



April 1, 2009

For immediate release

SIO joins with sustainable and responsible finance bodies across the world to demand green action from world leaders attending the G20 summit

The Social Investment Organization, the Canadian association for socially responsible investment, has joined with its sister organizations across the globe to send a message to world leaders meeting in London tomorrow to address the global financial and economic crisis.

In its statement, *Transforming global capital markets*, the six-strong network of global sustainable and responsible finance organizations says:

“The current economic crisis affords a unique opportunity and imperative to transition to a low-carbon, resource efficient and socially sustainable economy.

“As the umbrella organizations for the sustainable and responsible finance industry worldwide, we call on world leaders to respond to this challenge by incorporating sustainability and social responsibility measures into both the economic stimulus packages for short-term recovery and the longer-term reform of the credit and investment markets.”

The statement outlines the measures proposed. These include (a) financial instruments and incentives to building the green economy using private investment alongside direct government support and (b) financial reform measures to require greater transparency and facilitate responsible ownership.

“We encourage Prime Minister Stephen Harper to support these measures at the G20,” said Eugene Ellmen, Executive Director of the Social Investment Organization in Canada. “We also urge him to rethink Canada’s own economic stimulus package and the re-regulation of financial services to address some of the long-term issues that helped to create the current financial crisis.”

A complete version of the statement is available on the website of the Social Investment Organization at <http://www.socialinvestment.ca/documents/Globalstatement.pdf>.

For more information, Eugene Ellmen
Executive Director, Social Investment Organization
416-461-6042 ext. 111
ellmen@socialinvestment.ca

The Social Investment Organization is a national membership-based organization that includes financial institutions, investment firms, financial advisors and various organizations and individuals interested in socially responsible investing. The SIO has more than 150 corporate and advisor members, and serves a network of more than 500 staff and directors of member organizations. The SIO's mandate is to promote the practice of socially responsible investment in Canada.

Additional resources for the media are available at:
<http://www.socialinvestment.ca/media.htm>

About the signing organizations

Asia: www.asria.org

Australasia: www.responsibleinvestment.org

Canada www.socialinvestment.ca

Europe : www.eurosif.org

UK www.uksif.org

USA www.socialinvest.org