

Summary of In-Region Initiatives that Support Conflict-Free Minerals Sourcing

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Conflict-Free Smelter Program (CFS)

The CFS is a voluntary program in which an independent third party evaluates smelter and refiner procurement activities and determines if the smelter or refiner demonstrated that all the materials they processed originated from conflict-free sources. The program aims to enable companies to source conflict-free minerals. The CFS was primarily developed by and is housed within the Electronic Industry Citizenship Coalition (EICC) and Global e-Sustainability Initiative (GeSI). A global program that focuses on the 3Ts' (tantalum, tin, and tungsten) and gold, it consists of two reviews that occur at a smelter's or refiner's site during the assessment process, including a business process review and material analysis review.

The Electronic Industry Citizenship Coalition (EICC) and the Global e-Sustainability Initiative (GeSI) have also developed a Reporting Dashboard that includes a Conflict Minerals Reporting Template. It is intended to be a common means for the collection of sourcing company due diligence information related to Conflict Minerals—the 3Ts' (tantalum, tin, and tungsten) and gold. Companies may adopt the Conflict Minerals Reporting Template as an element of their Conflict Minerals due diligence program to assist in the verification of responsible sourcing practices, and is consistent with EICC and GeSI's related activities including the Conflict Free Smelter (CFS) program, and In-Region Sourcing efforts.

For more information:

- CFS Website: <http://www.conflictreesmelter.org/>
- Reporting Template Dashboard: <http://www.conflictreesmelter.org/ConflictMineralsReportingTemplateDashboard.htm>

German Development Cooperation (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit - GIZ)

Since 2004, the German Development Cooperation (GIZ) has been providing support to the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR), and more specifically to its Executive Secretariat in Bujumbura. Key results so far include the successful establishment of the Conference Secretariat, as well as the conceptualization, political endorsement and operationalization of the ICGLR Regional Initiative against the Illegal Exploitation of Natural Resources (RINR), which was launched to implement the *ICGLR Protocol against the Illegal Exploitation of Natural Resources*.

With the signing of the Lusaka Declaration in December 2010, additional tasks to be performed by the Conference Secretariat were introduced, such as providing technical advice to Member States for the implementation of the RINR and ensuring the monitoring and coordination of the implementation process. This means that additional capacities are required by the Secretariat and its staff, in order to effectively fulfil these additional duties.

In its third phase of programming, GIZ aims to support the ICGLR Conference Secretariat and the relevant ICGLR institutions to fulfil their obligations as outlined in the Lusaka Declaration. To achieve this objective, the program aims on the one hand at strengthening the technical and organizational skills of the experts and managers of the ICGLR Secretariat, but also at establishing mechanisms for the gender-responsive implementation of the RINR on the other hand. The program consists of two components, which reflect the priorities (or 6 tools) endorsed by Member States in the Lusaka Declaration.

- The first component is to advise the ICGLR Conference Secretariat on organizational development. This includes, but is not limited to, improving communications tools, launching an integrated donor coordination platform and, establishing a long-term financing mechanism for the RINR.

- The second component is strengthening regional mechanisms to implement the RINR with a focus on: the provision of guidance with regards to certification; legal harmonization across member states, including mainstreaming gender into national mining policies; the set up of a regional peer learning mechanism to exchange experience between Member States on the implementation of the Extractives Industry Transparency (EITI); and advising on the establishment of a whistleblowing mechanism.

For more information:

- GIZ in Africa: <http://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/africa.html>

German Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources (Bundesanstalt für Geowissenschaften und Rohstoffe – BGR)

BGR work in Rwanda (2008-06/2011)

Development and pilot implementation of the concept of Certified Trading Chains (CTC). The overall goal of the CTC concept is to assure industrial consumers (as a business-to-business solution) through certification that ASM mineral producers mine and trade minerals according to accepted, public standards. The standards integrate (1) a sustainable development perspective for workers, affected communities as well as local governments, and (2) assurance for international buyers through integrating elements supply chain due diligence, traceability and transparency. Compliance of mine sites and supply chains with the standards is verified through an independent third party audit process.

