

POLICY TITLE	CONFLICT OF INTEREST
DATE APPROVED	31 OCTOBER 2018
IMPLEMENTATION DATE	01 NOVEMBER 2018
REVIEW DATE	

1. INTRODUCTION

This Conflict of Interest policy is designed to assist a Responsible Person in identifying situations that could present potential conflicts of interest and to provide UMEDA with a procedure which, if observed, will allow a transaction to be treated as valid and binding even though a Responsible Person has or may have a conflict of interest with respect to the said transaction.

This policy is intended to comply with the procedures prescribed in the Companies Act 75, 2008, as amended as well as any other act or law gazetted to or to be gazetted that deals with ethical behaviour of Responsible Persons in Public and/or Private Enterprises and/or Entities.

2. DEFINITIONS OF TERMINOLOGY

- "UMEDA"** UMGungundlovu Economic Development Agency and all companies/agencies established or still to be established under the Agency;
- "Conflict of Interest"** Any circumstance described in paragraph 3 and 4 of the policy;
- "Responsible Person"** Any person serving as an Officer or member of the Board of Directors of UMEDA and any employee who has full, designated and/or delegated authority to commit UMEDA irrespective of their level of employment with UMEDA;
- "Family Member"** A spouse, domestic partner, parent, child or spouse of a child, brother, sister, or spouse of a brother or sister, of a Responsible Person;
- "Material Financial Interest"** A financial interest of any kind, which, in view of all the circumstances, is substantial enough that it would, or reasonably could, affect a Responsible Person's or /Family Member's judgement with respect to transactions to which the entity is a party. This includes all forms of compensation; and
- "Contract or Transaction"** Any agreement and/or relationship, involving the sale of or purchase of goods, services or rights of any kind, the providing or receipt of a loan or grant and the establishment of any other type of financial relationship.

3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DEFINED

3.1 Definition

3.1.1 A potential conflict could arise whenever the Responsible Person has an interest in, or connection with, an organisation with which UMEDA transacted or might transact business (or with individuals associated with such an organisation) or has an interest in an unrelated business that does not necessarily transacted or intend transacting business with UMEDA, and where that interest is of such a nature that it might influence the independent judgement of the Responsible Person or detract the Reasonable Person from devoting his/her full time efforts during business hours towards the business of UMEDA.

3.1.2 It should be understood that the conflicting interest referred to throughout this policy may be direct or indirect (the interest might be that of the Responsible Person, that of another person such as a relative or friend of the Responsible Person, or that of an organisation in which the Responsible Person or such other person has an interest).

3.1.3 It is not possible to enumerate all situations which could constitute a conflict. The facts of each situation will determine whether the interest in question is such as to bring it within the area of potential conflict.

3.1.4 Such facts would include the amount of business involved, the extent to which the Responsible Person could influence UMEDA's decisions with respect to the transaction, and whether the interest is of such a nature that it might affect the objectivity or the business judgement of the Responsible Person.

3.1.5 In determining whether a conflict is involved, there is no substitute for sound judgement based upon the particular facts involved in each case.

3.2 Types of transactions in which conflicts may arise

3.2.1 Common types of transactions where a Conflict of Interest may arise include, for example, the selection and use of consultants or other professional advisors, the selection or supervision of contractors, suppliers, or vendors, the sale of products, the purchase of materials, supplies and equipment, the investment and borrowing of funds and an interest in a business unrelated to the business of UMEDA.

3.2.2 Compensation arrangements and employment contracts directly affecting the Responsible Person involve obvious conflicts. In addition, when an opportunity, commonly referred to as a "corporate opportunity" to acquire property or to seize some financial or business advantage comes to the attention of a Responsible Person or as a result of his/her relationship to UMEDA in a way that would permit its personal realization, and is relevant to UMEDA's present or prospective purposes or goals, the Responsible Person must first present the opportunity to UMEDA.

