



The All-Party Parliamentary Group on
Population, Development
and Reproductive Health

**ANNUAL REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES
2017/2018**

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UK All-Party Parliamentary Group on Population, Development and Reproductive Health

Annual Review 2017/2018

CONTENTS

	Page
FOREWORD	iii
APPG ON PDRH COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND STAFF	iv
NEW APPG ON PDRH MEMBERS	vii
APPG ON PDRH AIMS AND OBJECTIVES	1
PARLIAMENTARY ACTIVITIES	2
APPG on PDRH Committee Meetings	2
APPG on PDRH Parliamentary Briefing Meetings	2
Other Briefing Meetings	6
European Meetings	10
European Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development	10
European Non-Governmental Organisations for SRHR	12
Study Tours	13
Ethiopia	13
General Written Briefings	15
General Collaboration, Meetings and Correspondence	20
Meetings	20
Correspondence	24
Press	24
Parliamentary Statements, Legislation, Debates, Early Day Motions and Parliamentary Questions	28
House of Commons	28
<i>Oral Ministerial Statements</i>	28
<i>Written Ministerial Statements</i>	29
<i>Legislation</i>	32
<i>Debates</i>	32
<i>Oral Parliamentary Questions</i>	35
<i>Written Parliamentary Questions</i>	41
<i>Early Day Motions</i>	42
House of Lords	44
<i>Oral Ministerial Statements</i>	44
<i>Legislation</i>	45
<i>Debates</i>	45
<i>Oral Parliamentary Questions</i>	48
<i>Written Parliamentary Questions</i>	54
UK GOVERNMENT MEETINGS, CORRESPONDENCE AND PUBLICATIONS	55
DFID meetings	57
UK Government correspondence	59
UK Government publications	61

INTERNATIONAL FUNDING TO FAMILY PLANNING/SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS AND HIV/AIDS	62
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES	67
EPF & AIDOS G7/G20 Parliamentary Conference, Rome, Italy	67
University of Leicester Child Marriage Film event, UK	68
RCOG India conference, London, UK	69
LSHTM Research Symposium, London, UK	70
DFID, The Gates Foundation & UNFPA Family Planning Summit, London, UK	71
EPF & UNFPA ICPD Strategy Discussion, Vienna, Austria	73
EPF Child Marriage and FGM Conference, Fez, Morocco	74
BPAS Abortion Conference, London, UK	74
FSRH Choices Conference, London, UK	75
RCOG, International Women’s Day Conference, London, UK	76
EPF Reproductive Health Supplies Conference, Brussels, Belgium	77
SUPPORT AND COLLABORATION WITH OTHER ALL-PARTY PARLIAMENTARY GROUPS	78
HEARINGS	79
Abortion in the Developing World and the UK, 2018	79
Population Dynamics and the Sustainable Development Goals, 2015	84
Child Marriage, “A Childhood Lost”, 2012	85
Maternal Morbidity, “Better off Dead?”, 2009	86
Return of the Population Growth Factor– Its impact on the Millennium Development Goals, 2007/2009	87
Linking Sexual and Reproductive Health and HIV/AIDS, “The Missing Link”, 2004	87
FGM, 2000	88
PUBLICATIONS	89
Activity Reports	89
Hearings/Surveys/Reports	89
ACCOUNTS	90
ACRONYMS	91
APPENDICES	94

FOREWORD



As the chair of the UK All-Party Parliamentary Group on Population, Development and Reproductive Health (APPG on PDRH), I am pleased to report that the UK Government is continuing its political leadership on family planning (FP) and sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). The Family Planning Summit held in July 2017 in London co-hosted with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, in close partnership with the Family Planning 2020 Secretariat (FP2020) demonstrates long term commitments, as does DFID's spending on SRHR, which was 10.7% in 2015-2016 and 9.49% in 2016-2017 of its total official development assistance (ODA).

Of particular concern however, has been the uncertainty of UK and global ODA to family planning and SRHR. The UK General Elections (GE) in June 2017 and subsequent delay in UK AID review, coupled with President Donald Trump's reinstatement and expansion of the Global Gag Rule (GGR) and defunding of the UNFPA, will have long term effects on commodity supplies and service provisions in developing countries. Members of the UK APPG on PDRH have actively campaigned for increased funding to family planning and SRHR via parliamentary debates and questions (PQs), meetings and letter writing to ministers, and by attending and speaking out at conferences, as well as increased press activity with women's and men' magazines.

The UK APPG on PDRH held parliamentary hearings in November 2017 on Abortion in the Developing World and the UK and launched in connection with the International Women's Day in March 2018, a report which also strengthened advocacy in this often controversial area of SRHR. More importantly were collaborative activities that took place to make women's homes a designated area for medical abortions in England and Wales after Scotland's decision to do so in 2017.

The APPG on PDRH study tour to Ethiopia in November 2017 and letter writing have resulted in the recruitment of six new active members. My Private Member's Bill (PMB) to bring the age of marriage up to 18 in the UK did not proceed to the House of Commons (HoC) due to the GE in 2017. I therefore plan to table an amendment to The Domestic Abuse Bill this autumn to progress on this important 'child rights' agenda.

In 2017- 2018 the APPG on PDRH will continue its recruitment of new members, scrutinise, monitor and hold the UK Government accountable to its political and financial commitments via PMBs, PQs, debates, conferences, meetings, letter writing and media activities.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jenny Tonge". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Baroness Dr Jenny Tonge, Chair, UK APPG on PDRH

APPG ON PDRH COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND STAFF

The UK All-Party Parliamentary Group on Population, Development and Reproductive Health (APPG on PDRH) committee has been active in planning and running the APPG on PDRH's business with the following members.

