Contents

Invitation to Participate 1
Chairperson’s Message 2
Our Strategy 3
Our Engagements 3
Chevron
Monsanto
Occidental Petroleum
OM Group
Bristol-Myers Squibb
New Issue Area: Water Sustainability
Featured Resources 10
Partner Profiles 10
Regis High School (New York)
Loyola University Chicago
Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility
Current Developments 12
Catholic Socially Responsible Investing Survey
UN Framework on Business and Human Rights
Corporate Complicity and Legal Accountability
Committee Contacts 14

NJCIR Mission

The National Jesuit Committee on Investment Responsibility advocates for corporate behavior consistent with Catholic social teaching, through dialogues with corporations, shareholder resolutions and proxy voting.
Jesuit connections make our work more fruitful (GC 35, D 6, n 29). Jesuit-sponsored institutions and colleagues can advocate for and influence corporate behavior for the common good in many ways. Below are some possibilities for collaborating.

- **Establish an advocacy portfolio that mirrors NJCIR’s.** This is the most practical and easiest way for parishes, universities, high schools, retreat centers and other Jesuit-affiliated institutions to express their Jesuit mission through shareholder advocacy. At any given time, no more than five stocks would be held in your advocacy portfolio. Establishing a separate advocacy portfolio has emerged as a best practice for Jesuit Treasurers and business managers of Jesuit institutions. Contact your provincial representative listed on page 14 for more information about this opportunity to support Jesuit shareholder advocacy.

- **Co-file on a shareholder resolution led by NJCIR.** A large number of co-filers demonstrates broad support for change in corporate policy. Co-filers are consulted and included regarding corporate dialogues and strategies to engage the company. Your NJCIR provincial representative can assist you with this straightforward process. See page 4 for an example of Jesuit institutions co-filing a resolution with NJCIR.

- **Vote your proxies.** Strong votes for shareholder resolutions are often the catalyst for dialogue and change in corporate policies and practices. Annually, the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility (ICCR) publishes helpful resources: *Proxy Voting Guide* gives an overview of socially responsible resolutions and guide to voting proxies, and the *Proxy Resolutions Book* contains the texts of shareholder proposals.

- **Influence Your Mutual Fund.** Encourage your mutual fund manager to vote your proxies according to ICCR guidelines. Mutual funds and other registered investment companies are required to make their proxy voting records available.

- **Stay informed.** Visit [www.njcir.org](http://www.njcir.org) to keep up to date on Jesuit advocacy priorities, the history of the Jesuits’ commitment to socially responsible investing, and current news items. The Jesuit Conference is a member of ICCR, [www.iccr.org](http://www.iccr.org), and recommends their website as another good source of information. ICCR is an organization of 275 faith-based investors that works to build a more just and sustainable world by integrating faith-based values into shareholder advocacy.

- **Contact your Jesuit Province Representative.** Your provincial representative can offer you more information on how to collaborate with NJCIR or to learn more about what is happening locally with Jesuit shareholder advocacy. Contact information is on page 14.

- **Pray.** Your prayers for NJCIR and for all those with whom we dialogue help to ensure that NJCIR engagements advance the service of faith and the promotion of justice.
Greetings,

Today’s challenging investment environment underscores the importance of making connections to invest for change. Indeed, relationships are essential to the National Jesuit Committee on Investment Responsibility’s mission to advocate for corporate behavior consistent with Catholic social teaching through dialogues with corporations, shareholder resolutions and proxy voting.

For Jesuits, faith-informed socially responsible investment (SRI) is a work of structural justice (GC 35, D 3, n 28). NJCIR maximizes its efforts by staying focused, united and well coordinated to engage five companies in two issue areas at a time. This past year, we ended our work on Global Health and added Water Sustainability as a new area of focus.

Success in shareholder advocacy requires the many connections that NJCIR is fortunate to have. Interwoven throughout this report you will find features on:

- Jesuit-sponsored institutions that hold advocacy portfolios that mirror NJCIR’s and co-file on our resolutions;
- Investor colleagues from the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility (ICCR);
- Subject matter experts whose guidance provides additional knowledge and skills to effectively communicate our perspectives with corporations;
- Social research centers, like the Center for Social and Corporate Responsibility in Nigeria, Center for Research and Popular Education in Colombia, and the Center for Social Action in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, that provide reliable information about the social, economic, and environmental impacts of corporations in their host communities.

