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ACTIVE INVESTOR SOCIAL UPDATE
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Dear Friend,

In 2006 Boston Common is pursuing a number of corporate research and advocacy initiatives of interest to our clients. As detailed below, these initiatives touch on consumer product safety, climate change, human rights, the HIV/AIDS pandemic, and other issues. In March, we also began voting proxy ballots in earnest. Through the ballot we express our clients' views on topics such as the importance of diversity on a corporation's Board of Directors and the desire for greater transparency in reporting with regard to issues such as environmental liability. As always, we welcome your feedback and participation.

Warm Regards,

Lauren Compere, CAO and Dir. of Shareholder Advocacy
Steven Heim, Director of Social Research
Dawn Wolfe, Research and Advocacy Analyst

Human Rights

In March, Boston Common hosted a talk with Bo Kyi, a student leader at Rangoon University during the 1988 pro-democracy uprising in **Burma**. Bo Kyi helped organize nationwide demonstrations against the ruling military junta in Burma and suffered torture while serving seven years as a prisoner of conscience. Today over 1,400 political prisoners in Burma are serving similar sentences. In 2000, Bo Kyi established the Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (www.aappb.org), which provides information and supports for prisoners and their families. The export of jewels, specifically rubies and jade, is a significant source of revenue for Burma's military regime. In 2005, **Tiffany's** pledged to not sell rubies from Burma and banned products mined in Burma. Boston Common is leading an initiative to ask other retailers including **Costco**, **Target**, and **Wal-Mart** to establish similar policies on Burmese gems.

Shareholder Advocacy Updates

Company	Issue Area	Update
ABN AMRO	Sustainability efforts	Expanded dialogue on sustainability and microfinance in lending
Apache	Climate change	New disclosure on programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions
BP	Local impact of Indonesian pipeline	Attended independent advisory meeting on Tangguh pipeline project
Burlington Resources	Indigenous rights in Ecuador and Peru	Dialogue with ConocoPhillips, which acquired Burlington Resources
Chevron	Pollution of Amazon water supply	Shareholder proponents won challenge at the SEC*
Cisco	Congressional hearing	Submitted congressional testimony on role of US tech firms in China
Costco, Target, Wal-Mart	Sale of gems mined by forced laborers	Requested companies affirm policy against Burmese gem purchases
CVS	Toxicity of product ingredients	Won SEC challenge and resolution is going to shareholder vote
Dean Foods	Sourcing of organic milk	Withdrew shareholder proposal at SEC to protect right to re-file
Dell Computer	Workplace HIV/AIDS programs	Met with Dell to discuss improvements to China and India programs
GlaxoSmithKline	Provision of HIV/AIDS medications	Promoting availability of HIV medications to developing world children
NEC, Ricoh, Peers	Labor standards of suppliers	Supporting survey of electronics firms about labor standards of suppliers
Marriott	Child slavery	Discussed task force on child exploitation in the travel industry
Microsoft	Policy on content censorship in China	In dialogue regarding the company's new policy on blog content in China
Progress Energy	Climate change	Published first climate risk report in response to shareholder proposal
Sony	Labor standards at plants in Mexico	Management responded to third inquiry on workplace safety

*Boston Common is a co-proponent of the proposal

Boston Common has reported on these initiatives in greater detail in the current and prior publications of the Active Investor Update. This update table highlights recently achieved progress on these efforts. Additional information on a number of these initiatives can be located on our website (www.bostoncommonasset.com).

Boston Common has engaged **Microsoft** in dialogue on content censorship under repressive regimes. This dialogue continues our advocacy focused on the intersection of **human rights and technology** and our ongoing related work with **Cisco Systems**. Microsoft currently offers instant messaging, Hotmail, and MSN Spaces, a tool for creating online web logs known as ‘blogs’, inside of **China**. Chinese authorities have requested the company censure titles related to topics such as “Tibet Independence” from its services. Boston Common has discussed concerns with Microsoft over the company’s agreement to meet demands by Chinese authorities that violate the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In February Boston Common had the opportunity to participate in **Congressional hearings** in Washington on the role of U.S. technology companies operating in China. Our testimony, now part of the Congressional Record, is available on our website.

