Cooper-Standard Holdings Inc. Conflict Minerals Report For the calendar year ended December 31, 2016

SECTION I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Rule

This report for the year ended December 31, 2016, is presented to comply with Rule 13p-1 ("Rule") under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act"). The Rule was adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") to implement reporting and disclosure requirements related to conflict minerals (defined below) as directed by Section 1502 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010 (the "Dodd-Frank Act"). Section 1502 was enacted because of concerns that the exploitation and trade of conflict minerals by armed groups is helping to finance conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo ("DRC") and its surrounding countries (together with the DRC, "Conflict Region"). Conflict minerals ("3TG") refers to cassiterite, columbite-tantalite (coltan), wolframite, and gold, or their derivatives (tin, tantalum, and tungsten), regardless of where they are sourced, processed or sold. The U.S. Secretary of State may designate other minerals in the future.

The Rule applies to a company that uses any conflict minerals if the company files reports with the SEC pursuant to the Exchange Act Sections 13(a) or 15(d) (a "Reporting Company") and the minerals are necessary to the functionality or production of a product manufactured, or contracted to be manufactured, by such Reporting Company. The Rule requires a Reporting Company that uses conflict minerals to conduct a reasonable country of origin inquiry ("RCOI") that must be performed in good faith and be reasonably designed to determine whether the conflict minerals originated from the Conflict Region or are from recycled or scrap resources. If a Reporting Company can establish that the conflict minerals originated from sources other than the Conflict Region or from recycled and scrap sources, it must file with the SEC a special disclosure form ("Form SD") that describes the reasonable country of origin inquiry completed. If a Reporting Company has reason to believe that any of the conflict minerals in its supply chain may have originated in the Conflict Region, or if it is unable to determine the country of origin, then the Reporting Company must exercise due diligence on the source and chain of custody of the conflict minerals and file with the SEC a Form SD and Conflict Minerals Report ("CMR") that includes a description of those due diligence measures. The disclosure and reporting requirements apply regardless of whether the minerals originated from the Conflict Region or funded armed conflict.

This report is not subject to an independent private sector audit for this reporting period and therefore is unaudited.

2. Company Overview

Cooper-Standard Holdings Inc. (together with its consolidated subsidiaries, the "<u>Company</u>," "<u>Cooper Standard</u>," "<u>we</u>," "<u>our</u>," or "<u>us</u>") is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the ticker symbol "CPS." We conduct substantially all of our activities through our subsidiaries.

a. Our Operations

The Company has approximately 30,000 employees with 123 facilities in 20 countries. The Company designs and manufactures products in each major region of the world with 90 manufacturing locations and 33 design, engineering, administrative, and logistics locations.

b. Our Products

The Company is dedicated to four product lines: sealing, fuel and brake delivery, fluid transfer, and anti-vibration systems. We believe that we are the largest global producer of sealing systems, the second largest global producer of the types of fuel and brake delivery products that we manufacture, the third largest global producer of fluid transfer systems, and one of the largest North American producers of anti-vibration systems. Our focus is on the passenger car and light truck market, up to and including Class 3 Full Size Frame trucks, better known as the light vehicle market. This is our largest market and accounts for approximately 96% of our global sales.

In addition to the global light vehicle market, we also have dedicated sales and engineering teams in North America and Europe to leverage core product technology into adjacent markets. The adjacent markets include: commercial vehicle (on-highway and off-highway), specialty markets, and technical rubber.

c. Our Customers

Our products are primarily for use in passenger vehicles and light trucks that are manufactured by global automotive original equipment manufacturers ("OEMs") and replacement markets. Approximately 84% of our sales in 2016 were to OEMs, including Ford Motor Company, General Motors Company, Fiat Chrysler Automobiles, PSA Peugeot Citroën, Volkswagen Group, Daimler, Renault-Nissan, BMW, Toyota, Volvo, Jaguar/Land Rover, Honda, and various other OEMs based in India and China. The remaining 16% of our 2016 sales were primarily to Tier I and Tier II automotive suppliers, non-automotive manufacturers, and replacement market distributors.

3. Conflict Minerals Corporate Policy Statement

The Company has adopted the following Conflict Minerals Corporate Policy Statement, which is also available on our web site at www.cooperstandard.com/sites/default/files/Conflict Minerals Corporate Policy Statement.pdf.



