



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office



Department
for International
Development

Lord Dobbs
House of Lords
London
SW1A 0AA

9 July 2020

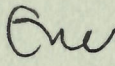
Dear Michael

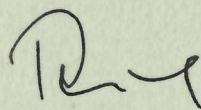
Thank you for your questions of 8 July, following the repeat statement on the Introduction of the Global Human Rights sanctions regime.

You firstly asked what we are doing together to bring together the international definitions of fundamental terms such as “corruption” and “human rights abuse”. With regards the Global Human Rights sanctions regime, the legislation uses well-recognised language and concepts from international law on human rights. With respect to corruption sanctions, we are considering how a corruption regime could be added to the armoury of legal weapons we have - we will look at the UN Convention Against Corruption, and practice under the frameworks in jurisdictions like the US and Canada.

Secondly, you asked for more details on what measures we are taking to co-ordinate the sanctions with other countries and relevant international organisations. The UK will remain a global leader on sanctions, and we will continue to seek opportunities for international cooperation on sanctions, which are most effective when implemented collectively. We have and will continue to work closely with the US and Canada, who have similar human rights sanctions regimes. We strongly support EU efforts to bring a human rights sanctions regime into effect and stand ready to cooperate and coordinate on future sanctions as sovereign equals. We have very strong diplomatic and official channels established which provide the framework for these matters to be discussed with all key partners.

A copy of this letter has been 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