NJCIR is grateful to our many colleagues throughout the world, including those mentioned above, for their contributions to creating a more “humane business culture” (GC 35, D 3, n 28).

A special note of gratitude goes to the Missouri and California Provinces for hosting NJCIR meetings this year and to the New Orleans Province for hosting the ICCR Annual Meeting at Loyola University New Orleans. We are thankful also for the leadership of the Provincials whose wisdom guides our work.

As you read our annual report, I hope you discern how you or your institution can connect with NJCIR to invest for change.

Faithfully,

Carrie A. F. Nantais, Chairperson
July 31, 2009
Feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola
NJCIR promotes social change in corporate practices through shareholder engagement. In light of Jesuit apostolic preferences, the NJCIR identifies social and economic justice priorities and collaborates with other religious institutional investors to advocate for corporate social responsibility. We strive to support internationally recognized norms for community and economic sustainability, environmental justice and human rights, and we present the fiduciary case that Catholic social teaching principles (such as respect for human life, environmental stewardship, sustainable development, rights of workers and communities) best serve the interest of all stakeholders and therefore preserve shareholder value. NJCIR respectfully engages selected companies on issues in which we have proficiency, interest and capacity.

Faith-informed socially responsible investment (SRI) is a work of structural justice. The NJCIR seeks to increase the participation, prayerful solidarity and awareness of SRI at Jesuit-sponsored institutions and among our friends and public. As active shareholders, the NJCIR expresses to corporations the concerns and experiences of Jesuits and religious communities who witness the social impacts of multinational corporations both here and abroad.

1 General Congregation 35, D 3, n 28

Our Engagements

Chevron Corporation (NYSE: CVX)
Resolution to Adopt a Human Rights Policy

This year over 339 million shares voted for the Wisconsin Province led shareholder resolution for Chevron to adopt and implement a comprehensive, transparent and verifiable human rights policy. Accounting for 29.10% of the votes cast, this marks the fourth consecutive year of increasing vote percentages.

Two prominent independent shareholder advisory services, RiskMetrics and Proxy Governance, again recommended voting for this resolution. Proxy Governance said, “the overall implementation, transparency and breadth” of Chevron’s practices continue to raise concern. Their report also noted that several of the Company’s peers “have responded to stakeholders concerns for greater transparency and accountability by providing information on the company’s implementation programs, including the use of human rights impact assessments, compliance tools, and other mechanisms. In
contrast, Chevron shareholders continue to have little visibility into precisely how the company seeks to translate a largely aspirational set of commitments to specific standards and goals for the corporation.”

Thomas Neitzke, SJ, of the Wisconsin Province, in his opening statement at the Annual Meeting, declared that “In the realm of human rights, shareholder value will be rewarded by corporate transparency rather than concealment, by measurable procedures rather than idealized language, and by thorough management protections to avoid human rights infringements rather than scrambling PR campaigns to counter negative publicity.”

The October 2008 dialogue benefited from the expertise of Professor Michelle Leighton, a specialist in international human rights law and environmental issues and Director of Human Rights Programs at the Center for Law and Global Justice at the University of San Francisco’s School of Law. She introduced a new guidance document from the International Commission of Jurists on Corporate Complicity & Legal Accountability (see page 13 for more information on this report).

Short of a human rights policy, there have been measurable outcomes during NJCIR’s engagement with the Company, including: a computer-based employee training on human rights, a statement of support for human rights now included in the Business Conduct and Ethics Code, new environmental social health impact assessments, a revised system for community engagement in the Niger Delta and Chevron’s participation in industry-wide efforts for increased revenue transparency. Additionally, NJCIR brokered a meeting between the Center for Social and Corporate Responsibility in Nigeria and Chevron’s Manager for Global 2009 Co-filers of the Chevron Resolution

“NJCIR finds hope from the increasing interest and participation of Jesuit institutions, international provinces and other religious institutional investors with the number of filers increasing from 30 last year to 36 in 2009. The ICCR 2009 Proxy Voting Guide acknowledged the size and breadth of support for this resolution,” reported John Sealey, NJCIR representative for the Wisconsin Province.  