CONFLICT MINERALS CORPORATE POLICY STATEMENT

Cooper Standard is concerned about the violence and human rights violations in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo ("DRC") and its surrounding countries where armed groups are being directly or indirectly financed through the exploitation and trade of conflict minerals. "Conflict minerals" refers to gold, as well as tin, tantalum, and tungsten, the derivatives of cassiterite, columbite-tantalite, and wolframite, regardless of where they are sourced, processed or sold. The U.S. Secretary of State may designate other minerals in the future.

Cooper Standard intends to comply with Section 1502 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010 (the "Dodd-Frank Act") and Rule 13(p)-1 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, by filing a special disclosure and report with the Securities and Exchange Commission disclosing whether conflict minerals that are "necessary to the functionality or production" of our products originated in the DRC or an adjoining country (the "Conflict Region"). We support these

requirements to help ensure that conflict minerals used in our products do not directly or indirectly finance armed conflict or result in labor or human rights violations.

Cooper Standard's Commitment:

- 1. We will not knowingly procure conflict minerals originating in the Conflict Region that are not certified as DRC conflict free.
- 2. We will request that our suppliers undertake reasonable due diligence with their supply chains to assure that conflict minerals are being sourced from mines and smelters outside the Conflict Region or, if sourced within the Conflict Region, from mines and smelters that have been certified by an independent third party as DRC conflict free.
- 3. We will comply with the reporting and disclosure requirements currently applicable to conflict minerals.

Our goal is to ensure that only DRC conflict free materials and components are used in the products that we buy and the products that we manufacture. If we discover that any of our raw materials, parts or components contain conflict minerals that were sourced from mines or processed in facilities that are considered to be "non-conflict free," we will take appropriate actions to transition the products to be DRC conflict free.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jeffrey S. Edwards Jeffrey S. Edwards Chairman and CEO

4. Reasonable Country of Origin Inquiry

The principal raw materials for our business include ethylene propylene diene monomer M-Class rubber (EPDM) and synthetic rubber, components manufactured from carbon steel, plastic resins and components, carbon black, process oils, components manufactured from aluminum, and natural rubber. Like many downstream companies, we do not directly purchase any 3TG and are many layers removed from the smelter(s) or refiner(s) ("SORs") used to process them. Due to the fact that we are many tiers removed from the SORs, it is not feasible to trace conflict minerals after smelting since the refined metals enter our supply chain as small parts of various components. Therefore, we must rely on our direct suppliers, who must in turn rely on their suppliers, to gather and report information about the source and chain of custody of 3TG, if any, in the products they supply to us.

Because of our size, the complexity of our products, and the depth, breadth, and constant evolution of our supply chain, we do not believe it is practicable to conduct a survey of all our suppliers. Therefore, we developed the following set of criteria to identify those suppliers whom we reasonably believe to represent the highest risk of supplying us with products or components that do or may contain 3TG from the DRC or an adjoining country for the 2016 reporting period (the in-scope suppliers):

1. Suppliers of automotive parts or components who have reported the presence of one or more conflict minerals in IMDS; and

2. Suppliers of any direct materials whose sales to us in the preceding year was at least \$5,000,000.

Based on the foregoing criteria, we determined that 211 of our direct suppliers are in scope and that is where we directed our good faith efforts to determine the country of origin of 3TG in our supply chain. We used the Conflict Minerals Reporting Template ("CMRT"), made available free of charge through the Conflict-Free Sourcing Initiative ("CFSI"), to survey our suppliers. The CMRT is specifically designed to help companies identify 3TG in the supply chain, determine the country of origin, and identify the smelters or refiners used to process 3TG. We believe that surveying in-scope suppliers using the CMRT is a reasonable means of determining whether conflict minerals originated from the Conflict Region or helped finance armed conflict. Based on the results of those questionnaires, we concluded that we could not exclude the possibility that 3TG minerals originated in the Conflict Region and were not from recycled or scrap sources. Therefore, we conducted further due diligence activities described below.

