

Responsible Cobalt Initiative(RCI)

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Facing challenges, sharing responsibility, joining hands and achieving win-win

Recently, the Chinese Chamber of Commerce for Metals, Minerals & Chemicals (CCCMC) Importers & Exporters, with strong support from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), launched the Responsible Cobalt Initiative (RCI). A number of companies in the supply chain are participating in this initiative to undertake collective action in addressing social and environmental risks in the cobalt supply chain. As a priority, the RCI intends to address the issues of the worst forms of child labor.

Companies involved with the initiative currently include Apple Inc., Beijing Easpring Material Technology Co.,Ltd., HP Inc., Huawei Device Co.,Ltd., L&F, Samsung SDI, Sony Corporation, Tianjin B&M Science and Technology Joint-Stock Co., Ltd. and Zhejiang Huayou Cobalt Co., Ltd.. Companies will work together, in coordination with the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, to develop and begin implementation of an action plan in the next 12 months.

The OECD is actively engaged in the initiative through its work with a broad coalition of stakeholders in the OECD Responsible Minerals implementation programme. CCCMC and the OECD will continue to engage with a broad range of stakeholders to explore further collaboration.

The Responsible Cobalt Initiative aims to:

- Have downstream and upstream companies recognize and align their supply chain policies with the *OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas* and the *Chinese Due Diligence Guidelines for Responsible Mineral Supply Chains* in order to increase transparency in the cobalt supply chain and improve supply chain governance.

- Promote cooperation with the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, civil society, and affected local communities to take and/or support actions that address the risks and challenges in the cobalt supply chain.
- Develop a common communication strategy to communicate progress and results effectively to impacted communities, miners, and the public; to harmonize working objectives and plans with other stakeholders.

CCCMC will build a platform for the responsible cobalt initiative and calls on downstream and upstream companies of the cobalt value chain to face the challenges and shoulder responsibilities together, as well as take joint actions to achieve a win-win solution.

For further information, please contact Mr. Sun Lihui (leoslh@126.com), Director Responsible Business Conduct Unit, or Mr. Zhou Yangfan (rickey523@163.com)

To learn more about the CCCMC <http://en.cccmc.org.cn/>

To learn more about the OECD Responsible Minerals implementation programme <http://www.oecd.org/corporate/mne/mining.htm>

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