Wisconsin Province of the Society of Jesus (lead filer)  
California Province of the Society of Jesus  
Chicago Province of the Society of Jesus  
Detroit Province of the Society of Jesus  
Maryland Province of the Society of Jesus  
Missouri Province of the Society of Jesus  
New England Province of the Society of Jesus  
New Orleans Province of the Society of Jesus  
New York Province of the Society of Jesus  
Jesuits in English Canada Province  
China Province of the Society of Jesus  
Creighton University  
Loyola University Chicago  
University of Detroit Mercy  
University of San Francisco  
Marquette University High School  
Congregation of Benedictine Sisters, Boerne, TX  
Benedictine Sisters of Fort Smith – St. Scholastica Monastery  
Benedictine Sisters of Perpetual Adoration  
Benedictine Sisters of Virginia  
Benedictine Sisters of Mount St. Scholastica  
Catholic Health East  
Christus Health  
Congregation of the Divine Providence  
Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Cross  
Convent Academy of the Incarnate Word  
Emerald Assurance  
Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate  
Providence Trust  
School Sisters of Notre Dame Cooperative Investment Fund  
School Sisters of Notre Dame of St. Louis  
Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary, US Ontario Province  
Sisters of the Holy Spirit and Mary Immaculate  
Sisters of Mercy of the Americas  
Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia  
Sisters of St. Joseph, Philadelphia
Issues and Policy in June 2009. This allowed the Center to present their proposals to reduce the negative impacts of Chevron Nigeria’s oil exploration on Niger Delta communities.

NJCIR has stayed with this dialogue for five years because human rights in the extractive sector closely correspond to the Society’s stated apostolic concerns for Africa and indigenous people. A fuller human rights policy would simultaneously serve Chevron’s long-term interest to be a partner of choice and also improve the livelihood of host communities in areas of economic, environmental and social development. Moreover, stronger human rights protections by Chevron, the third largest U.S. corporation, would encourage other extractive companies to enhance their efforts.

Monsanto Company (NYSE: MON)
Dialogue on Implementing and Monitoring Human Rights Policy

The Jesuits of the Missouri Province have led this engagement since its inception in 2004. Eradicating child labor in India has been the focus of this engagement since the Company adopted its Human Rights Policy in April 2006, a result of dialogues with NJCIR.

On U.N. World Day Against Child Labor, June 12, 2009, Monsanto and other multinational seed producers announced a new initiative to eliminate child labor that explicitly recognizes the right of children to an education. Toward this end, the Company acknowledged the need to build the capacity of partners in the supply chain if those partners are to operate without engaging in exploitive child labor practices.

Sean Agniel, representing the Missouri Province, led the NJCIR dialogue in October 2008. He commended the Company on the early implementation of their human rights policy in its India supply chain operations. The human rights portion of the Company’s website has been redesigned to allow easier access to information such as the Employee Human Rights Guidebook.

Following the dialogue, ICCR investors were invited to take the computer-based Employee Human Rights Training and offer feedback to improve this first level of instruction as well as ideas for a more advanced version.

Monsanto acknowledges the need for the Human Rights Policy to evolve. In addition to extending the implementation of the human rights policy beyond India, a major focus of this engagement will be working with the Company as their policy is amended and adapted.
Occidental Petroleum Corporation (NYSE: OXY)
Dialogue on Implementing and Monitoring Human Rights Policy

When Occidental adopted its human rights policy on December 7, 2004, it became one of the first extractive industry companies to do so. Led by the California Province, NJCIR initiated this effort with the Company in response to concerns raised from Jesuits in Colombia about the use of armed security guarding Occidental operations there.

Oxy has strengthened the integration of human rights within its operations by transferring its management from a staff person to an operations manager. Additionally, the Company integrated its corporate responsibility report into the overall management report for the first time at its Annual Meeting on May 1, 2009, as a sign that human rights and corporate responsibility are core operating criteria for the Company.

However, with Oxy’s human rights policy now over four years old, NJCIR is proposing updates to incorporate more recent developments. Mark Potter, representing the California Province, reports: “Shareholders identified six areas for closer scrutiny including the impact on the policy of emerging norms of obligations of corporations to respect human rights; evolving definitions of complicity, spheres of influence, and zones of legal risks; and, protections for indigenous populations.”

A comprehensive review of the Company’s sustainability reporting was a significant part of the March 2009 dialogue. NJCIR is grateful to Gabriela Arbulu of ICCR for preparing the 41 page report. Oxy has asked for another meeting to review the document so that it can guide changes for their next Sustainability Report.

An important connection for NJCIR with this engagement is the Jesuit-run Center for Research and Popular Education (CINEP), one of Colombia’s best-known social research centers. For many years, CINEP has closely monitored Colombia’s conflict and political violence.