SECTION II. DUE DILIGENCE PROCESS

A. Design of the Due Diligence Framework

Our due diligence measures were designed to conform in all material respects with the five-step framework in the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development ("OECD") *Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas* (Third Edition) and the related Supplements for gold and for tin, tantalum and tungsten ("OECD Due Diligence Guidance").

B. Due Diligence Performed

1. Establish Strong Company Management Systems

a. Company Policies

In addition to the Conflict Minerals Policy Statement, set forth above and available on our web site at www.cooperstandard.com/sites/default/files/Conflict_Minerals_Corporate_Policy_Statement.pdf, the Company has adopted the following additional policies that demonstrate and promote our commitment to responsible sourcing, ethical business practices, and social responsibility and sustainability.

- Our global Supplier Code of Conduct requires our Suppliers to undertake reasonable due diligence with their supply chains to assure that conflict minerals are being sourced from mines and smelters outside the Conflict Region, or, if sourced within the Conflict Region, from mines and smelters that have been certified by an independent third party as DRC conflict free. To the extent any supplier does not currently have this capability, such a supplier is required to disclose its future plans to do so. Suppliers shall make all disclosures to Cooper Standard upon request and within a timely manner. A copy of the Supplier Code of Conduct is available on our web site at www.cooperstandard.com/sites/default/files/Supplier%20Code%20of%20Conduct.pdf; and
- The Code of Business Conduct and Ethics (the "Code") reinforces our commitment to ethical business practices and our expectations that employees and suppliers alike will adhere to the expected behaviors and will continue to comply with the Code, as well as Company policies, laws, and regulations that apply to their jobs. The Code is available on our web site at www.cooperstandard.com/corporate-governance/code-conduct-0.

b. Internal Team Supporting Supply Chain Due Diligence

The Company established a Conflict Minerals Oversight Committee (the "Committee") to design, implement, support, and oversee the conflict minerals program; adopt RCOI and due diligence guidelines; and otherwise identify, assess, and respond to risk in our supply chain. The Committee members include the following executive and non-executive cross-functional subject-matter experts:

- Senior Vice President, General Counsel & Secretary ("Executive Sponsor")
- Deputy General Counsel
- Corporate Counsel
- Vice President, Health, Safety & Environment ("HS&E")
- Senior Director, Supply Chain & Logistics
- Manager, External Reporting
- Senior Manager, Global Sustainability & Chemical Compliance, HS&E
- Senior Engineer, Chemical Compliance

The Committee established a "Core Team" to carry out the day-to-day management of the conflict minerals program. The Core Team is responsible for sending CMRTs to our suppliers, collecting and evaluating their responses, following up with suppliers who have provided inadequate or incorrect information, sending reminders to suppliers who have not responded, monitoring and tracking the status of responses, and then rolling up the reports to the Company's customers. The Core Team reports on the status of the conflict minerals program to the Committee at regularly scheduled meetings. The Committee, in turn, reports its findings to the Executive Sponsor as necessary.

c. Establish a System of Controls and Transparency

i. Participation with Industry Groups

Because we do not have a direct relationship with any SORs, it is difficult to identify actors upstream from our direct suppliers. Therefore, we engage and actively cooperate with other major manufacturers in the automotive industry with whom we share suppliers or other downstream companies with whom we have a business relationship. We support the CFSI as a paid member and participate in CFSI plenary member conference calls. The CFSI has designed and manages the Conflict Free Smelter Program ("CFSP") to identify the SORs that process 3TG minerals and independently audits those smelters and refiners to validate those that source only conflict-free 3TG minerals. Through our membership, we have benefited from access to RCOI and smelter validation data, information regarding sourcing initiatives and regulatory developments, and valuable tools, such as the CMRT, and other resources that we use to enhance our conflict minerals program. Through our membership in the CFSI, we have also joined the Smelter Engagement Team, the Conflict Minerals Work Group, and IPCMP User Group.

We also engage with and actively participate as a member of several other industry associations, particularly the Automotive Industry Action Group ("AIAG"). The initiatives of the AIAG and its Conflict Minerals Work Group include efforts to improve supply chain transparency and compliance with the conflict minerals reporting requirements; development of best practices for conducting due diligence, supply chain engagement and reporting; development of common standards and reporting tools; engagement with SORs to promote conflict-free validation programs; and provision of training and awareness.

