



13<sup>th</sup> July 2020

The Rt. Honourable Boris Johnson MP  
Prime Minister  
Office of the Prime Minister  
10 Downing Street  
London  
SW1A 2AA

Dear Prime Minister,

At the end of January this year, we wrote to you along with over 50 of our members, regarding our deep concerns about the prospect of a merger between DFID and the FCO based on anxiety about what this could mean for the UK's leading role in eradicating poverty and tackling climate change in the world's poorest countries. On 16 June, you announced that this merger would indeed be taking place. There has since been widespread opposition to the merger in the international development community because of the feared implications for those who live in extreme poverty.

Scotland's International Development Alliance (the Alliance) represents a broad range of Scottish based actors engaged in global development activity across over 100 countries. These actors include international NGOs, faith-based organisations, companies, universities, charitable trusts and individuals.

Alliance members and supporters now unanimously propose 4 key commitments the new department must make in order to ensure that enhanced policy coherence in UK foreign policy resulting from the merger maximises impact on poverty eradication in the world's poorest countries.

The four commitments are:

**1. Commitment to poverty eradication and aid effectiveness**

This means: continued 0.7% GNI allocated to ODA that has poverty eradication as its primary purpose; adherence to OECD Development Assistance Committee rules, compliance with existing UK provisions under the International Development Acts and never a return to 'tied aid'.

**2. Commitment to accountability, transparency and scrutiny**

This means: retention of a cabinet level Minister accountable for International Development to Parliament; supporting MPs to retain a Select Committee in the House of Commons with responsibility for scrutinising ODA spending and activity across Government separate to the existing Foreign Affairs Committee

**3. Commitment to the UN Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change**

This means: All UK ODA needs to be aligned to the Paris Agreement on climate change and deliver on the UN Sustainable Development Goals including support for domestic achievement of target SDG 4.7 through funded Global Citizenship Education programmes.

**4. Commitment to safeguarding DFID's expertise**

This means: ensuring DFID's technical expertise is embedded within the new department and the development leadership within it should have representation at the highest level on the National Security Council.

Above all, this merger must not result in the UK's national interest skewing the development policy agenda. Will you and your Government make these commitments?

Yours sincerely,

127 representatives from across civil society, academia, faith groups and businesses

(see names overleaf)