BGR always does two audits: a baseline audit (determining the strengths and weaknesses of individual mineral producers and formulating improvement recommendations for the auditee) and a compliance audit. BGR has done eleven audits in Rwanda (6 baseline, 5 compliance); 3 mineral producers were certified as "CTC-compliant" in 2011. Details on the compliance mechanism, audit summaries etc are all on BGR's website (see below). Importantly, it's not BGR who's implementing all this directly, but they are supporting national authorities in Rwanda to run the system.

BGR work in the DRC (2009-on-going)

The BGR program component is based on an adapted CTC approach, focusing on the eastern provinces of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC - initially South Kivu; now South & North Kivu, Katanga, Maniema), and working in partnership with the DRC Ministry of Mines as well as two DRC government mining agencies, the CEEC and SAESSCAM. In cooperation with international stakeholders (e.g., the UN, IPIS) the certification project in DRC is also developing a comprehensive mapping database of DRC artisanal dig sites, including estimates on minerals produced and number of miners employed with regular update on the security situation. This will serve as a necessary tool to qualify/validate any mine site for certification.

BGR work in Rwanda (RWA) and Burundi (BDI) (07/2011-06/2015)

BGR is now supporting the national authorities in RWA and BDI to implement and operationalize the six tools of the ICGLR Regional Initiative on Natural Resources, with a focus on the tools "Regional Certification Mechanism (RCM)" and "ASM Formalization" (with additional input on the tools "database" and "legislation"). To this end, BGR coordinates closely with PAC. They also aim to support ICGLR in setting up their audit system, based on the extensive experience they have through CTC and again in close cooperation with PAC. In Burundi, they also cooperate with a Belgian support program here (looking at ASM formalization). The above work is continuous with CTC in Rwanda (CTC has always been regarded as a contribution to the ICGLR scheme). On a practical level, support to RCM implementation includes work on both national certification and chain of custody (traceability) schemes, always as support measures for national authorities who are mandated to oversee such schemes.

The Analytical Fingerprint (AFP)

The AFP method (developed at BGR from 2006-2009) identifies mine site-specific chemical and mineralogical parameters of conflict minerals (TTT ores). It's applied similarly to a DNA test: once AFP reference samples from a given mine site have been obtained, according to BGR it is possible to control a supply chain originating from that mine site through AFP control sampling, and comparing these control samples to the reference samples (result: confirmation of origin or detecting foreign minerals).

Applying AFP generates mineral traceability information which is completely independent of any shipping documentation and tagging procedures thus allowing the robust verification of the integrity of these standard traceability measures. Integrated into the Regional Certification Mechanism of the ICGLR, the project aims to make the AFP method available to ICGLR as a forensic tool to verify traceable and transparent mineral production and trade in the Great Lakes Region (as part of an audit or risk assessment). AFP application is supposed to substantiate ICGLR oversight measures on the certification system. The project will progressively involve a full transfer of skills, technology, and ownership of the AFP method to the ICGLR and its partners.

The projects outlined under (3) and (4) form part of the overall German support program to the ICGLR.

For more information:

- BGR's Work in Mineral Certification: <http://www.bgr.bund.de/mineral-certification>

International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR)

Political Endorsement for a 'Home-Grown' and Regional Approach to Peacebuilding

In 2006, eleven countries of the Great Lakes Region signed the *Protocol against the Illegal Exploitation of Natural Resources* (Protocol) as part of the broader 2004 *Pact on Security, Stability*

and Development (Pact). The ICGLR Pact and the Protocol provide a critical legal and political framework via which to create and sustain the conditions for peace in-region.

Regional (OECD-compliant) Certification Standards and their Adoption into Law

This political framework also affords in-region legitimacy to the various supply chain initiatives provided these act in full compliance with the ICGLR Certification Manual, which sets out the in-region standards for traceability and certification of conflict-prone minerals. These standards are fully compliant with the *OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas*.

