

Conflict of Interest Policy Statement

All Officers, Directors, Ambassadors, Staff, and Agents of this Ministry shall disclose all real or apparent conflict of interest that they discover or that have been brought to their attention in connection with this organization's activities.

A "conflict of interest" occurs where a person is responsible for promoting the interest of the ministry at the same time he or she is involved in a competing personal interest (financial, business or personal).

"Disclosure" shall mean providing properly, to the appropriate person, a written description of the facts comprising the real or apparent conflict of interest. An annual disclosure statement shall be circulated to trustees, officers, and certain identified agents and employees to assist them in considering such disclosures, but disclosure is appropriate and required whenever conflicts of interest may occur. The written notices of disclosures shall be filed with the Chief Executive Officer or such other person designated by the Chief Executive Officer to receive such notifications. At the meeting of the top governing body, all disclosures of real or apparent conflict of interest shall be noted for the record in the minutes.

An individual trustee, officer, agent, or employee who believes that he or she or an immediate member of his or her immediate family might have a real or apparent conflict of interest, in addition to filing a notice of disclosure, must abstain from:

- (1) participating in discussions or deliberations with respect to the subject of the conflict (other than to present factual information or to answer questions),
- (2) using his or her personal influence to affect deliberations,
- (3) making motions,
- (4) voting,
- (5) executing agreements, or
- (6) taking similar actions on behalf of the organizations where the conflict of interest might pertain by law, agreement, or otherwise.

At the discretion of the top governing body or a committee thereof, a person with a real or apparent conflict of interest may be excused from all or any portion of discussion or deliberations with respect to the subject of the conflict.

A member of the top governing body or a committee thereof, who, having disclosed a conflict of interest, nevertheless shall be counted in determining the existence of a quorum at any meeting in which the subject of the conflict is discussed. The minutes of the meeting shall reflect the individual's disclosure, the vote thereon, and the individual's abstention from participation and voting.

The Chief Executive Officer shall ensure that all trustees, officers, agents, employees, and independent contractors of the organization are made aware of the organization's conflict of interest policy.