We also actively participate, as a paid member, in the Manufacturers Alliance for Productivity and Innovation ("MAPI"), including MAPI's Sustainability Council, which provides us, among other things, with the opportunity to learn how manufacturers outside of the automotive industry are identifying and mitigating risk in the supply chain and further improve our due diligence and reporting practices.

ii. Record Retention

Pursuant to the Company's Record Retention Policy, records related to our conflict minerals program will be retained for a minimum of five years.

iii. Digital Information Sharing

Through our membership with CFSI, we support extending digital information-sharing systems. Membership in CFSI gives us access to RCOI data associated with facilities that are validated through the CFSP and that data provides access to 3TG sourcing countries, which can support companies' decisions and disclosures to affirmatively support responsible sourcing from conflict affected and high-risk areas. Our membership also provides us with access to the CFSI Smelter Database which contains information about thousands of companies in the 3TG supply chain. It also provides us with access to insight, tips, and a like-minded community of industry professionals and issue experts. We are able to get the latest information about the developments on regional issues, various sourcing initiatives, regulatory schemes, and more. We use the various tools and resources provided by CFSI, including the CMRT used by companies from a wide range of industries to disclose and communicate about smelters in their supply chains.

Many manufacturers, including us, use the iPoints Conflict Minerals Platform ("IPCMP"), a free tool available online that supports digital information sharing. It allows companies to gather, review, and respond to information requests up and down the supply chain, and enables companies to fulfill the requirements of collecting, managing, aggregating, and reporting conflict minerals information for their customers and government and regulatory agencies. IPCMP also maintains a list of smelters/refiners which is continuously updated by CFSI.

We urge our suppliers to join IPCMP to submit responses, send and receive communications during the disclosure process, and in general to increase the speed and accuracy of the conflict minerals reporting process. We also give suppliers an option to submit their information through email if they do not want to use IPCMP. The information is extracted from the email and entered into IPCMP manually and matched to our original request.

d. Strengthen Company Engagement with Suppliers

In the main, our contracts with customers and suppliers are long-term and cannot be modified until renewal, and in some cases, our customer contracts are "directed-source" contracts, meaning we are required to use those suppliers selected by our customer. Therefore, we do not have meaningful leverage over upstream suppliers or others in the supply chain except through our membership in organizations such as CFSI.

Through our paid membership with CFSI, we have the opportunity to shape industry response to conflict mineral reporting requirements and other expectations from stakeholders. It allows us to have access to insight, tips, and a like-minded community of industry professionals and issue experts developing solutions by companies for companies. We also benefit from facilitated engagement with stakeholders, including civil society organizations, socially responsible investor groups, governments, and

multilateral institutions to ensure our company has all the relevant perspectives to help us make choices about our supply chain practices.

In 2016 we held a Global Key Supplier Conference at our headquarters in Novi, Michigan, and brought in our key suppliers from around the globe. The conference raised awareness and increased our suppliers' knowledge about conflict minerals, the Dodd-Frank Act, and our obligation to perform due diligence of our supply chain and file annual reports with the SEC regarding the origin of conflict minerals in our products. It put our key suppliers on notice that we expect them to respond to our surveys regarding the use of conflict minerals in their products and instructed them to request the same information from their suppliers. We also held a North America Supply Chain Conference to raise awareness within our internal supply chain management.

As stated above, we have also adopted a Supplier Code of Conduct which reinforces our expectation that our suppliers will undertake reasonable due diligence with their supply chains to assure that conflict minerals are being sourced from mines and smelters outside the Conflict Region or, if sourced within the Conflict Region, from mines and smelters that have been certified by an independent third party as DRC conflict free. To the extent any supplier does not currently have this capability, we require our suppliers to disclose their future plans to do so. Suppliers are required to make all disclosures to Cooper Standard upon request and within a timely manner.

e. Grievance Mechanism

Employees and suppliers can report violations of our policies on a confidential basis through an independent third-party service called Ethics Point. There are a number of ways to make a report, and these are set forth in the Code and are also available at www.cooperstandard.com/corporate-governance/reporting-ethical-violations.