Not only are the Pact and Protocol legally binding on Member States, but the ICGLR Certification Manual is also being adopted into Member States' respective national legislation. As of February 2012, adherence to the ICGLR Manual and the OECD-compliant standards contained therein, is a legal requirement in the DRC. Rwanda is expected to adopt similar legislation imminently. This means that these governments and the economic actors within these states must now comply with ICGLR standards in order to acquire a legal and legally required certificate upon export and or imports into their country as a guarantee that minerals are 'conflict free'.

From Certification Standards to Certification Process

The ICGLR Certification Manual contains four main elements or pillars that together constitute the ICGLR Mineral Certification Mechanism (RCM). These are:

1. Mineral Tracking from Mine Site to Export: *member States can rely on different technologies, provided these comply with ICGLR Standards (for e.g. iTSCI, BGR, Met Trak etc.)*
 - a. Mine Site Inspection and Certification
 - b. Chain of Custody Tracking
 - c. Certification of Mineral Exports : *transparent and robust certification procedures must be in place (this is the responsibility of the Member State)*
2. Regional Mineral Tracking via an ICGLR Database *(a Member State database is harmonized with an ICGLR publically accessible database to track mineral flows within and across Member States)*
3. Independent Third Party Audits *(overseen by a Tri-partite Committee; once fully operational, responsible for standardizing and regularizing in-region audits; in the interim, audits are being carried out as part of Chain of Custody initiatives)*
4. ICGLR Independent Mineral Chain Auditor *(the IMCA does not have an audit function; once operational, it will act like an Inspector General for the region, conducting ongoing monitoring and investigation on a needs-basis; reports will also be made public; in the interim, some monitoring functions are being carried out as part of Chain of Custody initiatives)*

These four elements provide overlapping layers of protection. Together, these four pillars serve as a guarantee that minerals exported and imported with an ICGLR Certificate are 'conflict free' from source through to export.

For more information:

- ICGLR Overview: <https://icglr.org/spip.php?article94>

ITRI Tin Supply Chain Initiative (iTSCi)

The iTSCi Programme provides a robust, verifiable system to address 'conflict minerals' concerns in the tin, tantalum and tungsten '3T' minerals industry, from mine to smelter (the 'upstream supply chain'), which incorporates actions recommended by the *OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas*, taking into account the recommendations of the UN Panel of Experts on the DRC, as well as the Regulations developed by the ICGLR. It has three key equally important elements: Chain of Custody tracking including data collection & dissemination; risk assessments and mitigation; and independent audits. It therefore provides the 'downstream' supply chain with the required assurances that only 'conflict free' minerals are entering the supply chain, a key element in the Conflict-Free Smelter Program.

iTSCi is operated under agreements with the relevant national Governments whose mining agents directly operate the tagging and data recording aspect of the programme, with support from iTSCi partners working on the ground. Pact (an implementing partner of iTSCi), together with their local partners, provide that guidance for Government services and also ensure that full assessment of the circumstances on the ground are known, and continuously monitored. Baseline studies of the location, production and security situation at the ~350 mines in Rwanda and the additional ~150 mine areas in Katanga are used to agree inclusion in the iTSCi programme. Pact, through their local network of iTSCi staff, also provide alerts on any issues of concern that arise, and help to manage them locally through the stakeholder committees made up of all Government, army, police, civil society and industry representatives. As part of the iTSCi membership programme, companies participating in the project are required to follow specific rules recognising the OECD guidance, as well as undergoing a variety of checks to ensure that there are no on-going concerns with links to conflict. These checks are the first of the three aspect evaluation performed independently by Channel Research; preliminary company audit, field governance assessment, company audits. There are currently around 50 company members of the iTSCi programme spanning more than 13 countries as well as the DRC and Rwanda.

iTSCi supports other initiatives, for example, at the Solutions for Hope mining areas, and will provide information to other national programs on mapping, the ICGLR, and so on once those projects are active. iTSCi is also in the process of a sample collection programme from each of iTSCi's ~500 mine sites, which will provide important reference samples to the BGR AFP research, as well as being used for their own base analysis. The programme in Rwanda and Katanga currently

provides access to market at international prices for several thousand tonnes of mineral each year, the ~45,000 diggers producing it, as well as their dependents (typically quoted as 5 per digger).

