



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

UK

24 August 2009

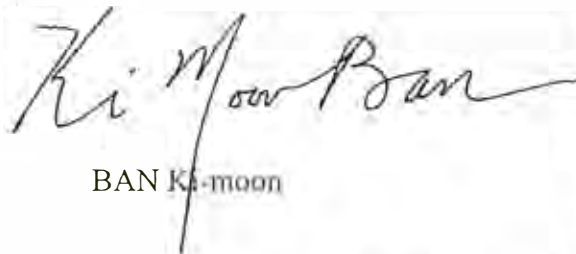
Dear Mr. Alexander,

I would like to thank you for your kind letter of 17 July 2009 in which you enclosed a copy of the United Kingdom Government's White Paper on International Development. The paper provides useful analysis on the next steps required to further our common pursuit of the Millennium Development Goals and agreement on a meaningful response at Copenhagen to the threats posed by climate change. Both your personal engagement and collaboration of the United Kingdom in achieving these objectives have been essential to the progress we have made so far.

Your ongoing partnership will be even more critical in the months ahead. The opening of the General Assembly, the high-level meeting on climate change, the G20 Summit in Pittsburgh, the Copenhagen Summit and next year's high-level plenary meeting on the Millennium Development Goals will all benefit from the continued leadership of the United Kingdom in building our common future.

Please be assured of my continued esteem and gratitude for your excellent work in the interest of the poorest and most vulnerable.

Yours sincerely,

  
BAN Ki-moon

Mr. Douglas Alexander  
Secretary of State for International  
Development of the United Kingdom  
of Great Britain and Northern Ireland  
London

29-08269

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

POSTAL ADDRESS - ADRESSE POSTALE : UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. 10017  
CABLE ADDRESS - ADRESSE TELEGRAPHIQUE : UNATIONS NEWYORK

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL  
CABINET DU SECRETAIRE GENERAL

REFERENCE:

24 August 2009

Excellency,

I would be grateful if you could forward the enclosed letter to Mr. Douglas Alexander, Secretary of State for International Development of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

A copy of the letter is attached for your information.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'V. Nambiar', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Vijay Nambiar  
Chef de Cabinet

His Excellency  
Sir John Sawers  
Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom  
to the United Nations  
New York



**UKaid**  
from the Department for  
International Development

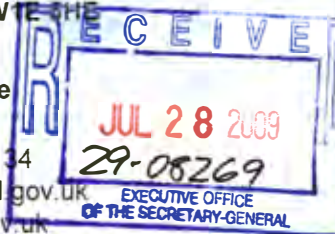
**DFID**

Department for  
International  
Development

1 Palace Street London SW1E 3HE

From the Secretary of State

Telephone: 020 7023 0134  
Email: [pssofs@dfid.gov.uk](mailto:pssofs@dfid.gov.uk)  
Website: [www.dfid.gov.uk](http://www.dfid.gov.uk)



Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon  
United Nations  
United Nations Headquarters  
East 46th Street  
New York  
NY 10017  
USA

17 July 2009

*Jean Secretary General*

**Building our Common Future: new UK Government White Paper on  
International Development**

I wanted to write to you personally to send you a copy of the UK Government's new White Paper on International Development: *Building our Common Future*.

The UK has been at the forefront of changing the way development is done for the past 12 years. The creation of DFID in 1997 has enabled the UK to build new relationships, new expertise and new ways of working with partners and those on the front line. I am proud of the progress made in recent years and that DFID has been judged as a 'global leader' on development issues and aid effectiveness.

This White Paper comes at an important time and sets out HMG's views on the next steps forward. The progress in reducing poverty made by us all over the last decade, is now under threat. *Building our Common Future* therefore identifies four key challenges that we must face: low, unsustainable growth; the threat of climate change; enduring conflict country fragility that traps a third of the world's poorest; and the need to have an international system that can deliver.

And it recognises that we must address these challenges together. To that end, I look forward to working with you on this agenda over the coming months.

You can obtain further information about *Building our Common Future* on our website at [www.dfid.gov.uk/commonfuture](http://www.dfid.gov.uk/commonfuture).

*Warm regards,  
David*