



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office



Department
for International
Development

The Rt Hon. the Lord McConnell of Glenscorrodale
House of Lords
London
SW1A 0AA

2 July 2020

Dear Lord McConnell,

I am writing to respond to your question regarding the prosecution of Daesh individuals who were responsible for the capture and slavery of Yezidi women and girls, which you asked during an Oral Question on Rwanda on 23 June (Hansard: c.110).

The United Kingdom continues to support the UN Investigative Team for the Accountability of Daesh (UNITAD) in their investigations into Daesh's crimes, including against Yezidi women and girls. During an update to the UN Security Council on 15 June, head of UNITAD, Karim Khan QC, highlighted progress made in gathering evidence and undertaking legal analysis to enable timely prosecutions within Iraq. The Investigative Team continues to engage with the Government of Iraq on modalities for evidence sharing and has also shared evidence with third countries, including Finland, to support their own domestic prosecutions of Daesh members.

The UK has contributed £2 million to UNITAD over a two year period, not only to support the prosecution of Daesh individuals but also to provide support to survivors of Daesh violence. As you set out in the House, it is important that victims of sexual violence and slavery receive the support and justice they deserve.

A copy of this letter will be placed in the libraries of both Houses.

Yours sincerely,

LORD (TARIQ) AHMAD OF WIMBLEDON
Minister of State for South Asia and the Commonwealth
Prime Minister's Special Representative on Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict