

0.7% commitment (Oxfam)

October 2010

Thank you for your letter supporting the Oxfam campaign to protect the UK's aid budget.

The Coalition Government has made a very clear pledge to increase aid spending to meet the target of 0.7% of GNI as Official Development Assistance from 2013. We will also enshrine this spending commitment in law as soon as the parliamentary timetable allows.

The climate in which we will deliver this commitment is very tough. However, the Government is clear that it is wrong to balance the budget on the backs of the world's poorest people.

In the current financial climate, we have a particular duty to achieve one hundred pence of value for every single pound of taxpayers' money that we spend on overseas development. DFID has launched reviews of all the aid money spent through our bilateral country programmes and money delivered through multilateral organisations. These reviews will determine how and where we spend aid money in the future and ensure we get maximum value from our resources.

Both the Coalition Government commitment to 0.7% and our current reviews of the aid spend will help make sure that the UK remains a global leader in providing high quality, high impact aid.

I hope this information is helpful.

Andrew Mitchell
Secretary of State