



## IMPARTIALITY POLICY

GICG understands the importance of and is committed to impartiality in providing its services. GICG manages any conflict of interest to ensure objectivity of its management system certification activities by obliging but not limited to the following:

- 1.** GICG will not market or offer the Services as being linked with the activities of an organization that provides management system consultancy. GICG will take action to correct inappropriate claims by any consultancy organization stating or implying that certification would be simpler, easier, faster, or less expensive if GICG's Services are used. GICG will not state or imply that certification would be simpler, easier, faster or less expensive if a specified consultancy organization is used.
- 2.** When selecting resource for audit, GICG ensures each individual (including permanent employees, subcontractors and consultants) is free from any interests that might cause them to act in other than an impartial or nondiscriminatory manner. Individuals are obligated to disclose all real or potential conflicts of interest at the time the conflict becomes evident, and to disclose any existing or envisaged link between themselves and the organization to be audited.
- 3.** GICG grants the certification based on its independent review of the audit findings and conclusions and any other relevant information provided by the audit team after the audit; and ensures the decision-making activities will not affect the objectivity or impartiality of the delivered certification and assessment services.
- 4.** GICG identifies, documents, assesses, and takes action as appropriate to mitigate or eliminate risks to impartiality on an ongoing basis. GICG will take action to address any risks to its impartiality arising from the actions of other persons, bodies or organizations of which it becomes aware.
- 5.** GICG establishes an Independent Certification Board (ICB) to advise on matters affecting confidence in certification processes and to review the impartiality of audit, certification and decision-making processes of GICG; and acts as a counterbalance to any tendency for commercial, or other aspects to prevent objective provision of certification services.