2. Identify and Assess Risk in the Supply Chain

Due to our size, the complexity of our products, the depth, breadth, and constant evolution of our supply chain, and the fact that we are many tiers removed from the SORs, it is impracticable to trace conflict minerals after smelting since the refined metals enter our supply chain as small parts of various components. In order to overcome these practical challenges, we use the CMRT and IPCMP to collect information from our suppliers about the origin and source of the conflict minerals in their supply chains. The red flags generated by IPCMP, as well as the "Guide for Conflict Minerals Reporting to the Automotive Industry" (the "AIAG Guide") published by the AIAG, help us identify and assess risk in the supply chain. By using the foregoing resources, we are able to measure the completeness of the data we receive and keep track of the suppliers, in both number and percentage, who responded with acceptable CMRTs, who provided incomplete or inconsistent responses, or who failed to respond at all. This also allows us to monitor improvement over the prior years. Through our paid membership with CFSI, we are able to engage SORs and identify system-level gaps, such as lack of due diligence capacity in certain regions or SORs not participating in industry schemes; identify the scope of the risk assessment of the mineral supply chain; assess whether the SORs have carried out all of the elements of due diligence recommended by the OECD Due Diligence Guidance; and, where necessary, carry out joint spot checks or audits at the mineral smelter or refiner's own facilities.

3. Design and Implement a Strategy to Respond to Identified Risks

As mentioned above, the Committee has designed a risk management plan through which our conflict minerals management program is implemented, managed, and monitored. The Core Team engages and participates in industry-driven programs, tracks supplier due diligence results, submits reports to our customers, and reports the status of the findings to the Committee at regularly scheduled meetings. The Committee, in turn, reports its findings to the Executive Sponsor as necessary.

The Core Team conducts RCOI and due diligence on in-scope suppliers using the CMRT and assesses those responses using the AIAG Guide. We urge our suppliers to use IPCMP to submit responses and send and receive communications during the due diligence process. We inform them that written instructions and online training are available on CFSI's web site. We also give suppliers an option to submit their information through email if they do not want to use IPCMP. The information is extracted from the email and entered into IPCMP manually and matched to our original request.

The Core Team analyzes each and every answer for completeness or inconsistencies within the data reported in the template versus the data reported in IMDS. They use the red flags automatically generated within IPCMP and the AIAG Guide to evaluate responses and highlight areas that require additional due diligence. They follow up directly with the suppliers who cannot definitively answer these questions, fail to identify smelters, or who fail to respond at all. They use a system of automatic weekly reminders generated through IPCMP to prompt suppliers to respond, and if necessary we escalate the matter to our buyers who are asked to reach out to their sales contacts to try to obtain a response. The Core Team continues in this manner until they are satisfied that the suppliers have conducted their due diligence and have answered all of the questions to the best of their knowledge, information, and belief. By virtue of our paid membership with the CFSI, the Core Team is able to validate the accuracy and completeness of the SORs identified by in-scope suppliers by comparing the list of such SORs against the CFSI list of processing facilities that have received a "compliant" or other designation under the CFSP. They are also able to monitor whether SORs demonstrated improvement in their due diligence practices. Through our membership with CFSI, we support the ITRI Tin Supply Chain Initiative (iTSCi) program, which provides an in-region verification and due diligence system and whose efforts are monitored and reported on in the CFSI monthly meeting.

4. Carry Out Independent Third-Party Audit of Supply Chain Due Diligence at Identified Points in the Supply Chain

We do not have a direct relationship with SORs and do not perform or direct audits of these entities within our supply chain. However, through our paid membership in CFSI, we support smelter audits through CFSP and similar programs.

5. Report Annually on Supply Chain Due Diligence

We report the five steps of OECD due diligence and the results of our supply chain due diligence efforts annually by filing with the SEC a Form SD and a Conflict Mineral Report, if necessary. The Conflict Minerals Reports are posted on our company web site at www.ir.cooperstandard.com/sec.cfm.

