<Name of Member>

<Member number>

**Date**

To the Chief Investment Officer ,

Request for data on <SUPER\_FUND> to establish alignment with Responsible Investing Charter

My name is <Name of Member>. I am a dedicated member of <SUPER\_FUND> and over the duration of my membership, I have encouraged colleagues, friends, and family to also establish and/or commute their superannuation balances to this fund. I have done this not just because it is a quality fund, with solid investment principles, reasonable fees, and a good track record - but more so due to its alignment with my core ethical standards. This is the basis of this letter of request.

One of <SUPER\_FUND> core investment beliefs is to be "...aware of our responsibility to the broader community" . ESG factors quoted on the <SUPER\_FUND> website include "Modern Slavery ", "Human rights", "labour supply chain", "Workforce" (which includes fair pay, health and safety, wellbeing), "Diversity and equal opportunity". As an individual, I am mostly aligned to these core values.

The specific focus of this correspondence is pertinent to investments made by <SUPER\_FUND> in Israel and related corporations/entities/etc. This is the most well documented conflict zones in contemporary times worldwide. The behaviour of Israel clearly breaches each of the ESG factors quoted on the <SUPER\_FUND> website - with certainty. The evidence of such is documented in the most recent conflict and through decades of United Nations resolutions, legal actions in various international courts and most importantly by the respected contemporary human rights organisations operating internationally. I have referred to some of the recent evidence as a sample of the overwhelming credence to the position that investments in this jurisdiction, or corporations supportive of this jurisdiction are in breach of your core investment charter.

This is not a transient matter, and the focus is on the long-term alignment of the principles that <SUPER\_FUND> promotes with its past, present, and future investment placements.

 **Contemporary Evidence**

 *Human Right Watch (*[*www.hrw.org*](http://www.hrw.org)*)*

Human rights watch is an international non-governmental organisation, headquartered in New York, that conduct research and advocacy on human rights. They have recently noted that Israeli authorities have committed crimes of apartheid and persecution.

*B'Tselem (btselem.org)*

B'Tselem is a Jerusalem-based non-profit organisation whose stated goals are to document human rights violations in the Israeli-occupied Palestinian territories. Even they have noted that Israel is an apartheid state from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea -

<https://www.btselem.org/publications/fulltext/202101_this_is_apartheid>

 *Amnesty International (*[*www.amnesty.org*](http://www.amnesty.org)*)*

Amnesty International is an international non-governmental organization with its headquarters in the United Kingdom focused on human rights. They sight "institutionalised discrimination against Palestinians living under its rule", "Forcible transfers, forced evictions and demolitions of residential and livelihood structures", "Discrimination", "Unlawful killings and excessive use of force", "illegal air, land and sea blockade of the Gaza strip ... and restricting freedom of movement", "arbitrary detention without charge or trial", "unfair trials", "torture and other ill-treatment" and a "range of measures including raids, incitement campaigns and harassment to target human rights defenders" -

<https://www.amnesty.org/en/countries/middle-east-and-north-africa/israel-and-occupied-palestinian-territories/report-israel-and-occupied-palestinian-territories/>

In respect to the most recent conflict, Amnesty International’s Secretary General Agnès Callamar said, “The Israeli authorities must immediately restore Gaza’s electricity supply and suspend the increased restrictions imposed as a result of the Minister of Defence’s order of 9 October 2023 and lift its illegal 16-year blockade on the Gaza Strip. The collective punishment of Gaza’s civilian population amounts to a war crime – it is cruel and inhumane. As the occupying power, Israel has a clear obligation under international law to ensure the basic needs of Gaza’s civilian population are met.”

The blackout in the Gaza Strip has cast the region into darkness, deepening an ongoing humanitarian crisis. The power outages are set to have a profound impact on crucial services, hindering access to clean water and precipitating a public health emergency. This crisis will leave Gaza's already strained hospitals without the essential medical equipment they need, especially when healthcare workers are grappling with treating thousands of individuals severely injured in Israeli attacks. Furthermore, it poses a grave threat to the lives of hospital patients, encompassing those with chronic illnesses and those in critical care, including newborns reliant on life support.

On 9 October 2023, Israel’s defence minister Yoav Gallant stated, “We are imposing a complete siege on Gaza. There will be no electricity, no food, no water, no fuel. Everything will be closed. We are fighting human animals and we act accordingly”. This is an explicit confirmation that these acts have been taken to punish civilians collectively amounting to human rights abuse, a war crime and in breach of international law.

 **My initial request from you**

Pertinent to where my funds as a member are placed, to what degree/extent are <SUPER\_FUND> funds invested in:

- Israeli domiciled companies,

- listed companies that are listed on developed market exchanges which are headquartered in Israel,

- listed companies that generate over 50% of their revenue from Israel

- unlisted investments (such as private equity) in companies which are domiciled in Israel,

- debt instruments which lend to companies which are domiciled in Israel, and

- companies that supply military and security equipment to Israel (see [www.stoparmingisrael.org](http://www.stoparmingisrael.org) )

 **My follow-on request from you**

If <SUPER\_FUND> indeed invests in Israel and/or via related pathways (as listed above) please explain with specific detail as how such a position has been justified to date by your external investment managers, internal investment management team and/or the investment committee, given the obvious contradiction with the <SUPER\_FUND> stated responsible investment / ESG principles.

Your prompt and thorough response is sincerely appreciated.

Kind Regards,

<Name of Member>

Signature