



Department
of Energy &
Climate Change

Girish Menon
CEO
Action Aid UK
33-39 Bowling Green Lane
London
EC1R 0BJ

The Rt Hon Amber Rudd MP
Secretary of State

Department of Energy & Climate Change
3 Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2AW

www.gov.uk/decc

25 November 2015

Dear Mr Menon,

Thank you for your letter dated 30 October, about support for a Global Goal on Adaption, to provide a mechanism to ensure all countries contribute fairly to the cost of climate finance. My response will be published on the DECC website and I hope you will also share it with your supporters on the Action Aid website.

Securing an ambitious global climate change agreement to help limit global warming to below 2 degrees is a priority for the UK Government. The Government sees adaptation as an important component of the Paris outcome alongside:

- A strong, ambitious mitigation package from all Parties and a plan to implement them;
- A mechanism to review mitigation ambition every five years to bring Parties back to the table to further emission reductions in line with a long term goal to keep the world moving towards limiting global warming to below two degrees and;
- A robust “legally-binding” rules framework including on transparency and accountability to track progress.

The UK is committed to supporting the poorest and most vulnerable countries to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change and promote cleaner, greener growth. In September 2015, the Prime Minister announced that the UK will significantly increase our climate finance over the next five years, providing at least £5.8 billion in total by 2020.

UK climate finance is already providing support to the most vulnerable countries across the globe. For example, through the Building Resilience and Adapting to Climate Extremes and Disasters programme (BRACED) the UK is helping people adapt to climate change by taking action to reduce the impacts of climate extremes such as floods, storms and droughts, in locations where people are most at risk. BRACED is expected to directly benefit up to 5 million vulnerable people in developing countries, especially women and children.

So far the International Climate Fund (ICF) has:

- Directly supported 15 million people to cope with effects of climate change.
- Given 2.6 million people improved access to clean energy.
- Reduced or avoided 2.3 million tonnes of CO₂.
- Mobilised £1.2 billion of public finance and £330 million of private finance.

It is important to note that the concept of an adaptation goal is just one of a number of proposals on the table focussed on this issue. In addition, supporting adaptation comprehensively and effectively will involve more than just the provision of financial support. The agreement in Paris we are looking for is one that sets out a long term direction for all countries and the international community on adaptation – which should encourage all Parties to reduce vulnerability and strengthen resilience in order to enable climate resilient sustainable development.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amber Rudd', written in a cursive style.

AMBER RUDD