Prior to our March dialogue, CINEP assured NJCIR that Occidental’s operations did not currently raise concerns. However, NJCIR introduced CINEP’s report indicating an increasing paramilitary presence in Occidental’s oil producing areas and the rising tensions erupting within the communities. Oxy’s legal counsel in Colombia agreed to meet with CINEP to discuss this matter.

Profile

Robert W. Benson, Human Rights Attorney

Loyola Law School (Los Angeles) Professor, Emeritus, Robert Benson advises NJCIR on the Oxy Human Rights engagement. He joined the Loyola faculty in 1973 and has offered pro bono legal advice to a variety of environmental and human rights organizations. Professor Benson was the founder of Loyola’s Summer Program in Central America.


2009 NJCIR Annual Report
OM Group (NYSE: OMG)
Engagement on Promoting Human Rights

OM Group is a global company with products that reach into people’s everyday lives. Indeed, this specialty chemical company’s products are a small but essential element in many electronic products, inks and tires.

Making connections to invest for change was the motto and strategy to engage this Company over the past year. Led by the Detroit Province, NJCIR reached out to several people of influence within the Cleveland community to introduce the Company to the merits of shareholder dialogue. NJCIR’s objective is to work with the Company to develop a human rights policy that would include mitigating the safety risks of small scale miners around its cobalt smelter in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

OM Group came to our attention due to safety concerns of artisanal miners around the company’s processing plant in Lubumbashi, a place in which many Jesuits study and are engaged in the local community. This dangerous practice has occasionally resulted in injury and even death of young children. We question how this can be construed as a responsible business practice.

Jesuits in the DRC are aware of the challenges for businesses operating in our country. The Center for Social Action, our social research center, has been part of the contract review process with the opportunity to evaluate the fairness of mining deals and their benefit to the people of our country. We also offer guidance on how multinationals can honor their social license to operate in our host communities that supply the material for all of us to benefit.

On behalf of the people of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, I ask that you work with your investors who understand what is required for companies to respect human rights.


The OM Group’s CEO addressed Fr. Kafarhire’s remarks (above) during the Q&A session. He said that the Company had initiated meetings with federal government officials in Washington, DC about their concerns related to the Company’s Congo operations and their concern about China in the region.
In her remarks at the annual meeting, NJCIR’s Detroit Province Representative Carrie Nantais spoke of the urgency of recent developments that highlight the need for action by the Company. Congress is considering legislation to increase awareness of conflict minerals from the DRC and to push companies to rid their supply chains of them. Also, more institutional investors are introducing criteria to determine whether companies meet human rights standards. This increased investor scrutiny and pending legislation are evidence that public and legal expectations of business to respect human rights standards are rising.

Bristol-Myers Squibb Company (NYSE: BMY)
Concluding the Dialogue on the Right to Access to Medicine (HIV/AIDS)

In support of the Jesuit apostolic priority for Africa, NJCIR engaged pharmaceutical company Bristol-Myers Squibb (BMS) on the issue of affordable access to HIV/AIDS medicines. Led by the Detroit Province and later the New York Province, NJCIR successfully concluded this dialogue with BMS in September 2008.

Over the course of the engagement, NJCIR led five dialogues with the Company that focused on developing a sustainable business model rather than relying on philanthropic initiatives to supply medicines to Africa. Issues related to research and development of fixed dose combinations and pediatric formulations, licensing (easing intellectual property restrictions), and pricing (differential strategies for poor and emerging markets) were prominent topics.

BMS responded favorably to shareholders’ positions and NJCIR concluded that a Jesuit presence was no longer required to keep this constructive engagement moving forward. Particularly noteworthy was communication with the chair of the Board’s Science and Technology Committee, Dr. Laurie Glimcher of Harvard Medical School, which led to further progress in the Company’s performance such as the establishment of a Pediatric Drug Development Committee to better coordinate the company’s R&D efforts. This exchange was reported on favorably in RiskMetrics Group’s February 2009 Issue Report, Board-Shareholder Dialogue: Why They’re Talking (see box above).

Another accomplishment was the contribution of NJCIR’s former consultant, Sr. Doris Gormley, SFCC, to a comprehensive survey of the pharmaceutical industry’s response to the HIV/AIDS crises that resulted in the 88-page publication Benchmarking AIDS: Evaluating Pharmaceutical Company
Responses to the Public Health Crisis in Emerging Markets. Published by the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility, the report has contributed significantly to developing metrics for the industry on access to medicines and reporting to a common standard.

