

MPA Ethical Investment Policy Statement

1 Investment Policy

1.1 Human Rights

The MPA seeks to support the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. MPA funds should not be invested in any organisation or business, which fails to uphold basic human rights within its sphere of influence or in any organisation whose links to an oppressive regime are a continuing cause for concern.

1.2 Arms Trading

The MPA will not seek to invest in any organisation in the manufacture or transfer of armaments to oppressive regimes. In addition, the manufacture of torture equipment or other equipment that is used in the violation of human rights.

1.3 Social Issues

The MPA seeks to invest funds in organisations, which have a responsible approach to social issues including employment and global trade.

1.4 Charitable Investment

Traditionally, financial institutions give money to charitable organisations and to activities within the local community. Financial institutions receiving funds from MPA investments should provide details of any charitable donations.

1.5 Environmental issues

The MPA seeks to avoid the investment of funds in organisations whose core activity contributes to significant negative environmental impacts.

In addition, the MPA will not invest funds in any organisation involved in animal testing, the fur trade and blood sports.

2 Guidelines & Standards

The MPA wishes to promote and encourage commitment to the following ethical investment guidelines and standards:

- Equator Principles
- UN Global Compact
- UN Environmental Programme for Finance Initiative (UNEP – FI)

Of the 8 UK financial institutions on the MPA lending list, 62.5% have signed up to *at least one* of the three voluntary guidelines analysed. 83.3% of foreign

financial institutions signed up to *at least* one set of voluntary guidelines and of the 5 foreign banks analysed in depth, only one had not signed up to any.

It should be noted that becoming a signatory of voluntary guidelines does not guarantee that a company's policies and practices are of a better standard than those that are not signatories. The MPA would consider it advantageous for the financial institutions that it invests in to have signed up to one or more of these voluntary agreements.