STAKEHOLDER STATEMENT IN RESPONSE TO FALSE MEDIA ALLEGATIONS

28 January 2018

Recently, a news report has been published by ‘The Guardian’ making the public aware of a lawsuit in London between ‘Amjad Rihan’ and his former employer ‘Ernst & Young’. This report repeats the false allegations that were previously made against Kaloti by Amjad Rihan. Please note that when Amjad Rihan’s false claims first surfaced in Feb 2014, it was The Guardian itself that mentioned in their initial report about Kaloti that “there is no evidence that the refinery accepted conflict gold”.

We bring to your attention that in all the audits, Kaloti was found to be compliant with DMCC and OECD guidelines for responsible sourcing of precious metals and UAE Central Bank AML/CFT regulations. Never in any of our numerous audits has there been any evidence of conflict gold in our supply chain or any breach of AML/CFT regulations. Moreover, there is no evidence or advisory from any official or governmental authority locally or internationally to support these allegations made by Amjad Rihan.

Amjad Rihan is a disgruntled ex-employee of Ernst & Young. He was overseeing our first supply chain audit. As part of this audit engagement, Amjad Rihan signed the first audit report which had some areas of non-compliances to be addressed under a remediation action plan in line with the review protocol. Amjad Rihan later changed his audit opinion for ‘unknown reasons’ which was rigorously contested by Kaloti. Amjad Rihan’s position was comprehensively reviewed by Ernst & Young in consultation with their internal and external independent experts who did not agree with his revised audit opinion.

We remain committed to and are fully compliant with DMCC and OECD responsible sourcing guidelines and UAE Central Bank AML/CFT regulations.