



Department for
International Trade

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The Rt Hon Alistair Carmichael MP
House of Commons
London
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14 March 2017

Dear Alistair,

Thank you for your letter of [REDACTED] enclosing correspondence from your constituent, [REDACTED] on ensuring that the UK's new trade approach works for the world's poorest people.

The Prime Minister recently set out our guiding principles as we leave the EU, which include a commitment to building a more Global Britain: a great, global, trading nation, a firm advocate for free trade and a nation that continues to take its responsibilities as an international leader seriously.

I am keenly aware of the vital role trade can play in raising incomes globally, creating jobs and helping people lift themselves out of poverty, and I fully support the view that UK trade policy should work for the world's poorest people. As stated in the White Paper on 'The United Kingdom's exit from and new partnership with the European Union', the UK is seeking to achieve continuity in our trade and investment relationships with third countries, including those covered by existing EU free trade agreements or EU preferential arrangements.

The Department for International Trade is working closely with other government departments, including the Department for International Development, and will be setting out our plans for trade and development policy in greater detail in the coming months.

Thank you for bringing this campaign to my attention; my team and I are listening, and welcome your input as we prepare to leave the EU. I hope you are reassured that the Government is committed to creating a trade policy that will work for all, including the world's poorest communities.

I hope this reply assists you in responding to [REDACTED]

THE RT HON LIAM FOX MP
Secretary of State, Department for International Trade
& President of the Board of Trade