NJCIR acknowledges the impressive support of ICCR colleagues, including 21 co-filers for the resolution in both 2004 and 2005. Seventeen representatives of institutional religious investors and investment company allies attended the final dialogue led by Mark Hallinan, SJ, in September 2008. Attending from the Company were several leading research scientists as well as key policy staff. Jon Fuller, MD, SJ, a medical clinician who treats AIDS patients in Boston, advised NJCIR in preparing for the meeting.

Water Sustainability

At its Fall meeting in 2008, NJCIR voted to end the formal engagement with Bristol-Myers Squibb which also then concluded NJCIR’s focus on Global Health. In keeping with NJCIR’s guidelines to focus on two issues, Water Sustainability was chosen as the next area of focus. This continues NJCIR’s concern for global issues. Promoting Human Rights remains the other focus area.

Communities, businesses and ecosystems throughout the world depend on clean freshwater to survive and prosper. Yet, as global demand for freshwater continues to grow, rising population and increased usage are causing many water sources to show signs of stress. The United Nations warns that in the coming decades over half of the world will live in water scarce regions. Freshwater accessibility, quality, and affordability are critical problems that require faithful engagement to find solutions to the global crisis of water sustainability.

In announcing this new focus on water sustainability, then-Chair of NJCIR Mark Hallinan, SJ, explained, “In many places on our planet, clean water is a scarce resource. NJCIR will encourage corporate water stewardship by calling for limits on the overuse and pollution of water. Our engagement of this issue reflects Jesuit priorities and is rooted in Catholic social teaching on the environment.” The New Orleans Province will be the lead on this engagement and expects to announce the company by fall of 2009.
Featured Resources

Resources on Responsible Investing Across Asset Classes

The Institute for Responsible Investment, a project of the Boston College Center for Corporate Citizenship, has published two helpful resources: *Handbook on Responsible Investing Across Asset Classes* and *Handbook for Climate-Related Investing Across Asset Classes*. Treasurers and investment committees are certain to find of interest the guidance for cash, equities, fixed income, real estate, hedge funds, and emerging markets. Both can be downloaded free.

Partner Profiles

Regis High School (New York) Establishes Advocacy Portfolio

Investment performance is important to Regis High School. Founded in 1914 by an anonymous benefactor, this Jesuit school in New York City is unique in offering a tuition free Jesuit college preparatory education to young men from the metropolitan area. Students come from a wide range of socio-economic backgrounds and over 40% are the sons of immigrants.

Mark Hallinan, SJ, NJCIR representative for the New York Province, addressed the presidents and board chairs of the province’s high schools on the work of NJCIR and presented the fiduciary case that Catholic social teaching principles (such as respect for human life, environmental stewardship, sustainable development, rights of workers and communities) best serve the interests of all stakeholders and therefore preserve shareholder value. Noting the ease with which individual schools can support NJCIR, Regis High School became the first Jesuit-affiliated institution in the New York Province to establish a separate advocacy portfolio with stocks for the five companies that NJCIR is currently engaging. Two other Jesuit-sponsored institutions, Marquette University High School and Rockhurst University, also announced this year that they have also established advocacy portfolios in concert with NJCIR.

"We encourage the Society’s government at all levels to explore means by which more effective networking might take place among all apostolic works associated with the Society of Jesus."

*(GC 35, D 6, n 29)*

Committing to an advocacy portfolio typically means that the institution will invest at least $2,000 in each of the five companies that NJCIR engages. After holding the stock for one year, the institution can co-file with NJCIR on a resolution should that become necessary. Contact your NJCIR representative for more information.
Loyola University Chicago’s Commitment to SRI Stands Out

Over the past two years, the Loyola University Chicago Shareholder Advocacy Committee (SAC) has created quite a presence on campus. They have done so by conducting a campus-wide survey on socially responsible investing that generated over 800 responses; sponsoring two major SRI conferences on campus, both of which drew multiple attendees from out of state; and supporting the NJCIR engagements by co-filing on the Chevron human rights resolution and holding OM Group stock.

The University’s Trustees established the SAC in 2007 in response to students and other members of the University community who expressed concern about the role of the University’s investments in creating financial and social value. The SAC is composed equally of students, faculty and administrators to ensure a balanced representation of the University community. To learn more about their work and organization, visit www.luc.edu/sac.

