



Society Building
8 All Saints Street
London
N1 9RL, UK
+44 (0)20 7837 8344
bond.org.uk

Rt Hon Elizabeth Truss MP

Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs
King Charles Street
London
SW1A 2AH
United Kingdom

22nd March 2022

Dear Foreign Secretary,

We are deeply concerned to hear the government intends to cut fundamental elements of UK aid – namely, funding for health, preventing and responding to conflict and tackling the climate emergency. The crisis in Ukraine is a humanitarian tragedy with significant geopolitical consequences, and the FCDO is right to respond. However, the significance of this crisis demonstrates the importance of having a bold and ambitious International Development Strategy that is poverty-focused, evidence and rights-based, and accountable to the British public and communities it is meant to serve.

The Government's own strategy states the UK's global reputation and influence is dependent on the "three Ds" of defence, diplomacy and development. It now risks undermining its own effectiveness by rowing back on development. It would be short-sighted to drop critical issues like global health, climate change and conflict prevention from the forthcoming International Development Strategy. It would also cost lives. These are areas where the UK has a strong track record of impact and significant expertise and this move will undermine the UK's ability to play our part globally in tackling urgent challenges, increasing security, and eradicating poverty. Supporting countries in times of crisis is critically important, but so too is investing in the development assistance that prevents these crises.

Looming famines in Afghanistan, Yemen, and the Horn of Africa – exacerbated by global food price hikes as a result of the crisis in Ukraine – and the devastation caused by Covid-19 and climate change should be a reminder of how intrinsically linked we all are, and that no-one is safe until we all are. Now more than ever, it is essential the UK's aid budget be spent in ways that maximise the UK's ability to respond to and prevent crises. Withdrawing funding from one crisis to pay for another simply displaces the problem and ultimately does not reduce the costs. The right decision would be to restore the UK's 0.7% GNI on Official Development Assistance (ODA) commitment.

Since 1974, the UK has committed to supporting people in times of crisis: providing vaccines and other health services to marginalised communities, investing in peacebuilding to prevent conflict and investing in communities so they can adapt to avoid the most devastating consequences of climate change. By honouring our promises to lower-income countries and communities, we demonstrate that we are a country that provides solutions and plays its part in the world. We cannot do that if we abandon development.

Yours sincerely,

Laura Kyrke Smith, Executive Director, International Rescue Committee (IRC) UK

Karl Hankinson, CEO, Able Child Africa

Josephien Rodgers, Executive Director, Access Agriculture

David Evans, UK Country Director, Ace Africa UK

Jean-Michel Grand, Executive Director, Action Against Hunger UK

Katie Hesselby, Network Manager, Action for Global Health Network

Othman Moqbel, CEO, Action For Humanity

Frances Longley, Chief Executive, ActionAid UK

Bert R Smit, CEO, ADRA-UK

Andrew Betts, Director, Advantage Africa

Chris Roles, Managing Director / CEO, Age International

Ian Govendir, CEO, Aids orphan uk Trust

Graeme Hodge, Chief Executive, All We Can & Y Care International

Tim Monger, CEO, Amigos Worldwide

Camilla Knox-Peebles, Chief Executive, Amref Health Africa UK

Alexandra Daniels, Chief Executive, APT Action on Poverty

Quinn McKew, Executive Director, ARTICLE 19

Dr Nicola Swan, Executive Director, BE REEL

Stephanie Draper, CEO, Bond

Danielle Morley, CEO, Bonsucro

Lewis Temple, Chief Executive Officer, BRAC UK

Elizabeth Winter, Executive Director, British and Irish Agencies Afghanistan Group

Zahid Torres-Rahman, Founder and CEO, Business Fights Poverty

Christine Allen, Director, CAFOD (Catholic Agency for Overseas Development)

Ru Hartwell, Director, Carbon Link

Laurie Lee, CEO, CARE International UK

Anil Patil, Executive Director, Carers Worldwide

Kirsty Smith, CEO, CBM UK/BasicNeeds

Anna-mai Andrews and Katie Fowler, Co-CEOs, Chance for Childhood

Caron Bradshaw OBE, Chief Executive, Charity Finance Group

Martina Gant, CEO, Child.org

Jill Healey, Executive Director, ChildHope UK

Patrick Watt, interim CEO, Christian Aid

Madeeha Ansari, Founder, Cities for Children

Catherine Pettengell, Director, Climate Action Network UK (CAN-UK)

Danny Harvey, Executive Director, Concern Worldwide UK

Jonathan Cohen, Executive Director, Conciliation Resources

Matthew Owen, Director, Cool Earth

Andy Pask, Chief Executive Officer, Cord

Gazala Shaikh, Director, Dalit Solidarity Network - UK

Ian Agnew, Director, Dark Woods Coffee Ltd

Harpinder Athwal Collacott, CEO, Development Initiatives

Matthew Lake, CEO, Dhaka Ahsania Mission

Debra Allcock Tyler, Chief Executive, Directory of Social Change

Keith Robertson, Manager, Disability Beyond Borders

Ellen Waters, Director of Development, Doctors of the World UK

Shane Tomlinson Acting, Chief Executive Officer, E3G - Third Generation Environmentalism