Boston Common helped organize a data gathering survey sent to over one dozen electronics companies regarding labor rights and environmental standards. The survey requests details from companies including **NEC, Hitachi, Ricoh, ST-Microelectronics, ASML Holdings, EMC, Applied Materials, and Texas Instruments**. This survey builds on work Boston Common started last year to expand shareholder engagement by the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility with non-U.S. companies.

Environment

In February, Boston Common led a shareholder meeting with **Dean Foods** in New York City in which we raised concerns about its **sourcing of organic milk** from large “factory farms” for its **Horizon Organic** brand. The press release about our shareholder proposal and Dean’s SEC challenge spurred discussion in the U.S. co-op natural foods network and was covered in natural foods and dairy trade journals. Boston Common withdrew the proposal to protect our right to re-file if Dean Foods is unresponsive to our concerns.

On March 27th, **Progress Energy**, the 10th largest electricity producer in the U.S., released a report detailing its views and response to **global climate change**. The report is the result of nearly 18 months of dialogue during which Boston Common, on behalf of its client the Brethren Benefit Trust, encouraged Progress to endorse national action on climate change, publish a scenario analysis of its electricity production based on possible future carbon prices, and expand support for generation from renewable sources. The report will be an important tool for those who wish to evaluate the company’s ability to produce electricity in a carbon-constrained economy.

Apache Corporation recently published on its website information about its **programs to address climate change**. This new disclosure includes a statement from its CEO that Apache is concerned that “the emission of greenhouse gases (GHG) is leading to changes in global climate.” This is significant be-

cause Apache initially challenged Boston Common’s shareholder proposal on climate change.

Boston Common participated in the fourth annual briefing of the Tangguh Independent Advisory Panel in April. The group was established in February of 2002 to advise **BP** in its response to the **economic, political and social challenges posed by its liquefied natural gas pipeline project in Papua, Indonesia**. The project is entering its most challenging phase, with the influx of more than 5,000 temporary workers as construction begins. Earlier this quarter, Boston Common led a dialogue with BP on how it is addressing project challenges and establishment of a formal grievance process.

Indigenous Rights

In January, Boston Common questioned **Burlington Resources** about its community relations program in **Ecuador**. We recently learned of a **violent outbreak between supporters and opponents of oil development** in the region where Burlington has sought to explore for oil since 2000. This quarter, our shareholder group turned its attention to **ConocoPhillips**, a company that wants to be known as a sustainability leader. At the end of March, ConocoPhillips completed its acquisition of Burlington Resources.

Human Health

Each day, 1,900 children are infected with HIV. By reducing mother-to-child transmission through birth and breast-feeding, as many as 630,000 children a year could avoid infection. In March, Lauren Compere attended a reception at the **White House** hosted by Laura Bush convened to announce a new public-private partnership for **pediatric HIV/AIDS treatment**. This partnership includes federal agencies under The President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, a five year \$15 billion initiative. The Mothers-to-Mothers-to-Be-Program in **Cape Town, South Africa** is supported by this initiative and was honored at the reception for its provision of counseling and treatment to mothers. **GlaxoSmithKline**, one of the primary manufacturers of potentially life saving antiretroviral HIV drugs, is participating in this initiative. Boston Common will continue its multi-year dialogue with Glaxo on pediatric treatment at our May meeting.

Boston Common is leading a dialogue with **Dell Computer** to help develop the company’s **HIV/AIDS workplace program** for its direct employees, contractors, and suppliers. Implementation at its **India** and **China** operations will be especially critical given the company’s growing investment in those regions, those countries’ rising prevalence rates, and the lack of local infrastructure and political will to address the problem. Dell’s workforce in India is currently over 10,000, and could grow to over 15,000 in the coming years.