Joint Chairs

Baroness Jenny Tonge (NA)



Pauline Latham MP (C)



Vice Chairs

Lord Patel (XB)



Holly Lynch MP (L)



Baroness Hussein-Ece (LD)



Secretaries

Baroness Flather (XB)



Baroness Uddin (NA)



Treasurers

Baroness Jenkin (C)



Baroness Sheehan (LD)



Officers

Baroness Gould (L)



Lord Rea (L)



Baroness Massey (L)



Liz McInnes MP (L)



John Mann MP (L)



Virendra Sharma MP (L)



Karl Turner MP (L)



Baroness Barker (LD)



Lord Cameron (XB)



Lord Purvis (LD)



Lord Collins (L)



Baroness Northover (LD)



**Parliamentary and
Policy Advisor**

Ann Mette Kjaerby

**Parliamentary
Administrator and
Secretary**

Sarah Harvey-Kelly

NEW APPG ON PDRH MEMBERS (APRIL 2017 - MARCH 2018)

The APPG on PDRH continue its parliamentary recruitment activities. This year, 6 new members were recruited via briefing meetings, targeted letter writing and study tours.

New members are:

- Sarah Jones MP:** Sarah Jones MP was elected as a Labour Party MP for Croydon Central in June 2017 and has been a member of the Home Affairs select committee since September 2017. Prior to entering the House of Commons (HoC), Sarah Jones MP was Head of Campaigns at Shelter, worked for the Labour Party and ran campaigns for the National Health Service (NHS) Confederation. Her political interests include social justice and gender equality.
- Chris Elmore MP:** Chris Elmore MP joined the HoC as a Labour Party MP for Ogmore in 2016. He is currently the Opposition Whip and was a member of the Justice select committee until 2016. Chris Elmore MP worked as a councillor for Casteland where he was a cabinet member for children's services and schools before becoming an MP. His political interests include young people.
- Sarah Champion MP:** Sarah Champion MP was elected as a Labour Party MP for Rotherham in 2012. Following her election, she was Shadow Minister for the Home Office (2015-2016), Shadow Secretary of State for Women and Equalities (2016-2017) and currently sits on the Women and Equalities select committee. Before entering Parliament, she was Chief Executive (CE) of a children's hospice, and prior to that ran an arts centre in Manchester. She actively campaigns on gender equality and health issues.
- Karen Buck MP:** Karen Buck MP was elected as a Labour Party MP to the HoC for Regent's Park and Kensington North in 1997 (later Westminster North 2010). She was Shadow Minister for Education (2011-2013) and sat on various select committees including the Home Affairs select committee (2006-2009), Children, Schools and Families select committee (2009-2010), and has sat on the Joint Committee on Human Rights since 2015. Prior to entering Parliament, she was a councillor for the City of Westminster Council and worked as a health directorate researcher for the Labour Party. Her interests lie in healthcare, welfare, children, environment and climate change.
- Baroness Blackstone:** Baroness Blackstone has been a Labour Peer in the House of Lords (HoL) since 1987. She was Minister for Education from 1997 until 2001 and sat on the House of Lords Public Service and Demographic Change Committee (2012-2013) and Long-

Term Sustainability of the NHS Committee (2016- April 2017). Prior to entering the HoL, Baroness Blackstone worked in academia, was a policy adviser to the Cabinet Office and was Deputy Education Officer at the London Education Authority. She has chaired various boards including the Institute of Public Policy Research (IPPR) board, and is currently the chair of the Great Ormond Street Hospital board. Her interests lie in education, foreign affairs and healthcare.

Baroness Watkins:

Baroness Watkins has been a Crossbench peer in the HoL since 2015 and is currently a member of the Draft Health Service Safety Investigation Bill Joint Committee. Prior to entering the HoL, she worked as a nursing professor at the University of Plymouth where she was also Deputy Vice Chancellor until 2012. She is currently Chair of the National Institute for Health Research and a member of the British United Provident Association (Bupa) Medical Advisory Board and was a member of the Bupa Global Quality Clinical Committee until 2018. Her political interests lie in healthcare and social services.

APPG ON PDRH AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

Aims

To ensure the full implementation of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) Programme of Action (PoA), with specific reference to stabilising the world's population through ensuring choice and sustainable development (SD).

Objectives

- To raise the profile of Population, and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) including family planning (FP) in Parliament and internationally;
- To provide parliamentary backing to the Secretary of State (SoS) for International Development (ID) in their negotiations with the Treasury, in order to maintain the UK Official Development Assistance (ODA) at 0.7% of Gross National Income (GNI), and increase the allocations to the ICPD PoA to 10% of the ODA;
- To keep under review population trends and SRHR programmes/policies/legislation nationally and internationally;
- In consultation with Government departments, international agencies and foundations and non-governmental organisations (NGOs), to assess how the UK might respond to requests from outside for support, and to press for action by the Parliament and the UK Government;
- To study the results of research into the causes and consequences of population changes and the effect that access to comprehensive SRHR services has on population, and draw these to the attention of both Houses of Parliament;
- To increase awareness of the interdependence between countries, with reference to poverty reduction, women's equality, access to SRHR services, environment, consumption and pollution and the impact of legislation, policies and practices of one country upon others.

PARLIAMENTARY ACTIVITIES

APPG on PDRH Committee Meetings

The APPG on PDRH held 6 committee meetings between April 2016 and March 2017:

24th April 2017

26th June 2017 (Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Committee Meeting

16th October 2017

4th December 2017

5th February 2018

26th March 2018

Please find enclosed agendas and committee meeting minutes as appendix 1

APPG on PDRH Parliamentary Briefing Meetings

This year, 12 parliamentary briefing meetings/receptions were co-organised by the APPG on PDRH, where members were briefed on topical population-, reproductive and maternal health-, family planning- and international development issues, in support of parliamentary advocacy activities.

Nepal Ministry of Health and Marie Stopes International meeting, 3rd May 2017, HoC, London

Dr Naresh, Director of Family Health Division Ministry of Health, Nepal and staff visited the UK in May 2017 with support from Marie Stopes International (MSI) to look at abortion services in the UK. As part of the visit the Minister and staff had a guided tour of the UK Parliament with Viscount Craigavon and then met with members of the APPG on PDRH. Baroness Barker presented an overview of the law governing abortion in England, Wales and Scotland. She noted that despite abortion being legal for over 50 years in the UK, there remain political tensions on abortion in country. The different attempts to liberalise the law was discussed along with workforce issues. Sex-selective abortions, child marriage and relationship and sex education were briefly discussed along with the reduction in teenage pregnancy rates in the UK. President Trump's Global Gag Rule (GGR) was also mentioned along with the Department for International Development's (DFID) ODA and continued support to family planning, abortion and the wider SRHR agenda. A question and answer session followed, and Dr Naresh then proceeded to meet with MSI's senior leadership and medical teams to discuss abortion.

