EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations prescribe the fee to be paid to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in connection with the issue of certificates by the Department in pursuance of the European Union obligations of the United Kingdom under Council Regulation (EC) No. 2368/2002 ("the Principal Regulation") implementing the Kimberley Process certification scheme for the international trade in rough diamonds. The fee is in connection with the issue of Community Certificates under Article 12 of the Principal Regulation.

Fees in connection with the issue of such certificates were first prescribed in the Kimberley Process (Fees) Regulations 2003. The fees were subsequently increased by the Kimberley Process (Fees) Regulations 2004, which are revoked by these Regulations. The present Regulations prescribe a single fee for the issuance of any Community Certificate accompanying a shipment.

A Regulatory Triage Assessment has been prepared in respect of these Regulations which the Regulatory Policy Committee has confirmed is subject to the fast track procedure under the Better Regulation framework. Copies of the assessment may be obtained from the Government Diamond Office, Conflict Department, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, King Charles Street, London SW1A 2AH.