**Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office**

**Wendy Morton MP**
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Rachel Hickman
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Dear Ms Hickman,

Thank you for your email of 8 December regarding the petition signed by Concern Worldwide, Action Against Hunger and Results UK supporters on the UK's commitment to nutrition. I am responding as the Minister responsible for nutrition.

I very much appreciate the time that your supporters have taken to champion this issue and welcome the points that you have raised regarding the UK's role to address malnutrition.

Prevention and treatment of malnutrition remains a priority for the UK as part of our work to end the preventable deaths of mothers, newborns and children. We share your concerns that good nutrition is more than a problem of not having enough food. We also recognise that the indirect impacts of COVID-19 are set to increase malnutrition among the poorest people around the world.

This challenge was one of the reasons why the Foreign Secretary appointed the UK's first ever Special Envoy on Famine Prevention and Humanitarian Affairs. The new £119 million package of support launched by the Foreign Secretary to combat famine included a new £30 million partnership with UNICEF focusing on improving the prevention and treatment of child wasting in particular. We also continue to work closely with the Government of Japan to ensure its 2021 Nutrition for Growth Summit achieves meaningful new commitments to address malnutrition globally.

As you will be aware, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office is undertaking a rigorous internal prioritisation process in response to the spending review announcement. We will provide an update on the implications of this for our work on nutrition in in due course.

Yours sincerely

Wendy Morton

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