3.2.3 Only after an informed evaluation and determination by a disinterested majority of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of UMEDA that UMEDA should not pursue such corporate opportunity, should the Responsible Person be allowed to pursue

the matter for his/her own account or for the benefit of others. For purposes of this policy, the following circumstances shall be deemed to create Conflicts of Interest:

3.3 Outside interests

3.3.1 A Contract or Transaction between UMEDA and a Responsible Person or /family Member of the Responsible Person.

3.9.2 A Contract or Transaction between UMEDA and an entity in which a Responsible Person or family Member has a Material Financial Interest or of which such person is a Director, Officer, agent, partner, associate, trustee, personal representative, receiver, guardian, custodian, conservator or other legal representative.

3.9.3 A Responsible Person having an interest in a business, even though that business is unrelated to the business of UMEDA and such business does not necessarily transact business with UMEDA.

3.4 Outside activities

3.4.1 A Responsible Person competing with UMEDA in the rendering of services or in any other Contract or Transaction with a third party.

3.4.2 A Responsible Person having a Material Financial Interest in or serving as a director, Officer, employee, agent, partner, associate, trustee, personal representative, receiver, guardian, custodian, conservator or other legal representative of, or consultant to an entity or individual that competes with UMEDA in the provision of services or in any other Contract or Transaction with a third party.

3.5 Gifts, gratuities and entertainment

3.5.1 A Responsible Person or a Family Member may not accept from a third party any gift to the value of more than R2 000 or any other similar benefit where the gift or benefit results out of the course of the Responsible Person's duties towards or relationship with UMEDA.

3.5.2 Gifts of cash or cash equivalents from a third party to a Responsible Person of any amount are not permitted.

3.5.3 If a Responsible Person is offered any cash or gift to the value of more than R2 000 or similar benefit from a third party, he/she should immediately report it to his/her direct supervisor or the Managing Director or Board of Directors for approval following the line of protocol applicable to him/her.

3.5.4 The giving or receipt of common courtesies, occasional meals or reasonable entertainment appropriate to the business relationship and associated with business discussions are regarded as consistent with sound business practice. Unusual items, however, must be reviewed and approved in advance by the Board of Directors. (Refer to clause 3.5.6 below)

3.5.5 A Responsible Person may not accept gifts, entertainment or other favours from any individual or entity that:

3.5.5.1 does or is seeking to do business with, or is a competitor of UMEDA; or

3.5.5.2 has received, is receiving or is seeking to secure any financial commitments from UMEDA; under circumstances where it might be inferred that such action was intended to influence or possibly would influence the Responsible Person in the performance of his/her duties.

3.5.6 Acceptable gifts and entertainment generally fall into the following categories:

- Occasional meals of reasonable expense with a business partner
- Ordinary sports, theatre and other cultural events of a nominal value
- Other gifts of nominal value or reasonable entertainment.

3.5.7 An offer, gift, entertainment or anything of value may not be accepted or given if it is:

- Illegal or would result in a violation of law
- Cash or a cash equivalent (such as gift certificates, loans, stock, or stock options)
- A '*quid pro quo*' or part of an agreement requiring anything in return for the gift
- Sexually oriented, or otherwise violates UMEDA's commitment to mutual respect
- In violation of UMEDA's standards or the standards of the recipient's organisation.

Gifts, gratuities or entertainment to government officials may never be offered or provided without prior written approval of the Board of Directors.

3.6 Loans

No loans shall be made by UMEDA to any of its Officers or Directors or their Family Members as defined herein.

4. PROCEDURES

4.1 Prior to Board or committee action on a Contract or Transaction (whether directly or indirectly) involving a Conflict of Interest, a Director or committee member having a Conflict of Interest must, before the meeting of the Board at which the question of confirming or entering into the contract or transaction is first taken into consideration, disclose all facts material to the Conflict of Interest.

4.2 The Chairperson shall report the disclosure at the meeting and the disclosure shall be reflected in the minutes of the meeting.