For more information:

- iTSCi overview:
http://www.itri.co.uk/index.php?option=com_zoo&view=frontpage&app_id=4&Itemid=60

London Bullion Market Association (LBMA)

LBMA has setup a Responsible Gold Guidance for good delivery refiners in order to combat serious abuses of human rights, to avoid contributing to conflict, to comply with high standards of anti-money laundering and combating terrorist financing practice. Their guidance formalizes and consolidates existing high standards of due diligence amongst all LBMA Good Delivery Refiners.

Their guidance follows the five steps framework for risk based due diligence of the OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict-Affected and High Risk Areas adopted on 15 December 2010.

All refiners producing LBMA good delivery gold bars (“Refiners”) must comply with this LBMA Responsible Gold Guidance in order to remain on the LBMA Good Delivery List. Historically, the members of the London bullion market compiled lists of accredited melters and assayers whose gold and silver bars they would accept without question in settlement against transactions conducted between each other and with other acceptable counterparts. Such bars earned the distinction of London Good Delivery status. The LBMA Good Delivery List is now widely recognised as representing the de facto standard for the quality of gold and silver bars, in large part thanks to the stringent criteria for assaying standards and bar quality that an applicant must satisfy in order to be listed. The assaying capabilities of refiners on the Good Delivery List are periodically checked under the LBMA’s Proactive Monitoring programme.

For more information:

- LBMA Responsible Gold Programme:
http://www.lbma.org.uk/pages/index.cfm?page_id=137&title=responsible_gold

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

The pilot implementation phase of the *OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas* offers the opportunity for companies to learn about due diligence and build managerial know-how through a peer-learning process.

Currently over 95 companies—ranging from small one-person mineral traders in the Great Lakes region to large multinationals using tin, tantalum and tungsten in their products—are working with

the OECD to assist with the implementation of the Supplement on Tin, Tantalum and Tungsten, raise awareness, share information and discern best practices, tools and methodologies for implementing the Guidance. After the completion of the 12 month pilot, three reports on implementation will be used by the OECD and an OECD-hosted working group on implementation to elaborate any best practice principles, helpful tools or other implementing information as may be necessary.

In the second half of 2012, the OECD will also launch an implementation programme for the recently-completed Supplement on Gold, bringing together industry initiatives and companies in a peer-learning exercise that's specific to the gold supply chain. This implementation programme will also include a new activity to help create secure, verifiable and transparent supply chains of gold from conflict-sensitive mine sites in Africa's Great Lakes region and Latin America.

For more information:

- *OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas*: www.oecd.org/daf/investment/mining
- Pilot implementation phase of the Supplement on Tin, Tantalum and Tungsten: http://www.oecd.org/document/15/0,3746,en_2649_34889_48584143_1_1_1_1,00.html
- Supplement on Gold: http://www.oecd.org/document/60/0,3746,en_2649_34889_49137660_1_1_1_1,00.html

Partnership Africa Canada (PAC)

PAC, a Canadian nongovernmental organization (NGO), takes a two-pronged approach to its work in the Great Lakes region. While PAC's efforts prioritize strategies that mitigate conflict, they also place a strong emphasis on building the foundations for the responsible and sustainable management of conflict-prone minerals so that they can boost national and regional economic opportunities.

With these goals in mind PAC works, in part, to support the efforts of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) to track four minerals—coltan, tin, gold and tungsten—that are at the heart of the on-going conflict in eastern DRC.

PAC's relationship with the ICGLR began in 2005, when they were invited to participate in the technical committee on the Protocols for the ICGLR *Pact on Security, Stability and Development*. PAC helped draft the ICGLR *Protocol Against the Illegal Exploitation of Natural Resources*, which was subsequently adopted and ratified by all Member States in 2006. In so doing, ICGLR Member States formerly recognized the linkages between the illegal exploitation of natural resource in the Great Lakes region and protracted armed conflict. PAC, a co-founder of the Kimberley Process (KP), then drew on its long-standing KP experiences and on extensive field research and consultations in the region to propose a model for a certification mechanism for the legitimate movement of these four minerals. The proposed Regional Certification Mechanism (RCM) was approved as part of a

Regional Initiative on Natural Resources by the ICGLR Heads of State in December 2010 in Lusaka, Zambia.