ICCR Meets at Loyola University New Orleans

Laura Berry, Executive Director of the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility, and Mary Baudouin, NJCIR Representative for the New Orleans Province, at Loyola University New Orleans. The campus was the site for ICCR’s Annual Meeting, June 1-5, 2009. ICCR connects NJCIR to hundreds of other socially conscious institutional investors who are “People of Faith, Committed to Action.” Announced at the Annual Meeting was the launch of “The Arc of Change: The ICCR Story,” a new year-long series of monthly podcasts featuring the voices of members who made history by pioneering the practice of shareholder activism. The podcasts can be heard at http://podcast.iccr.org. Photo by Julie Wokaty / ICCR.
Christian Brothers Investment Services Announces Results of New Catholic SRI Survey

Christian Brothers Investment Services, the leading U.S. investment manager exclusively serving Catholic institutions, conducted a 2008 Socially Responsible Investing Survey of more than 1,000 clients worldwide.

The survey found that 85% of Catholic institutional investors believe active ownership has a positive impact on corporations.

The survey showed the top issues of concern were:

- Human trafficking
- Abortion
- Companies that support governments engaged in genocide or terrorism
- Environmental justice
- Sweatshops/contract supplier standards
- Access to water and responsible use of water
- Military weapons contractors
- Global warming/climate change
- Production of pornography
- Pharmaceutical prices/universal access to healthcare

"...there is also increasing awareness of the need for greater social responsibility on the part of business. Even if the ethical considerations that currently inform debate on the social responsibility of the corporate world are not all acceptable from the perspective of the Church’s social doctrine, there is nevertheless a growing conviction that business management cannot concern itself only with the interests of the proprietors, but must also assume responsibility for all the other stakeholders who contribute to the life of the business: the workers, the clients, the suppliers of various elements of production, the community of reference."

Pope Benedict XVI, Caritas in Veritate (n. 40), 2009.

The Pope’s first social encyclical, Charity in Truth, deals with the moral meaning of economic life and places ethics and concern for the poor at the center of the new global economy.

UN Proposes New Framework to Manage Business and Human Rights Challenges

In 2005, John Ruggie of Harvard University’s John F. Kennedy School of Government was appointed as the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Business and Human Rights to clarify the role and responsibilities of business with regard to human rights. He reports to the United Nations Human Rights Council (HRC), an inter-governmental body within the UN system made up of 47 States responsible for strengthening the promotion and protection of human rights around the globe.

After extensive consultations with business, governments and civil society on five continents, the Special Representative proposed a policy framework for managing business and human rights challenges in June 2008. It is based on three pillars: (1) the state duty to protect against human rights abuses by
third parties, including business; (2) the corporate responsibility to respect human rights; and (3) greater access to remedy, judicial and non-judicial, for victims. The UN HRC unanimously welcomed the framework, and extended Ruggie’s mandate by three years to provide practical recommendations and concrete guidance to states, businesses and other stakeholders on implementing the policy framework of “protect, respect, and remedy.”

The responsibility of corporations to respect human rights means that companies must act with due diligence to avoid infringing on the rights of others. In addition to complying with national laws, the corporate responsibility to respect human rights is the baseline expectation of all companies in all situations.

Promoting human rights is the focus of NJCIR engagements with Chevron, Monsanto, Occidental Petroleum and OM Group.

Up-to-date information on the intersections of business and human rights, including documents relating to Ruggie’s work, can be found on www.business-humanrights.org.

Corporate Complicity and Legal Accountability for Human Rights Abuses

Communications advances in documenting human rights abuses in an increasingly interconnected world have also led to calls for increased accountability for multinational corporations. The International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) convened an Expert Legal Panel on Corporate Complicity in International Crimes to develop the legal and public policy meaning of corporate complicity in the worst violations of international human rights and humanitarian law.

In September 2008, the ICJ Panel released three volumes on *Corporate Complicity & Legal Accountability*. The Panel describes the conduct that a prudent company should avoid if it is to ensure that it as a legal entity and/or its individual representatives do not risk being held legally responsible in civil or criminal law when they are complicit in gross human rights abuses committed by others. It
defines a “zone of legal risk” for companies beyond strict legal standards to include moral culpability that may be attached to company behavior. The report establishes direction to avoid complicity by conduct that enables, exacerbates or facilitates abuses committed by others especially in supply chains and formal business partnerships. This guidance is especially critical for multinational corporations that operate in regions where the rule of law and enforcement mechanisms are weak.