Please find enclosed meeting notes as appendix 2

World Population Day reception, 11th July, HoL, London

The above annual celebratory event was co-hosted with the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and members of the UK SRHR Network. This year's World Population Day theme was: 'Under-Served and Over-Looked' and focussed on prioritising contraceptive equity for the poorest and most marginalised women and girls. The event marked the launch of IPPF's Vision 2020 Policy Report with the same title.

Baroness Jenny Tonge welcomed this year's key note speakers at the reception, The Rt Hon. Lord Bates, Minister of State (MoS) for International Development, presented DFID's support for the full SRHR agenda with country case studies. He was followed by Tewodros Melesse, Director General, IPPF and Dr Natalia Kanem, Acting Executive Director, UNFPA. Networking followed between Ambassadors, Government-, NGO- and business representatives.

Please find enclosed invitation as appendix 3

Merck for Mothers (MfM) briefing meeting, 3rd October 2017, HoC, London



Dr Naveen Rao, CE MfM

The APPG on PDRH met with MfM as a follow up to the APPG on PDRH study tour to Greece in December 2017, where delegates visited one of their maternal health projects in a refugee camp outside Athens. Dr Naveen Rao, CE at MfM presented an overview of Merck's 10-year, \$500 million initiative to reduce maternal mortality around the world. Anne Ruglys from Merck's Policy and Government affairs team and colleague Yogeeta Manglani shared an update on the Greece refugee programme. A discussion followed on MfM other country programmes including their Senegal supply chain project and the Women's Political Leaders Global Forum. Discussions also touched on MfM support to the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination. MfM is currently working with academics, schools and parliamentarians to take a more pro-active approach and celebrate the public health value of vaccinations.

Please find enclosed briefings received as appendix 4

Girls not Brides child marriage meeting, 14th November 2017, HoC, London

The APPG on PDRH met with representatives from the Foundation for Women's Health Research and Development (FORWARD), the Iranian and Kurdish Women's Rights Organisation (IKWRO), Karma Nirvana and an Independent Yemen Group, Lubna, to discuss strategies with regards to increasing age of marriage in the UK to 18. Of particular interest were discussions on the upcoming UK Government Domestic Violence and Abuse Bill. Discussions have continued during the year with NGOs via email.

British Pregnancy Advisory Service (BPAS) dinner, 24th November 2017, HoC, London

The APPG on PDRH hosted a celebratory dinner with BPAS to mark the 50th anniversary of the UK Abortion Act and to celebrate BPAS' 50th anniversary. The dinner provided an opportunity for former BPAS trustees, current trustees, past and present directors (and a few people who have made magnificent contributions and have earned their place at the table) to reminisce, make new friends and plan for the future.

Please find enclosed invitation as appendix 5

Catherine Calderwood, Chief Medical Officer (CMO) Scotland meeting, 12th January 2018, HoC, London

Members of the APPG on PDRH met with Catherine Calderwood, CMO Scotland to discuss Scotland's decision to improve existing abortion services by approving misoprostol to be taken at home. Scottish Ministers granted the approval for the second stage of early medical abortion treatment to be undertaken in a patient's ordinary residence with the following conditions in October 2017:

- (a) the pregnant woman has attended a clinic where she has been prescribed mifepristone and misoprostol to be taken for the purposes of termination of her pregnancy; and
- (b) the pregnant woman has taken mifepristone at that clinic and wants to carry out the treatment at home.

Following this meeting, the APPG on PDRH sent a letter to Jackie Doyle-Price MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Health, requesting a meeting with her to discuss the changes made in Scotland in relation to medical abortions and women's comfort and quality of care.

A quote from the APPG on PDRH hearings on Abortion in November 2017 by Lesley Regan, President of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG) was included in the letter:

"Whatever one's personal views are about abortion, the fact remains that abortion is the most common procedure that women of reproductive age undergo in this country under the age of 45 years...I have spent a large part of my career running a very specialist recurrent miscarriage service!

What really strikes me is if somebody in this room came to see me tomorrow morning in that clinic at St Mary's and the scan diagnosed that their pregnancy had died, I would be giving them the Misoprostol to take home so they could be comfortable and I would probably say, "Why don't you take it on Friday night so you are going to be at home and it doesn't interrupt work, et cetera", and yet if you had come to me requesting a termination of pregnancy at exactly the same gestation, I have to insist - it is the law - that you take the drug in front of me and you then miscarry travelling home. I think that we have got to the point where the old Act is now outdated because in 1967 the only way to obtain an abortion was to bring a woman into hospital, give her a general anaesthetic and do an operation. Now 65% in England and over 80% in Scotland of early medical abortions are performed with drugs."

A reply from the Minister's office was received stating: "The UK Government does not intend to grant approval for the second stage of early medical abortion treatment to be undertaken in a patient's ordinary residence!"

IPPF and MSI strategy meeting, 17th January 2018, HoC, London

Members of the APPG on PDRH met with IPPF and MSI representatives to discuss activities and strategies for the year ahead. Funding to NGOs was discussed with particular reference to UK ODA, as was the APPG on PDRH November study tour to Ethiopia and hearings on Abortion in the Developing World and the UK and possible future collaborative activities.

A series of written and oral Parliamentary Questions (PQ) on funding to SRHR NGOs were tabled subsequently and can be found on the APPG on PDRH website here: www.appg-popdevrh.org.uk. Some made reference to DFID's funding to MSI and IPPF specifically. Harriet Harman MP also tabled an Early Day Motion (EDM) on the GGR which was circulated to members for signatures and also available on the APPG on PDRH website.

Dr Natalia Kanem, UNFPA ED, 1st February 2018, HoL, London



Dr Natalia Kanem, UNFPA ED

The APPG on PDRH hosted a luncheon in the UK Parliament for the new UNFPA Executive Director (ED), Dr Natalia Kanem to welcome her in her new position. Ten key members of the APPG on PDRH were at the luncheon to introduce themselves and outline APPG on PDRH activities. Dr Natalia Kanem also presented her vision and priorities for UNFPA in the coming years.

