ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION ORGANISATIONS OF NZ INC.



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Membership Application Information

Thank you for your interest in joining ECO. As you may know, we are the national alliance of 45+ organisations concerned with the environment. In recent years one of our main focuses has been the resource management, Climate Change and the marine environment. ECO is a leading force in the campaign for reform of marine environmental management from the present system, which is dominated by extractive interests, to an ecosystem-based approach.

If you would like to apply for membership, we need the following information from you which will be put to the Executive Committee for verification - we ask this of all applicant groups to ensure a congruence of aims. We need from you:

- 1. Completed 'Member Information' form;
- 2. Details about your policies towards the environment and conservation;
- 3. Copies of your most recent publications; and
- 4. A copy of your constitution
- 5. A cheque for your annual membership subscription (see next page for subscription rates) or bank payment in anticipation of ECO's acceptance of membership.

The collective importance of ECO

ECO writes submissions, co-ordinates campaigns, shares information, educates and empowers local groups. We publicise issues of concern to keep people informed. We maintain links between organisations and with statutory and non-statutory bodies and government agencies. We attend meeting with Ministry for the Environment, Climate Commission, Department of Conservation, , Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and Ministry of Primary Industry . ECO can raise member groups' concerns at these meetings if you keep us informed of these.

ECO maintains links with international networks, including IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature), Antarctic and Southern Ocean Coalition (ASOC), Deep Sea Conservation Coalition (DSCC), High Seas Alliance (HSA) and Climate Action Network (CAN).

From time to time, ECO arranges conferences or regional meetings on particular issues for feedback on ECO policy and to promote input by local groups. In January 2011, ECO held two workshops on Communicating Biodiversity and Climate Change, in conjunction with the IUCN Commission on Education and Communication. ECO has run summer gatherings and webinars and on-line meetings to engage on particular issues and develop policies. More recently, ECO has called out the fishing oligarchs' stifling in New Zealand of moves for marine protected areas, ecosystem-based management, the precautionary approach, the norms of environmental and resource management and the exclusion of the public from decision making. ECO has called out the lack of ecosystem-based management, the losses of marine biodiversity, the fishing industry-inspired fake protected areas, the depletion of fish and ecosystems, the harms from destructive fishing methods and more.

Fishing rules, research, and institutions have evolved with little public attention but much fishing industry pressure. ECO has worked hard since the 1980s to make visible and counter these problems and to propose solutions. It is now coming close to completing 50years.

As well as representing ECO member groups in New Zealand, ECO has a supporting role disseminating information on things like fund-raising and legal protections (e.g. incorporation). ECO has an environment resource centre which has information that may not be available on line.

Membership Benefits

Member bodies receive Tieke newsletter and are welcome to submit articles and share information through Tieke. Members also receive topical documents, email alerts, submission guides and other information.

Submissions are prepared on behalf of ECO by members of the Executive Committee and others on the following: bills before Parliament; reviews of legislation; draft management plans, and much more. Member bodies can receive copies of these and may endorse them or disclaim them if they wish.

An annual conference and Annual General Meeting is arranged for our member bodies and interested individuals every year. ECO also arranges workshops, gatherings and coalitions.

We believe that we can help to make organisations with a concern for the environment more linked to each other and more influential.

The basic requirements for membership, as set out in ECO's constitution, are as follows: organisations at national, regional, or local level (a) which are committed wholly, or partly, to work in various aspects of environment and conservation; and (b) whose aims and policy are in sympathy with those of ECO. The law requires the bodies applying to join us to be incorporated.

Applying for Membership

Membership Subscription Rates and voting structure

The rates are based on the size of the organisation:

 $\begin{array}{ll} 1 - 100 \text{ members} & = $60 \text{ (GST inclusive)} = 1 \text{ vote} \\ 100 - 1000 \text{ members} & = $120 \text{ (GST inclusive)} = 2 \text{ votes} \\ 1000 - 4999 \text{ members} & = $400 \text{ (GST inclusive)} = 3 \text{ votes} \\ 5000 + \text{ members} & = $1000 \text{ (GST inclusive)} = 4 \text{ votes} \\ \end{array}$

ECO's bank account details if paying by direct credit:

ECO Inc: ANZ, Courtenay Place branch | 06-0582-0007690-00

ECO's funding is reliant on donations, subscriptions from members and individual supporters ('Friends of ECO'), and one-off grants for specific projects. Funding is always a struggle, so help from members to encourage support is welcomed, both for new member organisations and for individual supporters (non-members) who are Friends of ECO.

ECO Executive Committee

The ECO Executive Committee is elected by member organisations at the AGM. The Executive Committee normally meets monthly. Online meetings and email ensure the executive have national

representation. Representatives of member bodies are welcome to apply to attend all or part of our committee meetings, or to ask for issues to be discussed at them.

We look forward to working with you.

With warmregards Nga Mihi

Barry Weeber Co-Chairperson

Environment and Conservation Organisations of NZInc.