



## Department for International Trade

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Dear Angus,

Thank you for your letter of 28 September 2020 regarding the Working Practices Report published by the International Agreements Committee (IAC) on the 17 September 2021.

I am responding to you now that the Government's report has been published. I wanted to highlight the Government's view that now is not the right time to consolidate various commitments into a formal concordat. However, as previously stated we will continue to review this position as our first new FTAs, starting with Australia, are scrutinised by Parliament.

The Government believes this is a sensible and reasonable approach as we, and indeed Parliament, will learn valuable lessons from the passage of our first FTAs, our processes will continue to evolve. Consequently, we believe that formalising the current arrangements at this time would prevent the Government and Parliament from flexibly adapting to implement lessons learned.

I hope that this address your interests and I look forward to further engagement with your committee in the future.

Best wishes,

**THE RT HON ANNE-MARIE TREVELYAN MP**  
Secretary of State for International Trade  
& President of the Board of Trade