



OFFICE OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS APPOINTMENTS

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December 2016

You asked for the Committee's advice about taking up an appointment with the International Growth Centre (IGC), as Chairman of the LSE-Oxford Commission on Growth in Fragile States (the Commission).

The IGC is an academic institution that aims to promote sustainable growth in developing countries through policy and research. The Committee took into consideration this an unpaid, part-time role involving around one day of work a month. The Committee noted your role as Chairman will involve: providing input from a policy perspective on the different dimensions of state fragility that will be addressed by the commission; leading meetings between co-chairs and commissioners; and assisting in communicating and disseminating the Commission's reports and findings.

The Committee took into account that you had no dealings with IGC while in office and there will be no contact with the UK Government involved in this role. Further, whilst the IGC is funded by the UK Department for International Development, the Commission is not and is fully funded through the London School of Economics and Oxford University.

The Committee sought the view of the Permanent Secretary of the Cabinet Office, who has no objections to this appointment.

It was also relevant to the Committee's consideration that almost 5 months has passed since your time in office, therefore the standard three-month waiting period that applies to you as the former Prime Minister has now passed.

Taking into account all of the circumstances, in accordance with the Business Appointment Rules, the Committee advises this appointment be subject to the following conditions:

- you should not draw on (disclose or use for the benefit of yourself or the organisations or persons to which this advice refers) any privileged information available to you as Prime Minister; and
- for two years from your last day in office you should not become personally involved in lobbying the UK Government on behalf of the International Growth Centre (IGC), or the LSE-Oxford Commission on Growth in Fragile States (the Commission).

From the Chair

By 'privileged information' we mean official information to which a Minister has had access as a consequence of his or her office or employment and which has not been made publicly available. Applicants are also reminded that they may be subject to other duties of confidentiality, whether under the Official Secrets Act or otherwise.

It might be helpful if I add that the Business Appointment Rules explain that the restriction on lobbying means that former Ministers "should not engage in communication with Government – including Ministers, special advisers and officials – with a view to influencing a Government decision or policy [including applications for awards or grants] in relation to their own interests, or the interests of the organisation by which they are employed, or to whom they are contracted".

I should be grateful if you would inform us as soon as you take up this appointment, or if it is announced that you will do so, either by returning the enclosed form or by emailing the office at the address at the start of this letter. 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 you had complied with the Ministerial Code. Similarly, I should be grateful if you would inform us if you propose to extend or otherwise change this role as, depending on the circumstances, it may be necessary for you to seek fresh advice.

Once the appointment has been publicly announced or taken up, we will publish this letter on the Committee's website and include the main details of the applications, together with the Advisory Committee's advice, in the regularly updated consolidated list on our website and in the next annual report.

The Baroness Browning

Rt Hon David Cameron