



HOUSE OF LORDS

European Union Committee –
International Agreements Sub-Committee

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Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon
Minister for South Asia and the Commonwealth
Foreign & Commonwealth Office
King Charles Street
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Lord Grimstone of Boscobel Kt
Minister for Investment
Department of International Trade
King Charles Street
London SW1A 2AH

International Agreements Sub-Committee

Dear Lord Ahmad and Lord Grimstone,

I am writing to let you know that, on 23 April, the House of Lords EU Committee appointed a new International Agreements Subcommittee of which I have been appointed the Chair.

The new Committee will take over responsibility from the Secondary Legislation Scrutiny Committee for the scrutiny of all new international agreements negotiated and to be concluded by the UK Government (save for any new agreement with the European Union, which will continue to be overseen by the EU Select Committee).

I would like to take the opportunity to thank your officials for their helpful cooperation with my secretariat in respect of the scrutiny of the trade continuity agreement programme already undertaken by the EU Select Committee.

We will be in touch in due course to inform the Government how the change in our remit will affect our working practices. In the meantime, I welcome the Government's commitment to working with us to ensure that there can be appropriate parliamentary scrutiny of new international agreements, as Lord Grimstone highlighted in his letter to Lord Kinnoull dated 24 April.

I am copying this letter to the Earl of Kinnoull, Chair of the Lords EU Select Committee; Sir William Cash MP, Chair of the Commons European Scrutiny Committee; Tom Tugendhat MP, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee; Angus Brendan MacNeil MP, Chair of the International Trade Committee; the Rt Hon Harriet Harman QC MP, Chair of the Joint Committee on

Human Rights; Jessica Mulley, Clerk to the European Scrutiny Committee; Chris Shaw, Clerk to the Foreign Affairs Committee; Joanna Welham, Clerk to the International Trade Committee; George Webber, Lords Clerk to the Joint Committee on Human Rights; Les Saunders, Cabinet Office; Adam Nutley, Foreign and Commonwealth Office; and Edwina Osborne, Department of International Trade.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Les Saunders', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Rt Hon. the Lord Goldsmith QC
Chair of the House of Lords International Agreements Sub-Committee