

## The Conservative Manifesto 2010

### International Development Excerpts from Conservative Party Manifesto

[http://media.conservatives.s3.amazonaws.com/manifesto/cpmanifesto2010\\_lowres.pdf](http://media.conservatives.s3.amazonaws.com/manifesto/cpmanifesto2010_lowres.pdf)

#### One World Conservatism (p117)

*We will honour our commitment to spend 0.7 per cent of national income in aid, and ensure our aid is transparent and properly targeted. We will spend at least £500 million a year to tackle malaria. Both the British people and those who receive aid will get more control over how it is spent. We will push for a trade deal which brings growth to the poorest countries, helps those countries adapt to climate change, and puts in place the building blocks of wealth creation.*

The global downturn has shaken up rich and poor countries alike. For poor countries, it threatens to undermine a decade's growth and poverty reduction. For rich countries, it puts new pressures on household and government budgets – nowhere more so than in the UK, where Labour's appalling mismanagement of the economy has saddled us with unprecedented levels of debt. But we should use this opportunity to reaffirm, not abandon, our values – which is why we will continue to increase the level of British aid. We will do so because it is in our national interest, as well as being the right thing to do.

#### Deliver on our commitment to the world's poorest nations

A new Conservative government will be fully committed to achieving, by 2013, the UN target of spending 0.7 per cent of national income as aid. We will stick to the rules laid down by the OECD about what spending counts as aid. We will legislate in the first session of a new Parliament to lock in this level of spending for every year from 2013.

We support the Millennium Development Goals and will continue to work towards them. We will maintain an independent Department for International Development (DFID) and keep aid untied from commercial interests.

We will be completely transparent about the cost and performance of DFID programmes by independently evaluating programmes and by introducing, where appropriate, payment by results.

Our bargain with taxpayers is this: in return for contributing your hard-earned money to helping the world's poorest people, it is our duty to spend every penny of aid effectively. We will ensure British aid money is properly spent by publishing full details of British aid on the DFID website. This will include spending data on a project-by-project basis, published in an open and standardised format so that it can be used by third party websites.

In addition, we will work to bring about improved transparency of aid spending by other development organisations.

We will create a new MyAid Fund to allow British people a direct say on aid spending, as well as giving people in developing countries more say over how aid is spent in their communities.

Under Labour, our aid funding is not used in a focused way, and is sometimes spent in countries that should be looking after their own poor citizens. So we will stop giving aid to China and Russia and review which other countries should get British aid. We will focus more on the poorest, paying particular attention to development within the Commonwealth.

A key aim of our aid is to make sure everyone gets access to the basics: clean water, sanitation, healthcare and education. We will focus particularly on the rights of women, children and disabled people to access these services. Malaria continues to kill nearly a million people per year, despite the fact that it is easily preventable and treatable. So, as part of our commitment to increase aid funding, a Conservative government will spend at least £500 million per year tackling malaria and will strongly support efforts to develop a malaria vaccine.

Trade and economic growth are the only sustainable way for developing countries to escape poverty, which is why we will put maximum effort into achieving an ambitious, pro-development global trade deal. Our aid programme will help poor countries put in place the building blocks of wealth creation: property rights, effective public services, stability and the rule of law.

We will provide a more integrated approach to post-conflict reconstruction where the British military is involved – building on the Stabilisation Unit in Whitehall and creating a new Stabilisation and Reconstruction Force to bridge the gap between the military and the reconstruction effort.

To help deliver on our commitment to developing countries, we will:

- establish a Poverty Impact Fund to support innovative and effective British poverty-fighting groups which do not currently qualify for government funding;
- explore ways to help the very poorest developing countries take part in international climate change negotiations, and work to make our aid 'climate-smart';
- end Labour's use of the Export Credit Guarantee Department to support investment in dirty fossil fuel power stations, and instead use it to help spread new green energy technology to developing countries; and,
- encourage the establishment of a Pan-African Free Trade Area, which has the potential to transform that continent's economies.

### **Create a more balanced economy** (p11)

We will work for the successful conclusion of the Doha trade round and support bilateral free trade negotiations between the European Union (EU) and other countries.

### **Reform Financial services** (p29)

We will put in place a levy on banks. We are prepared to act unilaterally if necessary, but there is emerging international agreement on this approach and the US and German governments have both announced similar plans.

### **Build a Greener Economy** (p31)

We will reduce carbon emissions in line with our international commitments.

A Conservative government will work towards an ambitious global deal that will limit

emissions and make available substantial financial resources for adaptation and mitigation.

As part of our commitment to move towards a low carbon future, we can confirm our aim of reducing carbon emissions by 80 per cent by 2050. In government, we will lead from the front by delivering a 10 per cent cut in central government emissions within twelve months and by working with local authorities and others to deliver emissions reductions.

We will tackle illegal logging by:

- pressing for financial support from within a reformed EU budget to be given to developing countries to halt deforestation;
- pressing for only legally-harvested timber and timber products to be made available on the market; and
- introducing a new criminal offence under UK law for the import and possession of illegal timber.

### **Promote productive and sustainable farming practices** (p96-97)

We will negotiate for further reform of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) to deliver greater value for money while supporting the sustainability of British farming. The new CAP should reflect the importance we attach to the environment, to ensuring food security and to tackling global poverty. We advocate the dismantling of market-distorting subsidies at a pace that allows time for British farmers and producers in developing countries to adapt.

### **Promote our enlightened national interest** (p109)

We will support humanitarian intervention when it is practical and necessary, while working with other countries to prevent conflict arising.

Promoting Britain's interests and values means developing and strengthening our alliances and promote our national interest reforming international institutions. To achieve these goals, we will: work to establish a new special relationship with India, the world's largest democracy; seek closer engagement with China while standing firm on human rights; elevate our relationships with many friendly nations, including in the Middle East, as well as North Africa, South Asia and Latin America;[ ]; support permanent seats on the United Nations Security Council for Japan, India, Germany, Brazil and African representation and strengthen the Commonwealth as a focus for promoting democratic values and development.

### **An open and democratic Europe** (p113)

European countries need to work together to boost global economic growth, fight global poverty, and combat global climate change.

The European Union has a crucial part to play in enabling the countries of Europe to meet these great challenges of the 21st century. A Conservative government will play an active and energetic role in the European Union to advance these causes.