

Transparency International Malaysia (TI-M) Donations Policy and Guidelines

Introduction

Donations and other incomes enable TI-Malaysia to sustain its mission to fight corruption and uphold its overall raison d'être. TI-M needs to secure the funding necessary to undertake its vital work. Secure and diverse funding enables TI-M to maintain its independence, protect its reputation and operate effectively.

Background

TI-M is funded from diverse sources: foundations, governments, the private sector, individuals, membership fees, income from publications, events and other activities. Relying on many sources of income helps TI-M to maintain its independence. Funding may be restricted to specific projects. Generally, TI-M will raise its own funding.

As regards fundraising for TI-M, the Executive Committee and the "Communications and Fundraising" Sub-Committee are the key teams to lead and coordinate fundraising activities. TI-M must not risk jeopardising its reputation for honesty, openness and integrity. Its reputation could be compromised if TI-M received funds from sources that were perceived to be pursuing activities inconsistent with TI-M's mission.

Policy

It is TI-M's policy to accept funds from any donor in monetary terms or in kind, provided that acceptance does not:

- Impair TI-M's independence to pursue its mission
- Compromise TI-M's integrity and reputation.

TI-M reserves the right not to receive/accept any donation if it deemed appropriate and without offering any reason thereto.

Scope

This Policy applies to all fundraising for TI-M, be it initiated by TI-M ExcOs, Communications and Fundraising Committee, TI-M Ordinary Members, all salaried staffs, regardless of types of donor or amounts involved, unless otherwise stated in this document. It is to be applied to all new funding from existing donors and to all new donors in the future. It does not apply to income raised from the sale of publications or from fees for participation in conferences, events and other activities. Appropriate care to protect the reputation of TI-M should always be taken.

Acceptance

Funds to enable TI-M to carry out its work would be sought from a wide range of sources. Care should be taken to ensure that project-related funding does not result in undue influence over TI-M's programme work. Subject to maintaining TI-M's independence and reputation, TI-M may accept funding from any and all sources. All donations received by TI-M should be disclosed in the website and to be highlighted in TI-M's Annual Report. If there is a significant risk that receiving funds from a particular source would impair TI-M's independence or if there is a significant risk to TI-M's reputation from public association with the donor, then funding from that source must not be accepted by TI-M.

Guidelines

Any donation to TI-M must be able to stand up to public scrutiny. TI-M's independence requires that a donor may be subject to the same criticism by TI-M as any other organisation or individual in a comparable situation. A donor accused of having been involved in corruption can expect no protection from TI-M.

TI-M may receive funding from corporations and donors from the private sector. This does not imply any endorsement by TI-M of a donating company's policies or record. TI-M may request that corporate donors sign a commitment to integrity before any donation from that company is accepted.

TI-M should not accept and reserves the right in our sole discretion to decline a donation from a company that is found to have engaged in corruption unless the company can demonstrate that this was a violation of the company's policies, that breach of these policies is being addressed in an appropriate manner, or that its policies have been amended to proscribe a similar violation in future. TI-M works with companies on the understanding that they are working towards a business environment in which bribery is not accepted nor tolerated. It is the responsibility of the Exco Members, the Communications and Fundraising Sub-Committee and salaried staff to ensure that TI-M's independence and reputation are not jeopardised. If any staff or Executive Committee or the Communications and Fundraising Sub-Committee of TI-M is concerned that there is a threat to TI-M's independence or reputation from donations already received, or about to be accepted, the person(s) should draw this to the attention of TI-M's President and it's Secretary-General.