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## **Ahtutu Ethical Fundraising Policy**

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Created by: Mary Durkacz

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## Ethical Fundraising Policy

1. Ahtutu's stated aim is to prevent or relieve financial hardship in South West Myanmar by providing or assisting in the provision of education, training, healthcare projects and all supports necessary to enable individuals to generate a sustainable income and become self-sufficient
2. To help guarantee the availability of ongoing funds to pay for its work, Ahtutu aims to maintain a broad base of different sources of funding. The purpose of this policy is to ensure clarity and openness to all our stakeholders.
3. Through its fundraising Ahtutu hopes to gain financial support to ensure it can continue the work it does through KMSS Pathein from a broad base of different sources of funding but it also hopes to give information and education about Myanmar and its people and explain what they believe can be done to give help and support.
3. When accepting funding from any organisation or fund Ahtutu will take steps to ensure as far as possible that the organisation or individual holding the fund has the highest ethical values and a spotless reputation in both its accumulation of wealth and its investment. Should Ahtutu subsequently discover that there is reason to believe that the organisation or fund has been associated with unethical practices then they will seek to confront the organisation as soon as practically possible and ask for clarification before seeking advice as to next steps..
4. Ahtutu actively seeks opportunities to work together with external organisations and individuals to achieve shared objectives. However, it is vital that Ahtutu maintains its independence and does not allow any external partnership to bring its name into disrepute.
5. Ahtutu therefore accepts financial support from, and partnership working with, companies and individuals on the following conditions:
  - There are strong grounds for believing that it will result in a benefit to Ahtutu's beneficiaries
  - The Chief Executive and Trustees are satisfied that no adverse publicity will result from accepting such support
  - There is no attempt on the part of the company or individual to influence Ahtutu's policy or actions either explicitly or implicitly
  - That initiatives do not compromise the independent status of Ahtutu's Cause-Related Marketing, Affinity Marketing and Product/Service Endorsement
  - Ahtutu does not endorse or approve the products or services of any company. A statement to this effect will be included alongside any branding or promotion associated with products
  - Only Ahtutu will have direct access to its database and beneficiaries

- In order to ensure that all of Ahtutu’s cause-related promotion reflects Ahtutu’s values, any potential initiative must come to the trustees for approval.
6. Ahtutu will avoid involvement in activities that run contrary to its overall charitable objectives / vision / aims. It will not accept financial support or partnerships with companies involved with any of the following activities which are likely to harm humans, animals or the environment, such as:
- Animal testing
  - genetic engineering
  - human rights abuses
  - intensive farming
  - manufacture of environmentally hazardous products or chemicals
  - military contracts
  - mining
  - nuclear power
  - developing world debt
  - developing world marketing
  - the manufacture of tobacco
  - water pollution.
7. When deciding whether to accept any particular donation, the Trustees have a duty to demonstrate to the Charity Commission that they have acted in the best interest of the charity, and that association with any particular donor does not compromise Ahtutu’s ethical position, harm its reputation or put future funding at risk. Ahtutu complies with all relevant legislation, including money laundering rules, the Bribery Act and Charity Commission guidance, including terrorism and political activity. Ahtutu trustees have participated in relevant Charity Commission training for charities operating in High Risk countries to take every step to ensure that they would recognise and mitigate risks. Ahtutu would therefore not accept any of the following where the donation:
- Was known to be associated with criminal sources and/or illegal activity
  - Would help further a donor’s personal objectives, which conflict with those of Ahtutu
  - Would lead to a possible decline in support for Ahtutu, and so risk a fall in the resources available to fund its work or damage its longer term fundraising prospects
  - Would otherwise impact adversely on Ahtutu’s reputation
  - Is inconsistent with Government policy
8. Ahtutu will not knowingly purchase goods and/or services produced and delivered under conditions which involve any form of abuse or exploitation of third parties. Evidence of such abuse and exploitation includes:
- The use of child labour
  - The inhumane treatment of animals
  - Failure to pay employees a living wage

- Working hours are excessive
  - Evidence of any form of inhuman, unreasonable or discriminatory treatment of employees
9. Ahtutu expects suppliers to accept responsibility for labour and environmental conditions under which products are made and services are provided and to make written statement of intent regarding the company's policy.
  10. Ahtutu recognises that, in accepting funding from statutory bodies, it must consider the policy implications and obligations that might be tied to it and ensure that these do not contravene the aims of Ahtutu.
  11. Ahtutu can seek to raise funds from a series of charitable Trusts and Foundations, but recognises that, simply because these have been registered with the Charity Commission does not mean that they are ethical givers. Ahtutu therefore does not accept money from any charitable Trust if it is a requirement of grant receipt to advertise any company or organisation whose activities run contrary to Ahtutu's aims.
  12. Ahtutu will maintain accountability and open and honest relationships with all its partners, by regularly monitoring and evaluating its work.
  13. This policy is meant as a working guide for Ahtutu. Any final decisions will be governed by the Trustees. It is the duty of the Trustees to advise of any potential conflicts of interest with regards to funding or partnerships, and to act in the best interests of Ahtutu at all times.