



Foreign, Commonwealth
& Development Office

**The Rt Hon. Baroness Chapman of
Darlington**

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Sarah Champion MP
House of Commons
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13 October 2025

Dear Sarah,

Thank you for your correspondence of 9 June requesting a follow up to the Government's response to the International Development Committee's report on SDG2: Zero Hunger with further detail on progress made.

Development remains an essential part of our global objectives. It will help us to deliver the government's missions. We are sharpening our focus on three priorities that align with partners' needs, the long-term needs of people in the UK, and where we can drive real change: humanitarian, health, and climate and nature, underpinned by sustainable and broad-based economic growth.

The following highlights the key areas of progress since our original response.

The Government has published a [UK Food Strategy Outcomes Framework](#), setting out our vision for, and 10 priority outcomes that will achieve, a healthier, more affordable, sustainable, and resilient UK food system. The next steps for shaping and delivering the Food Strategy include addressing "how we support UK and global food security through our international action, Official Development Assistance and International Climate Finance." The FCDO is working closely with other government departments, including DEFRA, DBT, DESNZ and DHSC on policies and action relating to food, agriculture and nutrition, including the international dimensions of the new UK Food Strategy. See: [Good Food Cycle](#).

The FCDO is committed to mainstreaming [disability](#) inclusion and rights approach across all our work and at the Global Disability Summit in April 2025, we announced that the UK will co-chair the Global Action on Disability (GLAD) network to coordinate bilateral, multilateral, private sector and civil society partners to champion disability inclusion and rights globally. This incorporates work on disability inclusive health systems. We will consider when it may be appropriate to carry out a refresh of the FCDO Disability Inclusion and Rights strategy (2022 – 2030) following the

allocation of new ministerial portfolios and multi-year Spending Review process. (Recommendation 4)

We agree that food insecurity is a factor driving conflict and that conflict drives food insecurity and famine risk. We remain committed to working at all levels to promote stabilisation and peacebuilding, and deploy our diplomatic levers alongside our bilateral peacebuilding, human rights and wider development programme to address conflict and its root causes. We have recently updated our Stabilisation Toolkit, which will be published shortly and hosted on the gov.uk website, to be easily shared with international partners and allies. In May 2025, we launched a new UK [Legal Handbook on Conflict, Hunger and International Law](#) to contribute to avoiding and addressing food insecurity in situations of armed conflict by promoting understanding and improving compliance with international humanitarian law. I am also currently co-chairing a High-Level Panel on Social Protection in Fragile and Conflict Affected Settings alongside the Deputy Prime Minister of Somalia; social protection systems play an important role in enabling the most vulnerable households to afford a healthy or even minimal diet. (Recommendation 5)

We agree on the value of predictable and long-term funding. FCDO Official Development Assistance programme allocations for 2025/26 were set in the summer and published in Annex A of the [FCDO Annual Report & Accounts 2024-25](#) in July. For nutrition and food security related programming in 2025/26, we were able to keep partners informed and confirm most funding allocations by July/August. In the meantime, we are working through detailed decisions on how the ODA budget will be used from 2026/27 to 2028/29, informed by internal and external consultation and impact assessments. We plan to publish indicative allocations for the next three years in the coming months. This will provide the predictability our teams and partners need to effectively manage the transition to 0.3% of GNI. Once these allocations are set, departments will begin planning their programming for the next three years, including their nutrition and food security related programming over the long-term. (Recommendations 7 and 8)

At the Nutrition for Growth Summit in March, I reaffirmed our commitment to increase the integration of nutrition objectives across FCDO's ODA portfolio up to 2030, and made two new commitments, to champion the Global Compact on Nutrition Integration, and to develop a results target and report results annually. These commitments reflect a refresh in our nutrition approach. Instead of focusing on a spend target, from 2026, we will monitor the results of our programmatic investments, influencing and diplomatic work to achieve nutrition outcomes. (Recommendation 9)

The UK continues to provide thought leadership on finance for SDG2. I attended the Financing for Development (FFD4) conference in Seville to help unlock and scale up international finance, from all sources, for development and sustainable growth. We encouraged and welcomed the references in the FFD4 outcome document recognising the need to facilitate private investment in agriculture and food systems,

and co-sponsored the Sevilla Platform for Action on Building Better Integrated Finance for SDG 1 and 2 alongside Brazil and Spain. The UK is supporting new and innovative solutions to mobilise private investment for sustainable, climate-resilient agriculture, agribusinesses and smallholder supply chains, such as the Financing for Agricultural SMEs in Africa (FASA) Fund and Aceli Africa. (Recommendation 10)

You also requested an update on the changes being made to the FCDO's development delivery model. To achieve our strategic priorities, we are transforming how we work through four essential shifts, moving from donor to investor, service delivery to system support, grants to expertise, and international intervention to local leadership. These shifts require changes to the way the UK delivers development. We are taking a partnership-led approach that is responsive to partner needs and will seek to find areas of mutual interest and agreement, supported by a streamlined, demand-led offer from our headquarters to our global network. Our partner countries want a different relationship moving us beyond aid and paternalism, and to make the most of what the whole UK has to offer to developing countries. For example, through our work with the Child Nutrition Fund (CNF) we have successfully advocated for the establishment of a self-procurement option so that governments can manage their own procurement and incentivise domestic sourcing of nutrition commodities.

We will complement these bilateral shifts with a strengthened approach to enhancing multilateral impact and driving reform, focused on our sharpened priorities: humanitarian, health, and climate, alongside the global financial system. We will improve the targeting of capabilities to meet the needs of our partners, while our processes become more efficient, innovative and agile to support our focus on impactful interventions. I am taking forward these changes to ensure our model is fit for purpose to maximise the impact of a smaller ODA budget and for the changing needs and expectations of our partners.

In the coming months, we will continue to implement the shift in our delivery model and agree how the ODA budget will be used to 2028/29, to further clarify our important commitments in support of SDG2.

I look forward to continuing working with you on this important agenda.

Yours ever,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jenny Chapman', written in a cursive style.

The Rt Hon. Baroness Chapman of Darlington
Minister of State for International Development and Africa