With the financial support of the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT), PAC's Great Lakes Programme has focused, in part, on providing technical support to the ICGLR Secretariat (based in Bujumbura, Burundi) to implement the Regional Certification Mechanism. This support has taken a variety of forms including: providing consultative and sensitization workshops on the ICGLR RCM to various stakeholders; developing, in close collaboration with partners, the ICGLR Certification Manual, which sets out standards and procedures for certification; advising on political and economic developments as well as stakeholder interests outside of the region; developing the ICGLR mineral tracking database and facilitating data collection in-region; providing direct support to ICGLR Member States to meet certification requirements.

In addition to PAC's work with the ICGLR, PAC supports a regional civil society coalition on natural resources independent of the ICGLR. It is comprised of civil society members representing the Kivus (DRC), Rwanda, Burundi and Kampala. Members work to promote the ICGLR Protocol Against the Illegal Exploitation of Natural Resources, to hold their own governments to the commitments they have made, to share experiences and, eventually, to contribute to both impact assessment and monitoring of tracking and certification. Launched in August 2011, they held their first regional planning meeting in December 2011 in Kampala, Uganda. Also independently of its support to the ICGLR, PAC is also exploring emerging tracking technologies such as the Met Trak tracking technology that is being piloted in-region to enhance, improve and scale-up existing tracking efforts.

For more information:

- PAC overview: <http://www.pacweb.org/>

Public-Private Alliance for Responsible Minerals Trade (PPA)

The PPA is a joint initiative between governments, companies, and civil society to support supply chain solutions to conflict minerals challenges in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and the Great Lakes Region (GLR) of Central Africa. The PPA aims to demonstrate that it is possible to secure legitimate, conflict-free minerals from the Great Lakes Region. The PPA will support pilot programs, with the ultimate goal of producing scalable, self-sustaining systems, to demonstrate a fully traced and validated supply chain in a way that is credible to companies, civil society, and government. The PPA will also maintain a website that is designed to be a resources for companies with reporting requirements mandated by section 1502 of the July 2010 Dodd-Frank legislation and other organizations seeking current, balanced information on conflict minerals. The PPA also provides a platform for coordinated, productive dialogue among government, industry, and civil society in a non-regulatory setting.

For more information:

- PPA overview: <http://www.resolv.org/site-ppa/>

Responsible Jewellery Council (RJC)

The Responsible Jewellery Council is an international, not-for-profit organization established to reinforce consumer confidence in the jewelry industry by advancing responsible business practices throughout the diamond, gold and platinum group metals jewelry supply chain. It seeks to work with a wide range of stakeholders in defining and implementing responsible jewelry practices through the RJC's certification system. In March 2012, the RJC launched its Chain-of-Custody (CoC) Standard and supporting documents for the precious metals supply chain. The CoC Standard is applicable to gold and platinum group metals (platinum, palladium and rhodium). The CoC Standard aims to support the identification of responsibly-sourced jewelry materials produced, processed and traded through the jewelry supply chain. RJC defines responsibly-sourced as: conflict-free as a minimum, and responsibly produced (human rights, labor standards, environmental impact, and business ethics)

For more information:

- RJC Overview: <http://www.responsiblejewellery.com/>
- CoC Program: <http://www.responsiblejewellery.com/chain-of-custody-certification/>

SEC Dodd-Frank Regulations

The Dodd-Frank Act was passed in 2010 and contains reporting requirements related to conflict minerals. Section 1502 requires persons to disclose annually whether any conflict minerals that are necessary to the functionality or production of a product of the person, as defined in the provision, originated in the Democratic Republic of the Congo or an adjoining country. If so, they are to provide a report describing, among other matters, the measures taken to exercise due diligence on the source and chain of custody of those minerals, which must include an independent private sector audit of the report that is certified by the person filing the report. The SEC is in the rulemaking process and has received comments on a proposed rule. Certain aspects of this rulemaking will require consultation with other federal agencies, including the State Department, the Government Accountability Office, and the Commerce Department. Persons are not required to comply with these rules until their first full fiscal year after the date on which the Commission issues its final rules.

