



**Press release
12 November 2008
For immediate release**

CCLA Signs Global Policy Statement on Climate Change

12 November 2008: A global consortium of investor groups, including the Institutional Investors' Group on Climate Change (IIGCC), of which CCLA is a member, has this week issued a stark warning about climate change to world leaders.

In advance of the forthcoming UN climate change summit in Poznan next month, 130 leading global investors, including CCLA, representing assets worth \$6.4 trillion, have told world leaders that any global agreement must be strong and binding to ensure the necessary financing for global emissions reduction and adaption initiatives. They also warned that the financial crisis should not slow down efforts to address global rising temperatures.

Says Helen Wildsmith, CCLA's Head of Ethical and Responsible Investment :
"CCLA's recent client survey confirmed that climate change is as much a priority for our clients as it is for all the long-term investors who have signed this policy statement. World leaders have a critical role to play in 2009 in ensuring a smooth transition to a functioning low carbon economy, and reducing this major systemic risk to investment portfolios."

The release of the statement coincides with Helen's appointment as Non-Executive Director of the UK Social Investment Forum (UKSIF), where she was Executive Director from 2002 to 2005.

Established in 1991, UKSIF is the membership network for sustainable and responsible financial services. It promotes investment that supports sustainable economic development, enhances quality of life, and safeguards the environment, as well as working to ensure that institutional and individual investors can reflect their values in their investments. It currently has 200+ members and affiliates.

Comments Helen Wildsmith: "I'm looking forward to working with an important organisation that I greatly admire, and one that sits at the very heart of promoting responsible financial services. The current financial crisis has raised serious questions around the issue of ethical financial practice, so it's an exciting time to be involved."

Says CCLA Chief Executive Michael Quicke: "Helen's experience in the world of responsible investment is key to strengthening CCLA's position as a leading responsible and ethical investment company. Her appointment to the UKSIF board, and our engagement with initiatives that promote responsible corporate behaviour, focusing on systemic issues like climate change, mean that we will be on the frontline of important issues that really matter to our clients."

Ends

1. The Investor Statement on a Global Agreement on Climate Change can be found at www.iigcc.org
2. Further information about UKSIF can be found at www.uksif.org
3. CCLA is an independent company owned by its charity, faith group and local authority clients. It provides the widest range of common funds designed specifically for the charity market and has more charity funds under management than any other UK investment manager. CCLA is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority.
4. CCLA's Ethical & Responsible Investment Team is:
 - Helen Wildsmith, Head of Ethical & Responsible Investment
 - Neville White, Manager of Governance & Ethical Investment, and Secretary to the Church Investors Group
 - Line Oquab, Responsible Investment & Financial Analyst

5. Helen started her career at the NatWest Group in 1990. She has a first class degree in Management Science and a masters degree in Voluntary Sector Organisation from the London School of Economics.