Please find enclosed a list of delegates in attended enclosed as appendix 6

APPG on Sudan and APPG on PDRH Maternal Health in Sudan meeting, 5th February 2018, HoL, London

The above briefing meeting was organised for members to receive an update on maternal health in Sudan and neighbouring countries with Ambassador Abeer Abdalsalam in attendance. Dr Noon Altijani, a Sudanese physician and now PhD student at the University of Oxford presented her research on maternal mortality in Sudan. Her research aimed to reduce maternal mortality in the country. Seri Wendo from IPPF followed by presenting the organisations work on female genital mutilation (FGM) in Sudan and neighbouring countries. Over 30 NGOs, academic and other interested representatives attended the event and a lively question and answer session followed the presentations.

Please find enclosed invitation as appendix 7

Joint APPG and MSc students on Global Health briefing meeting, 6th February 2018, HoC, London

The above event was jointly hosted by the APPGs on Malaria & Neglected Tropical Diseases (MNTDs) – Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) & Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) - Global Health, - Tuberculosis and PDRH. Master students from Oxford's Master's Programme on International Health and Tropical Medicine were invited to present a series of policy papers. Topics included: The impact of aid withdrawal in middle income countries on women and girls affected by HIV/AIDS; new opportunities for diagnosing and treating tuberculosis (TB) and multi-drug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB); resistance to artemisinin and artemisinin-based combination therapy (ACT) in the greater Mekong Sub-Region and Africa: current and future approaches; snake envenoming: A disease of poverty. A discussion followed presentations between Lord Alexander Trees, Lord Nigel Crisp, Baroness Liz Barker and Baroness Jenny Tonge and the MSc students.

Please find enclosed invitation as appendix 8

IPPF 'SheDecides' event, 28th February 2018, HoC, London

Gareth Thomas MP co-hosted the above event to mark the first annual 'SheDecides' Day in the UK. Similar events were hosted in Belgium, India, Lebanon, Malaysia, the Netherlands, the Philippines, Senegal, South Africa, and the United States (USA), to stand up, speak out and take action on commitments to SRHR. The 'SheDecides' movement co-conspires for a world where every girl and every woman everywhere can decide about her body. Key note speakers alongside Gareth Thomas MP were Baroness Jenny Tonge; Ana Pax, Poet; Alvaro Bermejo,

Director General IPPF, Marjorie Newam-Williams, Vice-President and Director for External Affairs, MSI.

Please find enclosed invitation and agenda as appendix 9

RCOG round table meeting, 14th March 2018, RCOG, London

Baroness Jenny Tonge and Ann Mette Kjaerby met with Lesley Regan, President RCOG and Kelley Ireland to discuss follow up activities to the launch of the APPG on PDRH hearing report on Abortion in the Developing World and the UK and other SRHR topics of mutual interest. A series of written PQs were subsequently tabled by Baroness Jenny Tonge on folic acid fortification and general practitioner's (GP) provision of contraceptives.

Other Briefing Meetings

APPG on PDRH members and staff attended 11 external family planning and SRHR briefing meetings this year.

British Group Inter-Parliamentary Union (BGIPU) reception after The Queen's Speech, 21st June 2017

The APPG on PDRH was represented at above reception where members of the BGIPU were present alongside ambassadors and diplomats for discussions and networking. The Chair of BGIPU, Nigel Evans MP expressed his appreciation for the work Ambassadors and their embassies do in support of inter-parliamentary dialogue. He also noted his appreciation for UK parliamentarians in their engagements with the diplomatic corps and the importance in finding mutual understanding among nations in an increasingly uncertain international landscape. He stressed the importance of continuing to work worldwide on issues such as conflict and stability, human rights, development and trade.

Please find enclosed invitation as appendix 10

Margaret Pyke and Population & Sustainability Network (PSN) family planning briefing meeting, 10th July 2017, London

Members of the APPG on PDRH attended the above event entitled: A win-win for human and environmental health: How conservation programmes can be strengthened by meeting family planning needs. The event featured a discussion on the importance of considering family planning actions not only as essential for the health and empowerment of girls and women, but also fundamental for the success of conservation programmes. Speakers included representatives from Pathfinder International, the Population Media Center, Population Reference Bureau, Blue Ventures and senior representatives from the Family Planning 2020 (FP2020).

Please find enclosed invitation and programme as appendix 11

DFID, The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and UNFPA Family Planning Summit evening reception, County Hall, 10th July 2017, London

Select members of the APPG on PDRH attended the above reception organised in connection to the 2nd London Family Planning Summit on 11th July 2018. The reception was a welcoming event for policymakers, donors, and advocates from around the world gathering at the Family Planning Summit in London, UK, to network and discuss efforts to reach FP2020 goals and ensure that more women and girls around the world are able to plan their families and their futures.

Dr Natalia Kanem, Acting ED of UNFPA; Melinda Gates, co-chair of The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and Priti Patel MP, SoS for ID spoke at the reception, in addition to health ministers from developing countries.

‘The Morning After’ the 2017 Family Planning Summit NGO event, 12th July 2017, London

The APPG on PDRH was represented at the ‘The Morning After’ – Turning 2017 Family Planning Summit Commitments into Comprehensive Action on SRHR event. This was a half-day opportunity for civil society to reflect on and respond to the Summit, hosted by the UK SRHR Network, Plan International, Amnesty International, ActionAid and IPPF, with support from FP2020 and Countdown 2030. Discussions at the event covered the following topics: the GGR, commodities, integration of services, abortion, young people and adolescents, human rights, Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG), humanitarian activities and accountability. A report was prepared that summarised the conversations and concluded with recommendations on moving forward using a comprehensive approach to SRHR.

Please find enclosed invitation to event and recommendations from the event as appendix 12

BPAS reception, 5th October 2017, Speakers House, HoC, London

Select members attended the above reception hosted by BPAS in honour of the 50th anniversary of the 1967 Abortion Act. Speakers celebrated the progress in reproductive rights over the last 50 years and looked forward to the work to come. Networking followed speeches.

Please find enclosed invitation as appendix 13

ActionAid event: “Survivors Runaway” co-hosted with ActionAid Bangladesh, 10th October 2017, London.