For more information

- SEC Final Rule for Dodd-Frank Section 1502: <http://sec.gov/rules/final/2012/34-67716.pdf>
- Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/PLAW-111publ203/pdf/PLAW-111publ203.pdf>

- Information on Section 1502: <http://www.sec.gov/spotlight/dodd-frank/speccorpdisclosure.shtml>

Solutions for Hope

The Solutions for Hope Project was launched as a pilot initiative to source conflict-free tantalum from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Tantalum is a metal used in capacitors for electronic products and is derived from the mineral coltan, which is in rich supply in the DRC. The Solutions for Hope Project's unique approach to mineral sourcing in the region utilizes a closed-pipe supply line and a defined set of key suppliers – mines (including artisanal cooperatives), smelter/processor, component manufacturer and end user – identified in advance of initiating the project. The Project is open for all companies including smelters, component manufacturers and product manufacturers (end-users) to join, and its success will be largely measured by the industry participation in the closed-pipe supply system. Currently, technology companies such as Motorola Solutions, AVX, HP, Intel, Nokia, Foxconn, Research In Motion and Flextronics participate in the Solutions for Hope Project.

For more information:

- Program overview: <http://solutions-network.org/site-solutionsforhope/>

World Gold Council

The World Gold Council—the market development organization for the gold industry—has developed a Conflict-Free Gold Standard with its member companies. The Standard is designed to apply to World Gold Council members and other companies involved in the extraction of gold. The Standard has been developed to establish a common approach by which gold producers can demonstrate that their gold has been extracted in a manner that does not fuel conflict or the abuse of human rights typically associated with such conflicts. World Gold Council members and other companies who apply the Standard will be expected to make public statements relating to their conformance or otherwise with the Standard. These statements may be published on the company website or in company reports (e.g. their annual financial report or sustainability report). Conformance with the Standard will be externally assured. The Standard takes the form of a decision tree split into five sections: Conflict Assessment, Company Assessment, Commodity Assessment, External Sources of Gold Assessment, and State of Conformance Documentation.

For more information:

- Program overview: http://www.gold.org/about_gold/sustainability/conflict_free_standard/

Acronyms

| | |
|------------|---|
| 3T | Tin, tantalum, tungstem |
| AFP | Analytical fingerprint |
| ASM | Artisanal and small scale mining |
| BDI | Burundi |
| BGR | German Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources (Bundesanstalt für Geowissenschaften und Rohstoffe – BGR) |
| CEEC | Centre d’Evaluation, d’Expertise et de Certification |
| CTC | Certified trading chain |
| DFAIT | Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade |
| Dodd-Frank | Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act |
| DRC | Democratic Republic of Congo |
| EICC® | Electronic Industry Citizenship Coalition® |
| GeSI | Global e-Sustainability Initiative |
| GIZ | German Development Cooperation (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit) |
| GLR | Great Lakes Region of Africa |
| ICGLR | International Conference on the Great Lakes Region |
| IPIS | International Peace Information Service |
| ITRI | Tin industry association |
| iTSCi | ITRI Tin Supply Chain Initiative |
| KP | Kimberly Process |
| LBMA | London Bullion Market Association |
| NGO | Nongovernmental organization |
| OECD | Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development |
| PAC | Partnership Africa Canada |

| | |
|----------|---|
| PPA | Public-Private Alliance for Responsible Minerals Trade |
| RCM | ICGLR's Regional Certification Mechanism |
| RINR | ICGLR Regional Initiative against the Illegal Exploitation of Natural Resources |
| RJC | Responsible Jewellery Council |
| RWA | Rwanda |
| SAESSCAM | Service d'Assistance et d'Encadrement du Small Scale Mining |
| SEC | U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission |
| TTT | Tin, tantalum, tungsten |
| UN | United Nations |
| WGC | World Gold Council |
