

**Both Ends (Netherlands) — Center for International Environmental Law (U.S.A.)  
— Corner House (United Kingdom) — Environmental Defense (U.S.A.) — Eyes on  
SACE (Italy) — Finnish ECA Reform Campaign (Finland) — Friends of the Earth  
(Belgium) — Friends of the Earth (U.S.A.) — Les Amis de la Terre (France) —  
NGO Working Group on EDC/Halifax Initiative (Canada) — Pacific Environment  
(U.S.A.) — Projecto ECA Iberia / Euronatura (Portugal) — Proyecto Gato  
(Belgium) — Urgewald (Germany) — World Economy Environment and  
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Ms. Birgitta Nygren, Chair  
Working Party on Export Credits and Credit Guarantees  
Ms. Janet West, Head  
Export Credits Division  
OECD  
2 Rue Andre Pascal  
F-75775 Paris Cedex 16, France

Via Fax : 0033 1 44 30 61 58

March 08, 2004

Dear Ms. Nygren and Ms. West,

We are writing to inquire whether the upcoming meeting of the Export Credit Group (ECG) on April 19--22, 2004 will include discussions of the implementation of the December 18, 2003 OECD Recommendation on Common Approaches on Environment and Officially Supported Export Credits. We understand that on March 8 and 9 ECA environmental practitioners will meet to discuss the implementation of the Recommendation. Following the March practitioner's meeting, we believe that it would be both timely and critical for the Recommendation's ongoing and planned implementation to be examined in consultation with representatives of civil society at the semi-annual ECG meeting in April.

Given the recent statement of the Chair of the OECD ECG, that the Recommendation "will lead all ECG members to apply more robust environmental guidelines,"<sup>1</sup> and of the OECD that there is an expectation that Members "will do their utmost to fully implement" the Recommendation<sup>2</sup>, we would expect that discussion, exchange of information, and timely action to implement the recommendation should be a high priority for the ECG. We also would like to point out that given the recent statements of the OECD that "the agreement is expected to increase transparency in government export credit agencies' environment review processes and so to contribute to a better coherence in public policies in the context of sustainable development and good governance,"<sup>3</sup> we believe it is imperative that representatives of civil society and NGOs be able to participate and exchange views at the meetings where implementation by Members of the Recommendation is discussed.

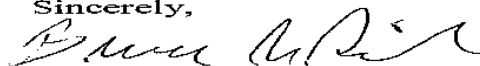
<sup>1</sup> OECD Press Release, December 18, 2003.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

Thank you very much for your attention to these concerns,

Sincerely,



Bruce Rich  
Environmental Defense

On Behalf of:

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