Members of the APPG on PDRH attended the above event. Presentations were led by survivors of acid attacks from Bangladesh, who were in the UK to raise awareness of VAWG. Alongside the event was an exhibition, fashion show and reception for networking. VAWG affects a third of women and girls globally, making it the most widespread human rights abuse. Acid violence, as with other forms of VAWG, is used to control women’s bodies, freedoms and opportunities.

Please find enclosed invitation as appendix 14

UNFPA State of World Population (SWOP) report launch, 17th October 2017, London

APPG on PDRH members attended the above report launch. This year’s SWOP report was on the topic ‘Worlds Apart: Reproductive Health and Rights in an age of inequality’. The report examined what economic inequality and family planning have in common. Inequality is often talked about as a lopsided distribution of wealth or income but is in fact a much more complex phenomenon. UNFPA’s report explained how supporting women’s health and rights can contribute to more balanced economies and societies, and how governments’ failure to ensure reproductive health services for the poor can hamper economic growth for all. The newly appointed UNFPA ED, Dr Natalia Kanem presented the report at the launch. The report and press release were circulated to all APPG on PDRH members following the launch.

Please find enclosed invitation, front, content and executive summary pages and press release as appendix 15

APPG on United Nations (UN) Global Goals for Sustainable Development, Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) and Bond meeting: Reporting back on the annual High Level Political Forum on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) in New York, 24th October 2017, HoC, London

Members of the APPG on PDRH and Sarah Harvey-Kelly attended above event chaired by Gillian Keegan MP and Lord Jack McConnell. Members of the APPG on UN SDGs reported back on their recent study visit to the High Level Political Forum on SD, a visit that was funded by the CPA’s fellowship scheme.

The annual High Level Political Forum (HLPF) examined progress towards achieving the SDGs (or Agenda 2030). In 2017, the theme of the HLPF was Eradicating Poverty and Promoting Prosperity in a Changing World. The study visit had been successful in creating the opportunity for engagement between the delegates and other parliamentarians and stakeholders from around the world working towards the implementation of the SDGs.

This included those from a number of UN departments, as well as members of other governments and those working for NGOs. Recommendations were made on how the UK Government should take Agenda 2030 forward at the event.

Please find enclosed invitation as appendix 16

Save the Children Meeting: Global Financing Facility, 22nd January 2018, London

The APPG on PDRH was represented at above round table meeting where Mariam Claeson, Global Financing Facility (GFF), Director, with support from Katri Bertram, Senior Partnership Specialist; Melanie Mayhew, Senior Communications Officer; Quinn Wikely, Communications Advisor presented an overview of the GFF in the present and future. The GFF uses the World Bank Task Teams and resources as its secretariat in order not to create another entity. It has focused objectives and aims not to create new operations at country level. The GFF currently has 13 projects, 11 countries - \$342million in Trust Fund + \$2.3billion from the International Development Association (IDA) and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD). GFF works with countries to develop multi-sector and multi-actor platform to identify gaps, address bottlenecks, and identify health financing priority reforms needed to address Reproductive Maternal Neonatal and Child Health (RMNACH) and nutrition. Its goal for 2018 is to have a total of 50 countries on board. The 26 current countries represent 59% of the total financing gap across all GFF countries, which would go up to 96% when 50 countries are on board. Civil society partnerships (CSO) are also essential partners.

A discussion followed with around 15 NGO representatives.

Please find enclosed invitation and minutes at meeting as appendix 17

UNFPA and the Commonwealth Medical Trust (COMMAT) Commonwealth Head of Government Meeting (CHOGM) strategy meeting, 2nd February 2018, London

The APPG on PDRH was represented at the above briefing and strategy session on the Women's Forum of the Commonwealth Summit. The meeting was co-chaired by Marianne Haslegrave, COMMAT and Matt Jackson, London UNFPA representative, and started with a briefing by the Commonwealth Secretariat on the Commonwealth Summit and Women's Forum by Karen McKenzie, Gender Section. Olivia Jensen followed with remarks from the Cabinet Office as the host of the Summit. The main discussion points were:

- Remarks on the draft plan and objectives for the women's forum;
- SRHR panel session: what key messages need to come out of this session? How best can this group support these aims? How can we ensure support from traditional allies and build understanding from others; and
- FGM/ending child marriage session: What key commitments can this session deliver? How can this translate to action on the ground in Commonwealth countries.

A discussion followed on what communications are needed to maintain the momentum on SRHR from the 2030 Agenda/SDGs, and how UK CSOs networks and partners can further

support the Women's Forum objectives. Concluding remarks were made by Marianne Haslegrove and Matt Jackson with specific task sharing.

Ann Mette Kjaerby circulated summary points of the above meeting and the APPG on PDRH which lead to members being involved and represented at the CHOGM Women's Forum.

Please find enclosed invitation to strategy meeting, agenda and minutes and follow up communications as appendix 18

Plan UK meeting, 7th February 2018, HoC, London

Ann Mette Kjaerby and Sarah Harvey-Kelly met with Abigail Rowlands from Plan UK for an update on countdown 2040 Europe's work. Discussions focussed on funding to family planning and SRHR, and countdown's soon to be launched reports. The APPG on PDRH subsequently received a copy of the Countdown2030 Europe briefing "Six criteria for Donor Engagement with the Private Sector" and Countdown2020's tracking of donor spending on family planning and sexual and reproductive health (SRH). DFID's funding to NGOs via the four main mechanisms were discussed and of particular interest. These are listed below:

- UK Aid Match. This will allow the UK public to have their say over where a chunk of the official aid budget goes, by matching private donations to charity appeals from the aid budget. We will honour our manifesto commitment to double the size of this programme;
- UK Aid Direct. Small and medium sized CSOs will be able to competitively bid into an expanded 'pot' of central funding, to help them deliver life changing outcomes for the world's poor;
- UK Aid Connect. Too often the global aid system operates in narrow silos. This new approach to funding will create incentives for innovation and collaboration between CSOs, think tanks and the public and private sectors to solve key challenges in development; and
- UK Aid Volunteers. This will offer targeted support to effective global volunteering programmes – including delivering our manifesto commitment to triple the size of International Citizen Service, which helps young people volunteer around the world.