SECTION III. DUE DILIGENCE RESULTS

1. Request Information

We conducted a survey of 211 in-scope suppliers using the CMRT described in the RCOI section above. The CMRT is specifically designed to help companies identify 3TG in the supply chain, determine the country of origin, and identify the SORs used to process 3TG. In addition to requiring the company to identify the smelters the company and its suppliers use and the location of the mines where the minerals originate, it includes questions regarding a company's conflict-free policy, engagement with its direct suppliers, and the supplier's own due diligence. We believe that surveying our high-risk suppliers using the CMRT is a reasonable means of performing due diligence for the purposes of the Rule. We urge our suppliers to use IPCMP to submit responses and send and receive communications during the disclosure process. We inform them that written instructions and online training are available on CFSI's web site. We also give suppliers an option to submit their information through email if they do not want to use IPCMP. The information is extracted from the email and entered into IPCMP manually and matched to our original request.

2. Survey Results

We reviewed each response against a number of criteria. These criteria included untimely or incomplete responses as well as inconsistencies within the data reported in the template versus the data reported in IMDS. We utilize the AIAG Guide and the red flags automatically generated within IPCMP to help us evaluate responses and highlight areas that required additional due diligence. We worked directly with these suppliers to provide acceptable CMRTs.

Of the 211 in-scope suppliers surveyed, we received acceptable responses from 88.6% of the suppliers we surveyed, a 12.6% improvement over last year. Of those that responded, 53 suppliers indicated their products may contain 3TG. Twenty suppliers indicated that the minerals were sourced from Covered Countries and four of them reported that all of the smelters in their supply chain were certified conflict free.

3. Efforts to Determine Mine or Location of Origin

We have determined that the most reasonable efforts we can make to determine the mines or locations of origin of the 3TG in our supply chain is by sending CMRTs to our direct suppliers, asking them to obtain this information from their direct suppliers, and so on up the supply chain until we receive acceptable CMRTs; through our paid membership in CFSI; and through our participation in the AIAG Conflict Minerals Work Group.

4. Smelters or Refiners

Survey responses identified 338 SORs in our supply chain. We compared them against the list of SORs listed by CFSI and determined that approximately 80% of the smelters identified are recognized as being conflict free or cooperating in the audit process to become conflict free. Approximately 9% of the listed entities are either not smelters or are known to have ceased operations. Approximately 11% of the SORs identified were flagged as requiring outreach, and we sent letters to 37 SORs, urging them to participate in the CFSP.

None of our suppliers were able to pinpoint where the conflict minerals contained in our parts originated; therefore, we cannot draw a conclusion that any of our parts containing conflict minerals were sourced from mines or SORs in the DRC or any of the adjoining countries, nor whether they financed armed conflict in those countries. Therefore, we have not attached a list of the SORs to this report.

SECTION IV. STEPS TO BE TAKEN TO MITIGAGE RISK

We have taken or intend to take in the future the following steps to improve the due diligence conducted and further mitigate any risk that the necessary conflict minerals in our products could benefit armed groups in the DRC or adjoining countries:

- a. We expect to update our Terms & Conditions to reflect our expectation that suppliers will respond to our information requests relating to the use, source, and chain of custody of 3TG in the products they supply us, and that we expect them to require similar information from their upstream suppliers, and so on;
- b. We expect to add a flag to our high-risk suppliers' score cards to increase visibility and awareness that the supplier is a high-risk supplier;
- c. We expect to increase year-over-year the percentage of suppliers who respond to our surveys with acceptable answers by continuing to work with our Tier 1 supply base to increase their knowledge and awareness, assisting with their communication further into the supply chain;
- d. We will continue to engage with suppliers and direct them to training resources;
- e. We intend to require suppliers to establish an alternative source of 3TG that does not support conflict if we discover they are procuring those minerals from non-conflict free smelters or refiners; and
- f. We support and will continue to support, through our membership with AIAG and relevant trade associations, the goal of improving best practices and building leverage over the supply chain in accordance with the OECD Guidance.

SECTION V. PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

The vast majority of suppliers are still reporting at a company level. During due diligence for the 2016 reporting period, 53 of our suppliers reported that their products contain one or more conflict minerals; 20 reported sourcing from one or more countries in the Conflict Region; 4 reported sourcing from SORs certified DRC conflict free; and 33 did not report sourcing from the Conflict Region. None of our suppliers were able to pinpoint where the conflict minerals contained in our parts originated; therefore, we cannot draw a conclusion that any of our parts containing conflict minerals were sourced from mines or SORs in the DRC or any of the adjoining countries, nor whether they financed armed conflict in those countries.