Ethical Guidelines for Corporate Fundraising

Corporate partnerships are an **important aspect** of EMERGENCY's fundraising activities. They can contribute to diversifying funding sources and ensure the **financial sustainability** required to carry out the organisation's activities in the field.

Partnerships must, in all cases, respect EMERGENCY's **fundamental values** of integrity, independence and impartiality, and promote a culture of peace, solidarity and respect for human rights.

Prior to accepting funds and signing an agreement, EMERGENCY performs a **thorough and rigorous ethical screening** of the company.

EMERGENCY will under no circumstances accept contributions from companies that are:

1. Involved in the production and trade of **arms**;
2. Involved in **tobacco** production or the **gambling** industry;
3. Involved in the exploitation of individuals (pornography, illegal labour, etc.); or,
4. Operating in the **gas** or **petroleum** sectors.

EMERGENCY will pay particular attention to, and assess on a case-by-case basis, companies that are:

1. In the **pharmaceutical** sector;
2. In the **alcohol** sector;
3. Involved in international **boycott** campaigns; or,
4. Involved in the **exploitation** or **abuse** of the environment.

EMERGENCY reserves the right to refuse a partnership with a company whose reputation has been compromised by previous activities falling within any of the above categories.

At EMERGENCY's request, the company will be required to provide information regarding:

- **Transparency**, i.e., the company's willingness to provide information about itself and to ensure that such information is truthful;

- **Abuse of power**, i.e., the initiatives undertaken by companies, by virtue of their economic power, to influence public opinion and political decision-makers with regard to political, social, economic and technological choices;

- **Developing countries**, i.e., the way in which production and commercial activities are managed in developing countries;

- **Environment**, i.e., the company's conduct towards the environment (for example, convictions or fines for breaching environmental protection laws, the production of particularly toxic pesticides or other substances harmful to humans and the environment, such as GMOs);

- **Workers' safety and rights**, i.e., the measures taken to safeguard workers' safety and ensure respect for their rights as set out in contracts and by law;

- **Consumers and legality**, which encompasses the sale of dangerous products, the production or use of GMOs, illegal activities and fraud, misleading or unfair advertising, and labels that provide insufficient information;

- **Arms and the military**, i.e., the production of arms and the sale of any products to the military, including food and clothing;

- **Oppressive regimes**, i.e., the possession of economic activities in countries governed by oppressive regimes. These activities are contested because they provide a source of funding for oppressive governments through the payment of taxes and the transfer of profits;

- **Tax havens**, i.e., the registration of the parent company or major subsidiaries in countries that guarantee the utmost secrecy and a highly favourable tax regime;

- **Animals**, referring to the conditions under which animals are reared and the use of animal testing;

- **Boycott**, indicating that a boycott or other types of pressure campaigns are currently being carried out against the company;

- **Social initiatives**, i.e., social and humanitarian initiatives already undertaken by the company or the group to which it belongs, with particular mention of collaborations with other Italian or international NGOs.

On a case-by-case basis, depending on the proposed partnership, the impact in terms of beneficiaries on the ground and the company's specific needs, we will draw up a communication plan involving the institutional channels of both EMERGENCY and the company in question.

Contacts

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