



**OFFICE OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS APPOINTMENTS**

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SIMON FRASER

**BUSINESS APPOINTMENT APPLICATION: SIR TOM PHILLIPS**

The Advisory Committee on Business Appointments has considered the application Sir Tom Phillips, former HM Ambassador to Riyadh, who is seeking permission to accept a part-time post with the Centre for Political and Diplomatic Studies (CPDS), following his retirement from Crown service on 23 July 2012. His last day in post was 31 May 2012.

The Committee's advice to the Secretary of State is that the application be approved subject to the conditions that:

- for six months from his last day in post, he should not return to Saudi Arabia for business purposes, give advice on it or have dealings with companies there;
- for twelve months from his last day of service, he should not undertake any work for his new employer which involves providing advice on the terms of any bid or contract relating to the work of the FCO; and
- for two years from his last day of service, he should not become personally involved in lobbying UK government on behalf of his new employer. Lobbying in this context means that the former Crown servant should not engage in communication with Government (including Ministers, special advisers and officials) with a view to influencing a Government decision or policy in relation to their own interests, or the interests of the organisation by which they are employed, or to whom they are contracted.

I would be grateful if you would let us know whether the Foreign Secretary is content to approve the application in line with the Committee's recommendation, and copy us into the final decision.

I should also be grateful if you would ensure that we are informed as soon as Sir Tom takes up the appointment, or if it is announced that he will do so (I enclose a form for this purpose). We shall otherwise not be able to deal with any enquiries, since we do not release information about appointments which have not been taken up or announced. This could lead to a false assumption being made about whether he had complied with the rules.

**Members:**

Mark Addison, Sir Colin Budd KCMG, Rt Hon Lord Dholakia OBE,  
Mary Jo Jacobi, Rt Hon Lord Lang of Monkton (Chairman), Rt Hon Lord Macdonald of Tradeston CBE  
Sir Hugh Stevenson, General the Lord Walker of Aldringham GCB CMG CBE

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Similarly, should Sir Tom wish to extend or otherwise change the nature of his role with CPDS, he should inform the Committee, as, depending on the circumstances, it may be necessary for him to make a fresh application.

Once the appointment has been taken up or announced we will then we will publish the FCO's final letter to Sir Tom on the Advisory Committee's website at <http://acoba.independent.gov.uk>, and include the main details of the appointment, together with the Committee's advice, in both the regularly updated consolidated list on the website and in the next annual report.

**BETH WATSON**

Committee Secretariat

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