme for the year 2019. We would like to Congratulate European Union for leading the process in 2018 and presenting this resolution to the assembly for its consideration and adoption. I would take this opportunity to welcome the Russian Federation as the Vice Chair in 2019 and Botswana as the Vice Chair in 2020.

India is one of the founding members of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme and we look forward to continuing the excellent initiatives taken last year under the chair of EU.

**Madam President,**

We will also strengthen the tripartite structure of Kimberley Process by engaging regularly with the Civil Society Coalition and industry and encouraging discussion between these three pillars that make up the

Kimberley Process - Governments, industry and civil society – with a view to getting consensus around the various agendas set forth.

We will also work to enhance the regional approach which has been immensely successful with the Mano River Union countries.

One of the key priorities this year will be to work and support the Alluvial and Artisanal Mining countries in their capacity building initiatives.

**Madam President,**

In addition, we would also like to focus on important organizational issues like creation of a permanent secretariat of the KP, reform of the peer review process, consolidation of the core document, creation of a multi donor funding and other important issues.

In conclusion, I would like to stress that we will continue to work together as KP Family and to take its mandate forward on the basis of established guiding principles of inclusiveness, responsibility and dialogue.

I Thank you.