The future APPG on PDRH study tour to Bangladesh and possible support from Plan UK for the pre-departure briefing meeting was also discussed.

Please find enclosed sample communications and Executive Summary of reports as appendix 19

European Meetings

European Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development (EPF)



Collaboration between the UK APPG on PDRH and EPF remains strong. Parliamentary advocacy activities have been shared online, discussed over the phone and at meetings and conferences.

John Mann MP was nominated and elected as the UK APPG on PDRH representative to the EPF Executive Committee (EC) in May 2017.

All EPF study tours and conference invitations have been circulated to members, but as many took place during UK Parliamentary sessions this year and the UK Government has a very small majority, UK MPs have been unable to join these. Several members however did attend the May 2017 G7 Rome conference and John Mann MP attended the International Consultation for parliamentarians on “Upholding the Rights of Girls, Ending Female Genital Mutilation and Child Marriage”, 2nd – 3rd October 2017, Fez, Morocco. Baroness Jenny Tonge attended the Meeting on Reproductive Health Supplies, 19th March 2018, Brussels, Belgium (please see conference section for further information).

After the UK General Elections (GE) in May 2017, EPF received a summary update on the UK political situation, with a particular focus on the international development situation along with the APPG on PDRH future activities as requested.

In October 2017 EPF requested and received information on UK national family planning provisions for the EPF European Atlas report on contraception in Europe.

A request was also made in October 2017 to show solidarity with women and girls of Lithuania in connection with a newly drafted law on abortion, which prompted many European parliamentarians, including Baroness Jenny Tonge to write and send a letter to Saulius Skvernelis, Lithuania’s Prime Minister.

In December 2017 EPF commissioned an independent consultant, Jim Coe to conduct a review and evaluation of EPF’s work. Baroness Jenny Tonge and Ann Mette Kjaerby contributed to the evaluation via telephone interviews. The focus of the interviews were on the effectiveness of EPF’s work and what can be learned for the future.

In January 2018 EPF received information on Maria Caulfield MP, the newly appointment anti-choice Vice-Chair for women, along with a summary update on the UK Cabinet reshuffle and its

impact on DFID. Rory Stewart MP was replaced by Harriett Baldwin MP as MoS for ID other ministers remained in position namely:

- The Rt Hon Penny Mordaunt MP, SoS for ID
- The Rt Hon Lord Bates, MoS for ID
- The Rt Hon Alistair Burt MP, MoS for ID (FP/SRHR brief)

A bio for Harriett Baldwin MP was sent to EPF with her full voting record on SRHR, which showed her support to the ICPD PoA. See here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/ministers/minister-of-state--62> and here <http://www.publicwhip.org.uk/mp.php?mpid=40922&display=everyvote>

In January 2018 the EPF teamed up with the European Humanist Federation and IPPF European Network and organised an extended briefing on Reproductive Health and Human Rights in the Council of Europe (CoE). Invitations to attend were sent to UK CoE members and the briefing was attended by MPs from the UK, Sweden, Turkey and Germany. The International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association (ILGA) and the Centre for Reproductive Rights also attended the event.

Communications in January 2018 related to the UK anti-choice parliamentary activities – the HoL Conscientious Objection (Medical Activities) Bill. Member's speeches opposing it were circulated.

In March 2018 communications were in connection with the forthcoming CHOGM in London and the UN Commission on the Status of Women Conference, 11th – 16th March, New York, USA.

Baroness Hodgson and Pauline Latham MP attended the UN conference via the BGIPU.

EPF conference for European APPG Secretariats, 30th – 31st November 2017, Ajaccio, Corsica



APPG on Population and Development secretariats meeting, Ajaccio, Corsica

Ann Mette Kjaerby attended the annual parliamentary secretariat retreat in Ajaccio, Corsica. 38 participants attended the EPF APPG secretariats' meeting in Corsica in total. The annual

gathering brought together those working with parliamentarians on SRHR at the national level as well as representatives from UNFPA and IPPF.

During the two-day meeting, participants reflected on work with parliamentarians over the past year and looked ahead to plans for 2018. Central to the meeting was an exchange of best practice and strategising on how to best promote SRHR in the current international political landscape.

The EPF now supports 30 APPGs across Europe and is of great value to national APPGs in supporting MPs in their advocacy and media activities to protect SRHR worldwide.

Please find enclosed programme as appendix 20

European Non-Governmental Organisations for SRHR (EuroNGO)

Collaboration between European SRHR NGOs and the APPG on PDRH remains strong and important. Events and campaigns continue to be co-organised with both national and international SRHR stakeholders.

EuroNGO's e-mail briefings and NGO press cuttings are circulated to members of the UK APPG on PDRH regularly to ensure they are updated on new and relevant SRHR research, campaigns, legislative and policy issues (please see general written briefing section for further information).

In May 2017 Deborah Rubbens took up the position as the new EuroNGO coordinator and requested a skype call to introduce herself and learn more about the UK APPG on PDRH and obtain feedback on how EuroNGOs can best support member and associate member organisations.

EuroNGO's AGM: "Promoting SRHR in a time of growing populism", 27th – 28th September 2017, Brussels, Belgium

Ann Mette Kjaerby and Sarah Harvey-Kelly attended EuroNGO's AGM, which remains an excellent platform for sharing experiences, networking and obtaining information on new SRHR campaigns and advocacy activities in Europe, as well as further afield.



EuroNGO AGM, Brussels, Belgium

This two-day gathering challenged thinking and stimulated debate around the rise of populism, its impact on SRHR issues and how to respond to this changing context.

The objectives of the conference were two-fold:

- Provide a platform for the SRHR community to unravel political and financial implications of the recent political developments and put in place new narratives, share and collect best practices, techniques and approaches to respond to this changing context – at the global, regional and grassroots level; and
- Taking into account the shifting political landscape, come up with concrete strategies to use the global framework of the SDGs to mitigate the opposition to SRHR and to put gender, human and sexual and reproductive rights firmly on the agenda.

The conference gathered over 200 participants from 33 countries and was a two-day dialogue, with parallel political and SDG tracks, between which participants could navigate and choose from 20 sessions according to interest and priorities.

