



## PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONTACT**

**Ya'akov Almor**

**Tel: +972-52-352-2685**

**E-mail: [almor@mdirect-business.com](mailto:almor@mdirect-business.com)**

### **WFDB Presidents' Meeting to take place in Amsterdam; celebrating the organization's Diamond (60<sup>th</sup>) Anniversary**

*ANTWERP, BELGIUM: April 30, 2007* – The World Federation of Diamond Bourses will hold its 2007 Presidents' Meeting (PM) in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, June 24-26, at the Amsterdam Hilton Hotel. The event, held under the slogan "**Celebrating the WFDB's Diamond Anniversary; Building on a Tradition**" is hosted by the Vereniging Beurs voor den Diamanthatel, the Amsterdam Diamond Exchange.

This year's PM will mark the organization's Diamond Anniversary as the organization was founded 60 years ago, in 1947, only two years after the end of World War II.

Presidents' Meetings are held in the intermittent years between WFDB congresses that take place biennially. During these two-day events, the presidents of the 26 diamond bourses affiliated to WFDB meet to discuss ongoing issues and to prepare the agenda for the congress in the year thereafter.

"Of course, it is wonderful that we have the opportunity to hold our meeting in Amsterdam, and celebrate the WFDB's anniversary there," said Ernest Blom, WFDB president. "While after World War II, Amsterdam did not regain its former glory as a leading world diamond center, it is still recognized as the cradle of the diamond industry and trade. It is therefore very fitting to celebrate the WFDB's diamond anniversary there."

Ed Blik, president of the Vereniging Beurs voor den Diamanthatel and host of the 2007 PM, said that since his bourse is the oldest bourse in the world the meeting could not have been set in a better location. "More than 400 years ago, diamonds were already cut and traded here. Since those days, our capital has been named 'Amsterdam Diamantstad.' Of course, as the diamond world evolved, Amsterdam's role has decreased. However, we still have a very active membership of more than 100 members and Amsterdam's fame and identity as 'Diamond City' is still widely recognized."

WFDB Secretary General Michael Vaughan said that the bourse presidents will have a great deal to discuss at the 2007 PM meeting. "Every subject to be discussed will always include elements that will help recreate the WFDB as an organization that leads rather than follows. Our WFDB Mark program which promotes consumer confidence through transparency and accountability will be reviewed, and I can guarantee that synthetics and treatments will also feature prominently," Vaughan said.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Note:**

Participants and invited parties to the 2007 Presidents Meeting are requested to complete their registration as soon as possible to assure availability of hotel rooms and participation in the evenings' events. Registration can be done online at <http://www.presidentsmeeting.com>.