

Building up Church-related Alliances

**Investing in your Mission:
Churches and Socially Responsible Investment
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Background

Collaborative Venture

- Informal thirty year history
- Desire for smaller organisations to contribute
- Assist membership to formulate Christian ethical policies...
- ... execute those policies in practice...
- ... to act together whenever possible

Aims

- **To share information and views on ethical, social responsibility and corporate governance matters related to investment**
- **To encourage formulation of Christian ethical investment policies consistent with denominational traditions**
- **To commission research on matters relating to socially responsible business practices**
- **To enable joint representation to be made to companies with a view to encouraging socially responsible business practices**
- **To enable public statements to be made on matters of ethical principle relating to investment and responsible business practices**

Responsibilities of members

- **To make available to all other members the contents of any ethical investment policy or statement**
- **To inform the Secretariat the value of assets controlled**
- **To pay an annual subscription based on value of assets controlled**
- **To contribute time and resources, according to means, to further the aims of CIG**
- **To be represented at member meetings**
- **To respect the confidentiality of other participants in the collaboration**

Approach to corporate engagement (1)

- **Formal presentations to all members**
 - For example: Nestle, Tesco, Vodafone and GlaxoSmithKline
- **Delegation to discuss controversial issues made up of executive officers, trustees and social justice experts representing a variety of denominations**
 - For example: BP, Royal Dutch Shell and Rio Tinto
- **Correspondence**
 - For example: British Airways and Reed Elsevier
- **Presentations from activists**
 - For example: Tesco shareholder resolution and Sudan

Approach to corporate engagement (2)

Conclusions

- **Important part of responsible investment**
- **Develop long term relationships**
- **Work with not against management**
- **Objective to seek improvement not perfection**

And Finally....

- **Establish process to provide for a single denominational voice**
- **Seek local partners and approaches**
- **Seek international partners**
- **Form regional groupings...**
- **... that facilitate international reach**
- **Consider secular efforts**
- **Challenge for future**