The conference reception was held at the Belgian Federal Parliament and the two-day event was hosted by the APPG Belgium “Parliamentarians for the 2030 Agenda” and co-organised by Sensoa and EPF.

The EuroNGO AGM programme is available here:

http://www.eurongos.org/fileadmin/files/EURONGOS_programme_ONLINE.pdf

The EuroNGO AGM report is available here:

http://www.eurongos.org/fileadmin/files/FINAL_CONFERENCE_REPORT_-_EURONGOS_2017.pdf

Study Tours

Ethiopia, 5th – 11th November 2017

The UK APPG on PDRH organised a study tour to Ethiopia from the 5th - 11th of November 2017 for a cross-party UK parliamentary delegation. The delegation included: Baroness Jenny Tonge, Baroness Jenkin, Baroness Blackstone, Harriet Harman MP and Karen Buck MP.

The study tour was co-hosted by MSI with the aim of strengthening UK parliamentarians’ knowledge about family planning and SRHR, and to enhance the membership of the UK APPG on PDRH.

Prior to departure, the delegation was briefed in the UK Parliament by representatives from the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), DFID and MSI.

Whilst visiting Ethiopia, delegates were briefed and met with DFID in-country staff (including a security officer), Ministry of Health officials, and representatives of UNFPA, IPPF, MSI, Engender Health and the Family Guidance Association of Ethiopia. Delegates also met with members of the Ethiopian Social Affairs Standing Committee, government health officials and medical staff and health workers in Addis Ababa and Axum. In Tigray, the delegation travelled toward the border of Eritrea and visited the Shire refugee camp, where they met and spoke with refugee camp staff and migrants from Eritrea.

Study tour delegates were exposed to an array of family planning and SRHR services in Ethiopia, delivered by the Ethiopian government, NGOs, the United Nations and the Independent sector. Delegates visited hospitals and clinics, safe houses for victims of gender-based violence, university and youth projects, refugee camps and the Ethiopian Parliament.



Baroness Jenny Tonge and Baroness Anne Jenkin meeting families in the Shire refugee camp, Tigray

With their hosts, delegates discussed child marriage, obstetric fistula and prolapses, safe abortion services, cervical cancers, Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), rape and gender-based violence. They also discussed services for young and vulnerable populations, including in refugee settings, as well as general maternal and child healthcare in Ethiopia.



UK parliamentary delegation visiting the Addis Ababa Fistula Hospital, Addis Ababa



UK Aid bag on resident's wall, Shire refugee camp, Tigray

Study tour delegates agreed that the exposure to a wide variety of contraceptive and SRHR services in Ethiopia, in different settings, had enhanced their knowledge of the context and people's needs. As a result, they were energised to advocate for increased support for women and gender equality, including SRHR services for individuals and families and other international development assistance.

General Written Briefings

91 written briefings were disseminated to members this year. The majority of briefings were sent to update members on new international and UK family planning/SRHR policies, funding, research or programme activities. Some briefings were sent in response to specific requests in support of parliamentary debates, legislation or questions or conference presentations.

Members also received one to one briefings, as requested on specialised subjects, in addition to updates on parliamentary advocacy opportunities via weekly UK parliamentary business relating to the ICPD PoA.

Please find enclosed weekly parliamentary updates disseminated as appendix 21

Topical oral and written parliamentary questions were also disseminated to members for tabling in both Houses. A summary list of oral and written PQs can be found in the Parliamentary Statements, Legislation, Debates, EDMs and Parliamentary questions (PQ) section in this report and full list and information can be found on the APPG on PDRH website here: <http://www.appg-popdevrh.org.uk/>

Please find enclosed all future business circulated as appendix 22a

Below is a full list of written briefings sent to members of the APPG on PDRH:

4th April: Committee members received the article 'Tampon tax fund grant to anti-abortion group'

4th April: Baroness Jenny Tonge received the concept note for the forthcoming Family Planning Conference in London, July 2017

4th April: All members received information on President Trump's decision to defund UNFPA

5th April: Baroness Sheehan received follow up information on President Trump's decision to defund UNFPA

24th April: Select members received information on the Family Planning Conference in Rwanda

27th April: Baroness Northover received drafted written PQs on rape in war zones and abortion

27th April and 2nd May: Baroness Barker received briefing on UK Abortion legislation for meeting with Dr Naresh's and MSI on 3rd May

10th May: All peers received summary information on the 50th session of the UN Commission on Population and Development (CPD)

17th May: All peers received summary briefing on President Trump's decision to impose and expand the GGR

23rd May: All peers received the BOND article 'What the UK election will mean for aid and development: key manifesto vows'

23rd May: Baroness Jenny Tonge received the Guardian online article 'Key manifesto vows re UK aid and development'

24th May: All peers received IPPF's press release on the election of Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus as the next Director General of the World Health Organization (WHO)

2nd June: Select peers received the G8 International parliamentarians' Roadmap from the May 2017 Implementation of the International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action (IPCI/ICPD) PoA in Rome, Italy

2nd June: Baroness Jenny Tonge received the article 'Access to abortion pill may be a safe alternative to clinics in Ireland'

5th June: Baroness Jenny Tonge received information on the Commonwealth Development Corporation (CDC) Act

6th June: All peers received the IPPF press release disseminated in connection with Dr Babatunde's death

6th June: Baroness Jenny Tonge received information on the Royal Society of Medicine

8th June: Baroness Jenny Tonge received information on the organisation PATH

9th June: Select members received the Global Justice Center (GJC) briefing on DFID support to abortion

12th June: Baroness Jenny Tonge received briefing on the UK 2017 Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Ratification of Convention) Act

13th June: Select members received a list of editors invited to the APPG on PDRH press luncheon on 6th July in the HoC

16th June: Baroness Jenny Tonge received the press article 'IPPF and MSI join forces'

16th June: Baroness Jenny Tonge received a briefing for the HoL Queen's Speech

22nd June: Baroness Jenny Tonge received information about the Guttmacher's new report launch

22nd June: Viscount Craigavon received briefing for HoL debates on the US Administration and the expanded GGR and defunding of the UNFPA

23rd June: Viscount Craigavon received link to list of new UK MPs

23rd June: Committee members received a list of events hosted in connection with DFID, The Gates Foundation and UNFPA's Family Planning Summit mid-July 2017

