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**FCO Press Release: Honours for service to Britain internationally and overseas**

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) announces 92 awards in recognition of truly exceptional and outstanding service to Britain internationally and overseas.

The Diplomatic Service and Overseas Birthday 2018 Honours List recognises extraordinary people in a range of fields overseas including British business and prosperity, protecting British nationals overseas, charity and voluntary work, child welfare, combating slavery, commemorations and veterans, education, environmental conservation, journalism, policing, public service, science and scientific research, security and sport.

Awards go to Sir Christopher **GREENWOOD,** lately Judge at the International Court of Justice in The Hague, who receives a GBE for his services to international justice. Robert **WAINWRIGHT**, former Executive Director at Europol, receives a KCMG for services to policing and security. And Professor Paul **PRESTON**, Historian at the Department of International History, London School of Economics, receives a Knight Bachelor for services to UK/Spain relations. Further information about recipients receiving higher awards on the Diplomatic Service and Overseas List can be found at the end of this press release at annex A.

This List also recognises a number of individuals who made an exceptional contribution to the delivery of the successful Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting held in London in April which brought together all the nations of the Commonwealth to promote prosperity, democracy and peace.

Sir Simon McDonald, Head of the Diplomatic Service, said:

*“I congratulate everyone receiving an honour and thank them for their hard work and years of service. Britain’s positive impact around the world depends on exceptional people like those recognised today. Everyone in the FCO, at home and overseas, is very grateful”*

Examples of other recipients from this honours list include:

**Rosalie ADAMS**

retired Deputy Governor, British Virgin Islands, receives an OBE for services to the British Virgin Islands

Rosalie Adams is recognised for her outstanding contribution serving the people of the British Virgin Islands for nearly 50 years, including leading the Public Service in the most challenging of circumstances following Hurricanes Irma and Maria which had a devastating impact on the islands. Mrs Adams recently retired as Deputy Governor following a career in which she held a number of pivotal positions on the Islands including as a teacher, Education Officer, Guidance and Counselling Officer and Permanent Secretary. She is a pillar of the community, tirelessly volunteering to support the elderly, young and vulnerable throughout her life. Mrs Adams’ contribution was never more apparent than in the aftermath of Hurricanes Irma and Maria which resulted in widespread damage to most buildings on the Islands. She demonstrated exemplary leadership and selfless dedication in leading the Public Service to get back on its feet and to put the Territory in a stronger position to meet future challenges.

On learning of her award Mrs Adams said, "It could not be me! I just served my country as best I knew how therefore, this must have been ordained by my God. May this be a testament to young, poor girls, everywhere - like I was, you can make your contribution and succeed at the highest level. I'm humbled”.

**James SPENCER**

Director, Feedback Madagascar, receives an OBE for services to health, social development, education and the environment in Madagascar

Jamie Spencer is recognised for his outstanding contribution in rural Madagascar over the last 25 years. In the areas of health, education, the alleviation of poverty and the preservation of Madagascar’s unique forests, Jamie’s tireless work has brought exceptional results and had a long term sustainable impact throughout the country. As the founder, Director and principal fundraiser for the charity Feedback Madagascar, Jamie has developed an outstandingly effective approach to sustainable rural development and environmental conservation that builds upon his long term engagement in Madagascar and a deep knowledge of the Malagasy people, their language and their culture. The impact of his work has been transformational in saving lives, improving health facilities, opening up new educational and livelihood opportunities, and protecting the environment. Through the charity’s work, 45,000 people now have access to clean drinking water, 77 new schools provide education to approximately 19,500 pupils and deforestation has been significantly reduced over a large geographic area in the south of the country. Jamie is a well-known figure in Madagascar and his work has reflected real credit on the UK making him fully deserving of this national honour.

On learning of his award Jamie Spencer said “This is absolutely magnificent. This will honour all the people we have worked with in Madagascar and all the people who have supported us so much over the years. The future of Madagascar must be in the hands of it's people.”

**Jacqueline WRAFTER**

Director, Kianh Foundation, Vietnam. For services to children with disabilities in Vietnam.

Jacqueline Wrafter is recognised for an outstanding and sustained contribution in helping and caring for disabled and vulnerable children in Vietnam. For almost twenty years, initially in support of a government-run orphanage in Vietnam, and since 2012 through managing the Kianh Foundation Day Centre, Ms Wrafter and her team have demonstrated extraordinary commitment to making life-changing improvements for some of the most disadvantaged children in Vietnamese society. The centre is the first of its kind in Central Vietnam to provide an integrated, multi-disciplinary approach to the development needs of children with disability. It builds local capacity by providing special education, physical, occupational and communication therapy and speech therapy, access to dental care and life skills to children with disability in the local community. It also provides training, development and respite support to the parents and families of the children attending the centre. None of this would have been possible without the dedication of Ms Wrafter and her hard work has not only made a huge difference to the children and families it supports but has undoubtedly enhanced Britain’s reputation overseas.