*Scotland for a fairer world.*

Scotland's International Development Alliance

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Ancor Armas Martin, Environmental Scientist, **Aberdeen Climate Action**  
Dr Abigail Betney, Trustee, **Aberdeen for a Fairer World**  
Paula Merchant, Coordinator, **Aberdeen for a Fairer World**  
Prof Geraldine McNeill, Trustee, **Aberdeen for a Fairer World**  
Barbara Holligan, FT development /Member Pioneer, **Aberdeen for a Fairer World/Coop Group**  
Ahashan Habib, Centre Manager, **Aberdeen Multicultural Centre SCIO**  
Robert Anderson, Director, **African Lakes Company Limited**  
Scott McCready, Director of Outreach & Engagement, **Alliance for Water Stewardship**  
Paul Goldfinch, Treasurer & Trustee, **ASHI (Assoc of Serving the Humanity International)**  
Deirdre Allison, General Manager, **Bana Tandizo Foundation**  
Alan J Laverock, Overseas Dev, **Bananabox**  
Helen Hughes, Trustee, **Bethesda Khankho International**  
Geoffrey Care, Trustee/Secretary, **Bressay Outreach**  
Pat Bryden, Retired teacher trainer, **Britain Zimbabwe Society**  
Ian Robinson, Operations Director UK, **Cairdeas International Palliative Care Trust**  
Mhoira Leng, Medical Director, **Cairdeas International Palliative Care Trust**  
Benjamin Carey FTS, Managing Director, **Carey Tourism**  
Dr Duncan MacLaren KCSG, ex-Secretary General, **Caritas Internationalis**  
Kirsty Smith, CEO, **CBM UK**  
Archie Hinchliffe, Executive Director, **Cerebral Palsy Africa**  
Neil Walker, Manager, **Challenges Group**  
Dr M Mozammel Huq, Chair, **Charity Education International (CEI)**  
Robbie Macmillan, CEO, **Children of Rwanda**  
Michael Beresford, Director, **Christian Engineers in Development**  
Amy Blake, CEO, **Classrooms for Malawi**  
Chris Drew, Partnerships Coordinator, **CREATIVenergie**  
Esther Chaney, Program Coordinator, **CREATIVenergie**  
Steve Sloan, Chair, **DignifEye**  
Liza Hollingshead, Director International Projects, **Ecologia Youth Trust**  
Felicity Harwood, Teacher Trainer, **Edinburgh College / VSO supporter**  
Dr. Miles Weaver, Associate Professor, **Edinburgh Napier University**  
Cathy Crawford, **Edinburgh Results UK Group**  
Antonia McGrath, Co-Founder and Director, **educate.**  
Dr. Cathy Ratcliff, Acting CEO, **EMMS International**  
Diana McMicking, Director, **Firefly International**  
Bridget Innes, Trustee / Medical Advisor, **Friends of Chitambo**  
Jo Vallis, Chair, **Friends of Chitambo SCIO**  
Professor Sandy Halliday, Director, **Gaia Group Ltd**  
Michael Mikulewicz, Research Fellow, **Glasgow Caledonian University**  
Dr Carolin Schumacher, CEO, **Global Alliance for Livestock Veterinary Medicines**  
Prof. Paul Hare, Emeritus Prof. of Economics, **Heriot-Watt University**  
Catriona Willis, Coordinator, **Highland One World Global Learning Centre (DEC Inverness)**  
Dr Mohamed Ashmawey, CEO, **Human Appeal UK**  
Lason Kaley, Executive Director/co founder, **Ibenga Area Gender Association**  
Simon Anderson, Senior Research Fellow, **IIED and Chair of Board of Trustees at Scotland's International Development Alliance**  
Mark O'Donnell, Director, **Inclusive Development Consulting Ltd**  
Roger Sapsford, Retired Professor of Social Psychology and Research Methods, **Independent researcher**  
Dr. Rebecca Horn, Senior Research Fellow, **Institute for Global Health and Development, Queen Margaret University**  
Professor Sophie Witter, Professor of International Health Financing and Health Systems, **Institute for Global Health and Development, Queen Margaret University**  
Mark Booker, Exec member, **International Development Education Association of Scotland (IDEAS)**  
Brian O Toole, Justice Contact., **International Presentation Association**  
Janis Keast, Secretary, **Inverness Fairtrade Group**  
Right Rev. William Nolan, President, **Justice and Peace Scotland**  
Fiona Macpherson, Director, **Kilcheran**  
Adil Iqbal, Sustainable Facilitator, **Kilcheran**  
Betsy King, Development Manager, **Learning for Sustainability Scotland**  
Evie Murray, CEO, **Leith Community Crops in Pots**  
Fiona Greig, CEO, **Link Community Development International**  
Sarah Bainbridge, School Teacher, **Local Authority**  
Nigel Harper, CEO, **LUV+ (Leprosy at Utale Village PLUS)**  
Rosemary Mackenzie, CEO, **Mellow Parenting**

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Hannah Clyne, Co-Founder, **Mlali Community Trust**  
Malcolm Dickson, Managing Director, **Monea Limited**  
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Carol Morton, Former Director, **Palcrafts (UK)**  
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Right Rev Ian Paton, Bishop of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane, **Scottish Episcopal Church**  
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Rt Revd Dr John Armes, Bishop of Edinburgh, **Scottish Episcopal Church**  
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Martin Rhodes, Chief Executive, **Scottish Fair Trade Forum**  
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Jamie Morrison, CEO, **Signpost International**  
Victoria Milne, Trustee, **Smileawi**  
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Graeme McMeekin, Director, **Tearfund Scotland**  
Caroline Wylie, Director, **The Challenges Group and Challenges Worldwide**  
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Emma Duncan, Director and Project Manager, **The Global Concerns Trust**  
Scott Preston, Trustee, **The John John Trust**  
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Susan Dalgety, Columnist, **The Scotsman**  
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