

**Médecins Sans Frontières/
Doctors Without Borders Gift Acceptance Policy
For Donations from Corporations
2022**

PURPOSE OF THE POLICY

This Policy is intended to give guidance to MSF EA's representatives and supporters regarding the solicitation, acceptance and disposition of philanthropic donations. The Policy will be reviewed and updated as necessary. MSF EA has a separate Gift Acceptance Policy for donations from individuals.

GIFT ACCEPTANCE PROCEDURE

MSF EA will not accept a donation that would be inconsistent with the goals and objectives of MSF EA. This would include donations that are not in the best interests of MSF EA such as where (a) acceptance of the donation would negatively affect MSF EA's reputation or brand; (b) the corporation insists on a benefit that MSF EA does not wish to offer; (c) the product of the corporation directly contributes to conflict or disasters affecting populations in danger. In addition, excessive or inappropriate association with MSF name should be avoided. The use of the MSF logo will always require special consideration. All donations must be in compliance with Kenya national law.

Excluded Sectors: Funds will be refused from companies whose prime business activities (at least 10% of annual revenues) is derived from the following sectors:

- **Arms manufacturing and selling:** the arms industry not only provides the means to cause human suffering, but any association with this industry could compromise the independence or the perception thereof, from "all political, economic, and religious influences."
- **Tobacco manufacturing and selling:** tobacco corporations should not be associated with an organization committed to public health and medical ethics.
- **Pharmaceutical Industry:** particularly members of the International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association (IFPMA) but also generic companies.
- **Extraction Industry** (especially extraction of oil, diamonds, and gold) to ensure that the potential partner is not perceived to contribute to conflicts and/or disasters that affect populations in danger or cause humanitarian suffering and in order to never compromise MSF's operational work and/or the security of volunteers and beneficiaries in the field.

Grey Zone Sectors: Other sectors could present possible breach of MSF General Criteria. Receiving funds/ collaborating with a corporate entity operating within these sectors will lead to case-by-case judgments, but always require specific care:

- **Medical products and health technologies:** MSF will refuse cash donations and/or collaboration with companies with prime business in medical products and health technologies that specifically come into conflict with "2017 MSF policy for in kind donations of medical products & health technology." A case-by-case analysis will be required to confirm that such a conflict doesn't exist (including consultation with the MSF Medical and Operation Directors Platform (MEDOP) when pertinent.
- **Alcohol Industry:** the reasoning behind the refusal of corporate funding from the alcohol sector could be twofold:
 - "Ethical": "A business whose activities or products can damage health is in conflict with the principles and values of the MSF Charter."

- “Reputational” (Image concern): “Alcoholic beverage corporation should not be associated with an organization committed to public health and medical ethics.”
- **Gambling Industry:** some sections receive money from National Lotteries but funding from other forms of gambling can have a negative impact on the image of MSF and therefore should be handled with specific care.
- **Medical Publishing Industry:** specific analysis of medical publishers is required to ensure consistency with the “MSF’s Publication without Paywalls Policy” and alignment with potential ongoing agreements of medical departments with publishers willing to support MSF.
- **Asset Management Industry:** defined as any type of company making investments on behalf of clients and/or providing expert advice on asset investment and portfolio management. Caution is required because asset management firms could significantly support companies that belong to the Exclusion and Caution sectors and should therefore be considered with high attention.
- **Adult Entertainment Industry:** consisting of businesses that either directly or indirectly provide sex-related products and services or adult entertainment. Caution is needed as accepting gifts from this industry can entail serious reputational risks and/or ethical concerns.
- **Big Tech Companies:** given the extraordinary power of big tech companies and their large scope of influence, donations from these companies need to be carefully analysed.
- **Fast Fashion Industry:** considered as an approach to the design, creation, and marketing of clothing that emphasizes making fashion trends quickly and cheaply available to consumers. This industry has been criticized for its labour conditions and negative environmental impact. Donations from this sector require a thorough assessment

The Director of Communications and Fundraising (DCF) and his/her delegates are authorized to accept or refuse donations in accordance with this Policy. Exceptions are for donations of or greater **than KES 1,500,000 (10,000 Euros)**. In these cases, a formal due diligence process* and approval from the Gift Acceptance Committee (GAC)** is required. Donations’ analysis will include internal and/or external research and will be conducted by the fundraising team. Please refer to The Guidelines for the Implementation of the MSF Corporate Statement for specific

When a prospective donation necessitates review by the GAC, the DCF or his/her delegate will provide a summary in writing which includes, but is not limited to: corporate background review; any donor-imposed restrictions; assessment of possible cost, risks and liabilities; and other due diligence specific to the proposed donation.

The GAC will review the information provided in the summary and any additional information required within three business days and will make a determination as to whether to accept, restructure or reject the donation.

The DCF or his/her delegate shall keep the company representative updated with reasonable frequency and detail with regard to the above process. Information concerning all transactions between a company and MSF EA shall be held by MSF EA in confidence and may be disclosed only with the permission of the company.

Anonymous donations

For anonymous donations MSF EA will endeavor to collect as much information about the origin of the funds from publicly available sources and confirm that it is not in disagreement with the donation acceptance guidelines. MSF EA shall respect the wishes of any company offering anonymous support and will implement reasonable procedures to safeguard such donor’s identity.

Receipts

MSF EA will acknowledge the receipt of all donations in writing and in a manner that satisfies the applicable requirements for charitable donations.

AMENDMENTS AND UPDATES

The GAC has the authority to amend or update this policy as required.

** Please refer to The Guidelines for the Implementation of the MSF Corporate Statement for specific due diligence process. [Corporate Fundraising Statement Guidelines \(2022\).pdf](#)*

***The Gift Acceptance Committee (GAC) is comprised of the MSF EA Treasurer, MSF EA General Director, MSF EA Director of Communications and Fundraising, and the MSF EA Director of Finance.*

