



Foreign, Commonwealth  
& Development Office

**Rt Hon Dominic Raab MP**  
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Sarah Champion MP  
Chair, International Development  
Committee  
House of Commons  
Westminster  
London  
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17 September 2020

Dear Sarah

I am pleased to write to you as the Chair of the International Development Committee to mark the creation of the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) on 2 September 2020. I note the interest of the Committee in the new department as voiced in your recent report to which the Government will respond in due course.

The creation of the new Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office is a key moment for our vision of a truly global Britain and the integration of our international efforts. With this innovation, we are drawing on the example of many of our allies, such as Australia and Canada and the vast majority of OECD countries, by putting our world-class aid programme at the beating heart of our wider foreign policy decision-making.

To complete the merger an Order in Council was made during the Privy Council meeting on 2 September 2020 and then laid in Parliament on 9 September. This Order is solely for the transfer of existing functions from DFID and the FCO to the FCDO. It does not amend the remit of those functions. This process includes the transfer of our responsibilities under the International Development Act.

This Government believes that its job is to promote the UK's national interest, spread British influence around the world and to get best value for the British taxpayer who spends so generously to help others. This change will help us do that.

Yours sincerely,

**THE RT HON DOMINIC RAAB MP**