4.3 Each Director present at the meeting must state in writing that he/she has read the declaration provided by the Director having the Conflict of Interest.

4.4 If for any reason it is not possible for the Director to make any such declaration at or before a particular meeting of the Board, he/she may make it at the first meeting of Directors held thereafter at which it is possible for him/her to do so and shall in that event state the reason in writing why it was not possible to make the disclosure at such particular meeting.

4.5 A Director or committee member who plans not to attend a meeting at which he/she has reason to believe that the Board or committee will act on a matter in which the person has a Conflict of Interest, shall disclose to the chair of the meeting all facts material to the Conflict of Interest. The chair shall report the disclosure at the meeting and the disclosure shall be reflected in the minutes of the meeting.

4.6 A person who has a Conflict of Interest shall not participate in or be permitted to hear the Board's or committee's discussion of the matter except to disclose material facts and to respond to questions. Such person shall not attempt to exert his or her personal influence with respect to the matter, either at or outside the meeting.

4.7 A person who has a Conflict of Interest with respect to a Contract or Transaction that will be voted on at a meeting:

4.7.1 shall not be counted in determining the presence of a quorum for purposes of the vote;

4.7.2 may not vote on the Contract or Transaction;

4.7.3 and shall not be present in the meeting room when the matter is discussed and a vote is taken.

Such person's ineligibility to vote shall be reflected in the minutes of the meeting. For purposes of this paragraph, a member of the Board of Directors of UMEDA has a Conflict of Interest when he/she stands for election as an Officer or for re-election as a member of the Board of Directors.

4.8 Responsible Persons who are not members of the Board of Directors of UMEDA, or who have a Conflict of Interest with respect to a Contract or Transaction that is not the subject of Board or committee action, shall disclose to the chair or the chair's designee any Conflict of Interest that such Responsible Person has with respect to a Contract or Transaction. Such disclosure shall be made as soon as the Conflict of Interest becomes known to the Responsible Person. The Responsible Person shall refrain from any action that may affect UMEDA's participation in such Contract or Transaction.

4.9 In the event of it not being entirely clear that a Conflict of Interest exists, the Responsible Person with the potential conflict shall disclose the circumstances to the chair or the chair's designee, who shall determine whether there exists a Conflict of Interest that is subject to this policy.

5. CONFIDENTIALITY

Each Responsible Person shall exercise care not to disclose confidential information acquired in connection with such status or information, the disclosure of which might be adverse to the interests of UMEDA. Furthermore, a Responsible Person shall not disclose or use information relating to the business of UMEDA for the personal profit or advantage of the Responsible Person or a Family Member.

6. ACCEPTANCE OF POLICY

Each new Responsible Person shall be required to review a copy of this policy and to acknowledge in writing that he/she has reviewed the policy, understands the content and agrees to be bound by it.

7. ANNUAL DISCLOSURE

7.1 Each Responsible Person shall at least annually, or as determined by UMEDA, and as and when changes occur, complete a declaration form (as issued and amended by UMEDA from time to time) identifying any relationships, positions or circumstances in which the Responsible Person is involved that he/she believes could contribute to or result in a Conflict of Interest.


7.2 Such relationships, positions or circumstances might include service as a director of or consultant to an outside company, ownership of a business that might provide goods or services to UMEDA or an interest in an unrelated business that does not necessarily transact business with UMEDA.

7.3 Any such information regarding the business interests of a Responsible Person or a Family Member shall be treated as confidential and shall generally be made available only to the Chairman of the Board, the Chief Executive Officer, and any committee appointed to address Conflicts of Interest, except to the extent that additional disclosure is necessary in connection with the implementation of this policy.

8. REVIEW OF POLICY

This policy shall be reviewed at least annually by the Board of Directors.

9. APPROVAL

NAME	SIGNATURE	DESIGNATION	DATE
MR. C. NGIDI		CHAIRPERSON: BOARD	31 October 2018