**Sample Corporate Screening Policy**

**1. Statement of Principle**

ENGO X wishes to encourage corporate environmental and social responsibility by accepting and recognizing donations from corporations whose practices meet with the provisions of this policy. ENGO X will neither solicit nor accept corporate donations which might diminish the credibility of ENGO X or which might influence or give the appearance of influence over the programs or activities of ENGO X.

**2. Corporate Gift Evaluation and Acceptance**

*(a)* *Corporate gifts of $1, 000 or less*

If the gift is contrary to the above statement of “principle on corporate donations,” it should be declined. Otherwise it is acceptable subject to the approval of the Board of Directors.

*(b)* *Corporate gifts in excess of $1,000*

These gifts are subject to the approval of the Board of Directors.

The following criteria will help define acceptable corporate contributions and the procedures for screening those contributions:

i. Environmental criteria

Donations will generally not be accepted from:

(a) Corporations known for environmentally destructive practices;

(b) Repeat violators of environmental laws;

(c) Firms currently in litigation regarding alleged violations of environmental laws;

(d) Manufacturers or vendors of products which are known to cause or have the potential to cause danger to public health or the environment;

(e) Corporations that do not participate in voluntary schemes for the certification of environmentally sustainable products and practices if applicable.

(f) Corporations whose practices or reputation might, in the opinion of staff or management committee, diminish the credibility of ENGO X or which might influence or give the appearance of influence over the programs or activities of ENGO X.

ii. Corporate Products and Practices

ENGO X staff should consider the corporation’s products and practices before proposing a gift for acceptance. This includes, but is not limited to, the corporation’s labour relations record, human rights and social justice record, employment policies, products, advertising policies, and compliance with the law.

Information concerning innovative products, practices or policies that advance the concept of corporate social and environmental responsibility should be elicited from the proposed donor. Corporations that refuse to disclose their environmental policies should not be considered eligible to donate. Information concerning parent, subsidiary and related corporations should be elicited by staff while inquiring into the practices of the proposed donor.

(a) ENGO X and its entities should avoid donations from any company whose predominate business includes:

1) Manufacture or sale of tobacco products, or any other product known to cause or to be a precursor to cancer of any other debilitating disease. (The National Fundraising Coordinating Committee interprets this as those companies who manufacture or wholesale these products.)

2) Development, manufacture or distribution of nuclear weapons or nuclear energy.

3) Development, manufacture or distribution of any form of weaponry. (This is interpreted as direct production of weapons that make up more than 2.5% of the company's total revenues.)

4) Negligent extraction of natural resources including forest products, mining and petrochemicals.

5) Chemical waste management.

6) Significant recent and/or repeated violations of Federal and/or Provincial and/or local laws, by-laws or regulations for the protection of the environment, human rights and/or public health.

7) Significant emission of toxic chemicals.

8) Use of animals in consumer product testing when such testing is not required by law (This would include hair and skin product makeup and perfume, dish and laundry products, toys, office and household products. Some Pharmaceutical manufacturers are not included because federal law requires animal testing in the development of drug experimentation prior to approval for distribution).

9) Research and manufacture of the products of bio-engineering, biotechnology and genetically-modified organisms.

10) Significant controversies over corporate conduct related to employees or the environment in other countries.

(b) ENGO X should seek support from companies who demonstrate their support for the following issues:

1) A strong commitment to the use of renewable energy, conservation and recycling methods, and environmental protection.

2) Products and/or services of consistent high quality which take into consideration consumer and environmental needs.

3) Support of environmental programs through corporate charitable giving.

4) Leadership in good environmental practices in their particular industrial sector.

iii. Method of gift acceptance

Once ENGO X has accepted a corporate gift, a memorandum of understanding will confirm the conditions of the donation, including the provision that the gift entitles the corporation to no special consideration or consultation with respect to the content of our programs. The memorandum will also specify the content of any public statements to be published by the corporations and/or ENGO X in connection with the gift. The memorandum will be signed by the Chair of the Board.

Acceptance of a corporate contribution in no way implies ENGO X’s endorsement of a donor’s products or services, nor does it entitle a corporation to any special consideration or consultation on program content.

**3. Application of this Policy**

For the purposes of this policy, a “corporate donation” includes any donation from a for-profit business association of any nature.

This policy does not apply to gifts from:

(a) Family foundations;

(b) Community or special purpose philanthropic foundations;

(c) Individual donations from executives or directors of corporations, provided these are not subject to restrictions or conditions relative to the corporation; and

(d) Donations of services or in-kind contributions of goods (these should be reviewed on a case by case basis and evaluated in light of the “Statement of principle on corporate donations”).

**4. Exceptions**

Waiver of this policy may be granted by the the Board of Directors. A written explanation of the waiver will form part of the Minutes of the Fundraising Committee and shall be distributed to the Board of Directors immediately.