On learning of her award Jacqueline Wrafter said “I am both proud and pleased to receive this award on behalf of all the team at the Kianh Foundation. The work we do is not something I could ever have achieved alone and my team’s hard work makes this honour possible. Thank you for the recognition of what we do.”

**Sister Imelda POOLE**

President of Religious in Europe Networking Against Trafficking and Exploitation (RENATE) and President of Mary Ward Loreto (Albanian Mission Against Human Trafficking), receives an MBE for services to combating modern slavery

Sister Imelda Poole is a British religious sister who for nearly 10 years has led the RENATE (Religious in Europe Networking Against Trafficking and Exploitation) network fighting modern slavery across 24 countries in Europe. Through her outstanding leadership, the organisation has made a significant difference in improving religious sisters’ support to victims of human trafficking, and strengthened the religious orders’ cooperation with law enforcement to bring perpetrators to justice. She has brought great credit to the UK, and made a significant contribution to the Prime Minister’s objective of eradicating modern slavery. This contribution is in addition to a lifetime of service in support of the most marginalised people in society including important work in many areas of the UK including Manchester, Glasgow and Middlesbrough.

On learning of her award Sister Imelda Poole said “This is an honour which I accept on behalf of the Female Religious and co-workers who are contributing, through the mission of many international networks such as RENATE, to combating modern day slavery and on behalf of the dedicated staff of Mary Ward Loreto in Albania who are passionate in this same cause. May this award expose even further the terrible crime of human trafficking which, as Pope Francis has declared, is a crime against humanity itself”.

**Notes for editors:**

For further information about the case studies or to arrange an **interview** please contact the FCO Press Office on 020 7008 3100.

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**ANNEX A**

**NOTES ON HIGHER AWARDS**

**GBE**

Sir Christopher Greenwood C.M.G.

lately Judge of the International Court of Justice. For services to international justice

Sir Christopher Greenwood is recognised for his outstanding service to international law and the peaceful settlement of disputes. Sir Christopher has been the pre-eminent British international lawyer, as a teacher at the University of Cambridge and the London School of Economics, as a practitioner at the Bar and, finally, from 2009 until February this year, as one of the foremost and respected judges at the International Court of Justice. This award is in recognition of Sir Christopher’s sustained and significant achievements and contribution to international law.

**D/KCMG**

Miss Karen Elizabeth Pierce (Mrs Roxburgh) C.M.G.

United Kingdom Permanent Representative to the United Nations. For services to British foreign policy

Karen Pierce is recognised for her long-term outstanding contribution to British foreign policy. She is one of the UK’s most senior diplomats and the first female UK Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York. She previously served as the Director General for Political Affairs (the UK’s Political Director) and Chief Operating Officer at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and has held some of the most challenging roles in British diplomacy including as British Ambassador to Afghanistan. She was the FCO Board Diversity Champion and has always been an active role model.

The Rt Rev David Urquhart

Bishop of Birmingham and Prelate of the Order of St Michael and George. For services to international relations

David Urquhart is recognised for his tireless work in improving relations between the UK and the developing world. As well as displaying a long standing commitment to Africa, in particular Uganda, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Malawi, he has served as the Archbishop of Canterbury’s Envoy to China since 2006, making an exceptional contribution to the improvement of ties with China centred on enhancing religious mutual understanding. The timing of this award coincides with the 200th anniversary of the founding of the Order of St Michael and St George for which he has given exceptional service as Prelate for over a decade.

Mr Robert Wainwright

former Executive Director, Europol. For services to policing and security

Robert Wainwright is recognised for his outstanding service to policing and security in the UK and Europe. After a distinguished UK career in policing and security, Mr Wainwright spent over 9 years as Executive Director of Europol, which he transformed into a world class security institution, supporting EU Member States and other partners in their fight against serious international crime and terrorism. He has increased the security of the UK and UK nationals, as well as bringing particular credit to the United Kingdom by his exceptional and highly practical leadership of the organisation.

**KNIGHT BACHELOR**

Professor Paul Preston C.B.E.

Historian, Department of International History, London School of Economics. For services to UK/Spain relations

Professor Paul Preston is recognised for his long and illustrious career as the leading British contemporary historian on Spain. He has won academic acclaim for tackling the more difficult and controversial events in Spain’s past head-on resulting in a profile in Spain that few historians enjoy. His celebrated works have become standard texts for students in both the UK and Spain and his professional career has significantly promoted UK/Spanish understanding and relations. In the course of his career, Paul Preston has published several acclaimed works, notably the biographies of Franco (1993) and of King Juan Carlos (2004) and The Spanish Holocaust (2012).

Geoffrey Tantum C.M.G. O.B.E.

Adviser to His Majesty the King of Bahrain. For services to British interests overseas

Geoffrey Tantum is recognised for a distinguished record of public service and an outstanding contribution to UK/Bahrain relations for a period of over 20 years. He has consistently defended and promoted joint interests and helped foster a close and valuable relationship between the two Kingdoms.