



Department
for International
Development



Rt Hon Penny Mordaunt MP
Secretary of State for International Development

Stephen Twigg MP
Chair, International
Development Committee
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Our ref:

3 December 2018

Dear Stephen,

Making disability inclusion a reality in developing countries

Today on International Day for Persons with Disabilities, I am delighted to be launching the Department for International Development's first [disability inclusion strategy](#).

Through implementation of this strategy, we will increase access to inclusive education, improve social protection, empower people to find work and step up in humanitarian contexts in developing countries around the world. We will support disabled girls and women, tackle stigma and harness the power of technology. The strategy will apply to the whole Department, setting stretching targets for all DFID business units.

This builds on an incredible year for disability inclusion. As you know, in July I hosted the Global Disability Summit with the Government of Kenya and the International Disability Alliance. Thank you for your participation and support in this ground-breaking event.

The Summit focused global attention on disability inclusion, a long-neglected issue critical to reaching the Sustainable Development Goals, and for implementing the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. It mobilised many ambitious commitments from developing countries, global agencies and the private sector – all these are [online](#). Over 320 governments and organisations signed the Summit's Charter for Change' – you may be interested in the '[Easy Read](#)' version, designed for

people with learning disabilities. We are determined that the impact will be long lasting and are working with partners on a robust monitoring process.

We have made good progress since the Summit. DFID programmes are now in place to support the global partnerships on technology and inclusive education announced in July. We have announced new psychosocial support for children, including Syrian refugees in Lebanon. We have continued to bring our influence to bear with the World Bank and the UN, and are seeing change within those organisations.

Thank you for your continued support on this important agenda. Together we can achieve a common goal which demonstrates British values of fairness and inclusion and meets the central commitment of the Global Goals, to leave no one behind.

I am placing a copy of this letter and the strategy in the House Libraries for other members to see, and I will continue to keep you updated on our progress against the strategy.

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

Rt Hon Penny Mordaunt MP
Secretary of State for International Development