Sam Lawson, Director, Earthsight

Jess Camburn, CEO, Elrha

Tim Livesey, CEO, Embrace the Middle East

Mark Smith, Director, Enable-Ed

Petter Matthews, Executive Director, Engineers Against Poverty

Mary Rice, Executive Director, Environmental Investigation Agency

Steve Trent, CEO, Environmental Justice Foundation

Patricia Barnett, Director, Equality in Tourism International

Peter J McAllister, Executive Director, Ethical Trading Initiative

Gavin Crowden, Executive Director, Every Casualty Counts

Shanon Shah, Director, Faith for the Climate

Sandra Golding, CEO, Feed the Minds

Hannah Mowat, Campaigns Coordinator, Fern

Saul Billingsley, Executive Director, FIA Foundation

Rachel Lindley, CEO, Five Talents

Ian Johnson, CEO, Food for the Hungry UK

Prof. Gail Davey OBE, Director, Footwork, the International Podoconiosis Initiative

Winnie Ssanyu Sseruma, International Development consultant, Freelance Consultant

Christine Stegling, Executive Director, Frontline AIDS

Jessica Woodroffe, Director, Gender and Development Network

Dr Joel C. Gill, Executive Director, Geology for Global Development

Dr. Faith Mwangi-Powell, Chief Executive Officer, Girls Not Brides: The Global Partnership to End Child Marriage

Niki Mardas, Executive Director, Global Canopy

Marie Rumsby, UK Country Director, Global Citizen

Jenny Hodgson, Executive Director, Global Fund for Community Foundations

Sarah Hawkes and Kent Buse, Co-Directors, Global Health 50/50

Siobhan Walsh, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), GOAL

Hyejoung Yang, Director, Good Neighbours UK (GNUK)

Oliver Greenfield, Convenor, Green Economy Coalition

Doug Parr, Policy Director, Greenpeace UK

Tum Kazunga, CEO, Habitat for Humanity Great Britain

Naomi Burke-Shyne, Executive Director, Harm Reduction International

Martin Drewry, CEO, Health Poverty Action

Mark Waddington, CEO, Hope and Homes

Claire O'Shea, Head of Partnership, Hub Cymru Africa

George Graham, Chief Executive, Humanity & Inclusion UK

Adele Paterson, CEO, IHP

Parmi Dheensa, Executive Director, Include Me TOO

Professor Melissa Leach, Director, Institute of Development Studies

Jasmina Haynes, Chief Executive Officer, Integrity Action

Nic Hailey, Executive Director, International Alert

Marge Berer, Coordinator, International Campaign for Women's Right to Safe Abortion

Professor Julia Downing, Chief Executive, International Children's Palliative Care Network

Andrew Norton, Director, International Institute for Environment and Development

John Reynolds, CEO, International Nepsl Fellowship

John Young, Executive Director, International Network for Advancing Science and Policy

Dr Alvaro Bermejo, Director-General, International Planned Parenthood Federation

Brian Dalton, CEO, Irish in Britain

Waseem Ahmad, Chief Executive Officer, Islamic Relief Worldwide

Diarmaid McDonald, Lead Organiser, Just Treatment

Ciaran Maguire, CEO, Karuna Trust

Olivia Barker White, CEO, Kids Club Kampala

Laura Hucks, Director, King's Global Health Partnerships

Ruth Owen, CEO, Leonard Cheshire

Tom Kingsley, National Director, UK Light for the World

Samantha Ross, International Programme Director, Link Education International

Fiona Greig, CEO, Link Education International

Professor Claire Heffernan, Director, London International Development Centre

Ian Agnew, Chairperson, Lorna Young Foundation

Darren Cormack, CEO, MAG

Charles Nelson, Chief Executive, Malaria Consortium

James Whiting, Chief Executive, Malaria No More UK

Liz Hughes OBE, Chief Executive, MapAction

David Johnson, Chief Executive, Margaret Pyke Trust

Michael McKean, Interim Executive Director, Mercy Corps

Joshua Castellino, Executive Director, Minority Rights Group

Emma France, Global Development & Strategic Engagement Director, mothers2mothers

Simon Cooke, CEO, MSI Reproductive Choices

Irfan Khan, Director Humanitarian and International Partnerships, Muslim Hands

Matthew Hodson, Executive Director, NAM aidsmap

Melissa Green, General Secretary, National Federation of Women's Institutes

Charles Benjamin, Chief Executive Officer, Near East Foundation UK

Annabel Harris, CEO, Network for Africa

Fiona Gorton, Company Secretary, Resources and Finance Officer, Omega Research Foundation

