



Department
of Energy &
Climate Change

The Rt Hon Edward Davey MP
Secretary of State

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Via email: rachel.hubbard@foe.co.uk

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New Rachel Hubbard,

f December 2013

Thank you for your email dated 13 November, about your campaign to generate support for people affected by climate disasters around the world. I am writing in response to the emails received by my Department and I would be grateful if you could publish this response on your website.

You refer to Typhoon Haiyan. The UK is providing urgent humanitarian support for up to 800,000 people in the Philippines in the wake of Typhoon Haiyan. Thousands of people in remote communities have lost their homes and everything they own. The UK will provide over £50 million in humanitarian support to help aid get through to hard to reach areas. This support will include providing a team of 12 NHS staff trained to operate under emergency conditions; and vital supplies including water purification kits, temporary shelters, bedding, blankets and solar lanterns.

Turning to the issues of climate change - this is arguably the greatest challenge facing the world today. It is a global issue that affects everyone on the planet. The findings in the recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Working Group One Report (<http://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar5/wg1/>) were clear: warming of the climate system over the last century is unequivocal. Along with temperature increases, we will likely see an increase in extreme weather events which will impact disproportionately on the world's poorest and most vulnerable people.

So we must act now. To tackle climate change all the countries in the world must work together. This can only happen through a global framework: the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The UK is continuing to push for action to reduce global emissions. At Durban in 2011, all countries committed to negotiate, by 2015, a new global, legally binding deal, applicable to all nations, to come into force by 2020. We took important steps towards this in Warsaw last week, as all countries have agreed to start their homework to prepare for the global agreement in 2015, including their contributions to it. We now have a programme with timetables for the important task ahead.

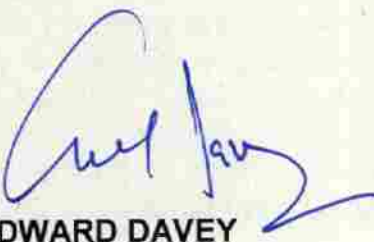
The UK continued its strong record of leading on climate change action at the Conference of Parties (COP) in Warsaw: demonstrating its ambition at home, its support to developing countries that is delivering real results and its leading influence in the EU and alliances with international partners. We announced extra help for some of the world's poorest and most vulnerable to adapt to the impacts of climate change through a £50 million contribution to the Least Developed Countries Fund.

Your email also refers to the loss and damage mechanism, which countries agreed to set up at the UNFCCC COP in Doha. The best way to minimise future loss and damage is to agree an ambitious global deal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and limit global temperature rise to 2 degrees.

In Warsaw, countries agreed to establish the Warsaw International Mechanism, with a remit to enhance and promote knowledge of loss and damage, and approaches to addressing it. The mechanism will help to ensure the institutions under the UNFCCC are better informed and coordinated, particularly in relation to slow onset impacts of climate change like sea level rise or ocean acidification, and to promote the efficient and effective delivery of support to developing countries as they seek to manage these risks.

The UK and other developed countries remain committed to supporting countries to manage the risks brought by the impacts of climate change. The UK is already implementing over £800 million of programmes focused on adapting to these impacts through our International Climate Fund.

Yours,



EDWARD DAVEY