



# Kimberley Process Certification Scheme Secretariat - Namibia

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## Statement: High Level Envoy Visit to Zimbabwe

### Situation in Marange Diamond Fields

Following the January recommendations made by the Working Group on Monitoring aimed at containing the illicit trade in rough diamonds and reported increased human rights abuse, a High level envoy team visit lead by the KP Chair was conducted in March from the 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>. As concluded in the Working Group on Monitoring teleconference early March, the purpose of the visit was to deliver a political message to the Zimbabwean Authorities with regards to the concerns on smuggling and illicit trade activities in the Marange diamond fields.

The High Level Envoy Teams visit was a great success as the Team sternly delivered the intended message at a high level within the Government. The visit team met with the Minister of Mines and Minerals and the Deputy Minister, the Director of Mines, the two Deputy Prime Ministers (One the Acting Prime Minister during the visit), Three Deputy Police Commissioners, Governor of the Zimbabwean Revenue Bank and the various companies directly involved with the management of the diamonds from Marange, ZMDC and MMCZ. Site tours at Murowa Diamond fields and Marange we done during the KP Chairman's visit.

The visit has thus paved way to host a Review Mission to Zimbabwe with all stakeholders of KP to form part of the composition of the Team. Technical Assistance and Regional Cooperation is highly recommended by the Team to help contain the illicit Marange diamonds. The KP Chair's report (attached) provides further information on the activities carried out during the visit.

  
Bernhard Esau, MP

KP Chairperson