

To supporters of the ACTSA campaign

Rt Hon Andrew Mitchell MP
Secretary of State

Dear All,

31st August 2011

Thank you for your emails in support of the ACTSA campaign which calls for the UK Government to provide support to UN Women.

The UK Government is fully committed to UN Women and I am delighted that UN Women is now up and running. We are working to help Michelle Bachelet, the Executive Director of UN Women, and her team make a strong start in their important work. This included providing interim funding earlier this year. On 6 July this year I announced that the UK will provide £10 million a year in core funding in both 2011 and 2012 so that UN Women can deliver results for girls and women around the world.

This contribution represents 11% of UN Women's core budget in its first year and places the UK as the second largest donor to UN Women. Following our announcement Michelle Bachelet said that UN Women "heartily welcomed" this multi-year commitment from the UK.

The challenge now is for UN Women to deliver results with the substantial contribution we and other donors have made. We will be working closely with UN Women and offering support where useful, for example, we are seconding a senior economist to help on their economic empowerment work. In line with all of the multilateral agencies through which the UK spends aid, we will review the level of UN Women's core funding after two years in the light of the results they have achieved.

I hope you will welcome our very positive financial, technical and political support for UN Women in this, its foundation year.

*Yours
faithfully
Andrew Mitchell*

ANDREW MITCHELL