Clare Kiely, Managing Director, On Our Radar

Romilly Greenhill, UK Director, ONE Campaign

James Harcourt, Managing Director, Options Consultancy Services

Rebecca Cronin, CEO, Orbis UK

Dhananjayan Sriskandarajah, Chief Executive of Oxfam GB, Oxfam Great Britain

Naomi Sosa, CEO, Papua Partners

Lois Quam, President and CEO, Pathfinder International

Dylan Mathews, Chief Executive, Peace Direct

Fleur Auzimour Just, Chief Executive Officer, Peaceful Change initiative

Billy Curryer, Director, PHASE Worldwide

Rose Caldwell, CEO, Plan International UK

Robin Maynard, Executive Director, Population Matters

Sarah Roberts, CEO, Practical Action

Julia Beart, CEO, Primary Care International (PCI)

Gary Forster, CEO, Publish What You Fund - the Global Campaign for Aid Transparency

Paul Parker, Recording Clerk, Quakers in Britain

Terina Keene, Group Chief Executive, Railway Children

Julian Olivier, CEO, Raleigh International

Ian Shapiro, CEO, Reall

Aaron Oxley, Executive Director, RESULTS UK

Charlotte Kennedy, Head of campaigns and communications, Robin Hood Tax

Ranee Thakar, Senior Vice President for Global Health, Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists

Robert Parker, Director of Policy Advocacy and Communications, Saferworld

Alice Welbourn, Founding Director, Salamander Trust

Gwen Hines, Chief Executive, Save the Children UK

Dr Wendy Harrison, CEO, SCI Foundation

David Hope-Jones OBE, Chief Executive, Scotland Malawi Partnership

Frances Guy, CEO, Scotland's international development alliance

Alistair Dutton, Director, Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund (SCIAF)

Elizabeth Nelson, UK Director, Search for Common Ground

Paul Stuart, CEO, Send a Cow

Celia Dignan, Interim Chair, Send My Friend to School, Send My Friend to School

Alison Marshall, Director, Sense International

Patricia Alexander, Managing Director, Shared Interest Society

Karin Nilsson, Lead, SheDecides Support Unit, SheDecides

Caroline Harper, Chief Executive, Sightsavers

Nicola Pulman, Director, Size of Wales

Alison Wallace, Chief Executive Officer, SOS Children's Villages UK

Frances Hill, Chair of the Board of Trustees, South West International Development Network

Calvin Laing, Executive Director, Stakeholder Democracy Network (SDN)

David Hillman, Director, Stamp Out Poverty

Christina Bennett, CEO, Start Network

Girish Menon, Chief Executive, STiR Education UK

Mike Podmore, Director, STOPAIDS

Tom Dannatt, CEO, Street Child

Katie Cowie, Policy and Advocacy Director, Students for Global Health UK

Fadhili Maghiya, CEO, Sub-Sahara Advisory Panel

Charlie Gamble, Chief Executive Officer, TackleAfrica

Paul John Sommerfeld, Chair, TB Alert

Leela Shanti, CEO, Team Kenya

Nigel Harris, Chief Executive, Tearfund

Ian Green, Chief Executive, Terrence Higgins Trust

Alexander Knapp, Chief Executive Officer, The AKC Global Group

Prof Kent Buse, Director, Healthier Societies Program, The George Institute for Global Health

Major General (Ret'd) James M Cowan CBE DSO, Chief Executive Officer, The HALO Trust

Simon Bishop, CEO, The Power of Nutrition

Caroline Qutteneh, Director, THE WELFARE ASSOCIATION

Philippa Carrick, Chief Executive Officer, Tibet Relief Fund

Sarah Ingleby, Chief Executive Officer, Tools for Self Reliance

Lynne Morris, CEO, Toybox

Charlotte Timson, CEO, Traidcraft Exchange

Tom Skirrow, CEO, Tree Aid

Ben Simms, Chief Executive Officer, Tropical Health and Education Trust (THET)

Katy Cooper, Chair, UK Working Group on Non-Communicable Diseases

Sarah Kline, Chief Executive Officer, United for Global Mental Health

Tessa Khan, Director, Uplift

Clare Wearden, Director, Village Water Ltd

Dr Philip Goodwin, Chief Executive Officer, VSO

Rob Williams, CEO, War Child

Tim Wainwright, Chief Executive, WaterAid

Susie Ventris-Field, Chief Executive, Welsh Centre for International Affairs (WCIA)

Sara Bowcutt, Co-Managing Director, Women for Women International

Mary-Ann Stephenson, Director, Women's Budget Group

Jon Rosser, CEO, World Child Cancer

Julian Gore-Booth, CEO, World Federation of Anaesthesiologists

Cary James, CEO, World Hepatitis Alliance

Mark Sheard, Chief Executive Officer, World Vision UK

Stephen R Connor, Executive Director, Worldwide Hospice Palliative Care Alliance

Anita Tiessen, CEO, Youth Business International