



**ECCR becomes a registered charity**

**11 January 2011**

**[www.eccr.org.uk](http://www.eccr.org.uk)**

**Church-based research and advocacy group the Ecumenical Council for Corporate Responsibility (ECCR) has become a registered charity.** ECCR completed registration with the Charity Commission for England and Wales at the end of 2010. It now hopes to secure and extend its work by being able to access a wider range of grants and Gift Aided donations.

An investor coalition and membership organisation founded in 1989, ECCR's mission is to promote economic justice, human rights and environmental sustainability. It works through research-based dialogue with companies, faith-based and responsible investors and others on the impacts of business on society and the natural world.

ECCR's Chair, Lee Coates, who has been involved with the organisation for many years, welcomed charity registration: 'After 21 years of advocating higher standards of corporate and investor responsibility, I am heartened that ECCR continues to grow and develop. Charitable status will help us build on our past achievements and take our work forward.'

ECCR's 80-plus corporate members control and advise on more than £17.5 billion of invested assets.

Member denominations and church bodies include the Baptist Union, the Church of Scotland, the Church in Wales, the Industrial Mission Association, the Methodist Church and its Central Finance Board, the Missionary Society of St Columban, Pax Christi, the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), St Patrick's Missionary Society, the Society of Jesus, the Student Christian Movement, the United Reformed Church, and USPG: Anglicans in World Mission.

Financial services members of ECCR include Cazenove Capital Management, CCLA Investment Management, Co-operative Financial Services, Ethical Investors, the GÆIA Partnership, Rathbone Greenbank and Triodos Bank.

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Campaigning organisations such as Christian Aid, FairPensions, Oikocredit, Progressio Ireland, Shared Interest, Traidcraft and Trócaire (Ireland) are also ECCR members. Current and recent funding partners include CAFOD, Christian Aid, Cordaid (Netherlands), the EIRIS Foundation, the Polden Puckham Charitable Foundation, the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust, the Souter Charitable Trust and Trócaire.

ECCR also has individual members, many of whom joined when the Christian Ethical Investment Group merged with ECCR in 2008.

Currently ECCR is working on the social and environmental impacts of the oil industry in the Niger Delta, the trade in Israeli settlements goods, mining and human rights, and risks associated with deep-water oil drilling and the Canadian oil sands. It will publish a new report on the banking sector in March 2011.

‘New members and supporters are always welcome,’ said ECCR’s Co-ordinator Miles Litvinoff. ‘People can find out more about us, and contact us, by visiting [www.eccr.org.uk](http://www.eccr.org.uk).’

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### **Notes and contact details**

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ECCR is a Body in Association with Churches Together in Britain and Ireland.

Registered office: ECCR, New Road Baptist Church, Bonn Square, Oxford OX1 1LQ, UK.