

Advisory Committee on Corporate Responsibility in Investment Policy (ACCRIP)
Minutes on the Meeting of October 4, 2013

Present

Christopher Bull (chair)
Vazira Zamindar
Naoko Shibusawa
Stanley Griffith
Marie Langlois
Sara Matthieson
*Sandra Seibel
*Anne Sharp
Daniel Moraff
Julie Vanier
Ian Trupin
David Muller

*Indicates non-voting members of the Committee

Observer: Kim Roskiewicz—Office of the President

Agenda:

1. Approval of minutes from September 20 meeting,
2. Election of Chair (carried over from May 15 meeting),
3. Discuss BSJP request to divest from companies producing equipment used by the Israeli Defense Force,
4. New business,
5. Adjourn

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1. Approval of minutes from September 20th meeting
The minutes were approved without amendment.

2. Election of chair
Christopher Bull was reelected as chair without opposition.

3. Discuss BSJP request to divest from companies producing equipment used by the Israeli Defense Forces
Last year, ACCRIP did not recommend divestment, but did send a letter to the President identifying social harm, “systemic abuses of human rights,” and “violations of international law” from the country of Israel. The President responded. ACCRIP has heard presentations from BSJP, Brown Students for Israel, and J Street Brown U. The committee discussed what, if any, steps are now required. There was disagreement on issue of materiality, specifically regarding the implications of many companies’ small business in the Occupied Territories. We do not have specific information regarding materiality of the companies under discussion.

A summary of research and events from the past year and a summary of developments surrounding the issue over the summer were presented. In their original proposal, BSJP proposed five criteria for divestment, recommending divestment from companies that:

1. Provide products or services that contribute to the maintenance of the Israeli military occupation of Gaza and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem.
2. Provide products or services that contribute to the maintenance and expansion of Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian territories.
3. Establish facilities or operations in Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian territories.
4. Provide products or services that contribute to the maintenance and construction of the separation wall.
5. Provide products or services that contribute to violent acts against Palestinian and Israeli civilians.

Motion to establish a subcommittee to draft a motion addressing the specific aspect of the Committee's charter, and to compile a comprehensive reading list within the next week. The motion passed with one opposed.

Ian Trupin, Naoko Shibusawa, and Daniel Moraff volunteered for the subcommittee.

4. New business

Motion to establish a subcommittee to draft a response to the President's request for alternatives to divesting from coal related businesses. The motion passed unanimously.

Marie Langlois, Stanley Griffith, Daniel Moraff, and Ian Trupin volunteered for the subcommittee.

5. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 10:49.