29th June: All members received the press article 'The Guttmacher's new report study notes that 67 million unwanted pregnancies could be avoided each year'

29th June: All members received summary points from Priti Patel MP's speech on the vital importance of UK aid

30th June: Baroness Jenny Tonge received briefing for HoL debate on 3rd July on aid effectiveness

3rd July: Committee members received a briefing on DFID's lack of financial support to IPPF and MSI

7th July: Committee members received 'EPF highlights in first half of 2017'

7th July: Members received PSN invitation 'A win-win for human and environmental health: How conservation programmes can be strengthened by meeting family planning needs'

7th July: Select members received topical PQs on DFID funding to IPPF and MSI

7th July: Holly Lynch MP and Karl Turner MP received the article 'El Salvador and abortion'

10th July: All members received the article by Melinda Gates 'Sex, wealth and life with Bill'

10th July: Baroness Jenny Tonge received summary points on the unmet need for family planning from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) one day conference 'Bridging the gap to FP2020: Evidence to accelerate progress towards meeting the need for family planning'

11th July: All members received Priti Patel MP's speech from the Family Planning Summit on 11th July

11th July: John Mann MP received some follow up oral PQs on DFID funding to IPPF and MSI for his oral PQ to SoS for ID

13th July: Baroness Jenny Tonge received Bill Ryerson's PowerPoint slideshow from Population Sustainability Network (PSN) Family Planning Summit side event

13th July: All members received Sarah Hyde's blog 'Language matters: why how we talk about unmet need for contraception counts'

13th July: Holly Lynch MP and Baroness Jenny Tonge received latest information on family planning in Pakistan

19th July: Baroness Jenny Tonge received information on Israel's ODA

20th July: All member received the Guardian article 'Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) vaccine: anger over decision not to extend NHS scheme to boys'

21st July: All members received summary update on the Family Planning Summit

21st July: Baroness Jenny Tonge received information on funding lost due to the expanded GGR

21st July: All members received the article 'Boots faces boycott over refusal to lower cost of morning-after pill'

7th August: Committee members received a copy of Priti Patel MP's letter to the SRHR Network in response to their letter on the Family Planning Summit

7th August: All members received links to the latest 2017 SDG Ministerial Declaration and SDG follow up reports

18th August: Baroness Jenkin and Baroness Jenny Tonge received IPPF and MSI statement on DFID funding to NGOs

12th September: All members received the announcement of the new members of the UK International Development Committee – only one woman was represented, namely Pauline Latham MP. A letter was subsequently sent to the chair of the committee expressing discontent for the lack of women on the committee!

14th September: Baroness Barker and Baroness Jenny Tonge received STOPAIDS Stocktake Review of DFID's Work on HIV and AIDS report

21st September: Baroness Jenny Tonge received information on the Children and Social Work Act 2017 and compulsory relationship and sex education

4th October: Baroness Jenny Tonge received a link to HoL debate on Coca Cola in Nigeria

4th October: All members received the press release announcing the appointment of Dr Natalia Kanem as the new UNFPA ED

5th October: All members received the invitation to UNFPA SWOP report on 17th October 2018

16th October: Baroness Uddin received a briefing on the Rohingya and the provision of family planning and SRHR services

20th October: Baroness Jenny Tonge received an update from MSI regarding the untrue reporting by the Daily Mail

27th October: Baroness Jenny Tonge received a short summary on HPV in Sierra Leone for HoL debate 30th October 2017

31st October: All members received a link to UNFPA's SWOP report press release and report

13th November: Committee members received the SoS for ID written statement on ODA on 1st November

15th November: Select members received a link to the report published by the UK Advisory Group on Contraception 'Cuts, Closures and Contraception'

15th November: Viscount Craigavon received briefings on Population Growth in the Sahel and Niger, the UK Family Planning Summit and a link to UNFPA SWOP report for HoL debates

21st November: Committee Members received a press release on the appointment of IPPF's new Director General, Dr Alvaro Bermejo

27th November: Baroness Jenny Tonge received NGO briefings on the expanded GGR

30th November: Baroness Jenny Tonge received information on France's "African" foreign policy in Ouagadougou

6th December: Committee members received information on the closure of MSI's Belfast clinic

7th December: Baroness Jenny Tonge received a link to WHO essential drug list which now includes misoprostol (last updated March 2017)

9th January: Select members received information on a briefing on a Phenyl Ketone Urea event in Parliament on 18th January 2018

9th January: Baroness Baker and Baroness Jenny Tonge received briefings opposing the Conscientious Objection (Medical Activities) Bill on 26th January 2018

10th January: All members received a briefing on DFID funding to SRHR for oral PQs

11th January: All HoL members received British Pregnancy Advisory Service (BPAS) briefing opposing the Conscientious Objection (Medical Activities) Bill, with a copy of the Bill

11th January: Baroness Jenny Tonge received information on DFID Select Committee inquiry into the definition and administration of ODA

15th January: Baroness Barker and Baroness Jenny Tonge received a BPAS briefing on decriminalising abortion in the UK

16th January: Baroness Jenny Tonge received a briefing on family planning and its link to GNI for HoL Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) debate on 18th January 2018

16th January: All committee members received a link to the UN's revised international technical guidance on sexuality education

17th January: Baroness Jenny Tonge received a link to the written evidence from The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) to DFID Select Committee inquiry

24th January: Viscount Craigavon received information in support of the Conscientious Objection (Medical Activities) Bill HoL debate on 26th January 2018

5th February: Holly Lynch MP and Karl Turner MP received update on Abortion in Chile

28th February: Baroness Jenny Tonge received ID Select Committee press release on members not being granted visas for Myanmar

28th February: Kirsty Blackman MP received briefing on medical abortion

1st March: Baroness Jenny Tonge received communications with Diana Johnson MP's office on decriminalising abortion in the UK

1st March: All members received a link to DFID's single departmental plan with a summary reference on SRHR

3rd March: Select members received embargoed hearing report to quote and promote at the International Women's Day (IWD) debates on 8th March in HoC and HoL

6th March: Baroness Hodgson received a briefing on the GGR from Population Action International (PAI) and Ipas for HoL IWD debate

8th March: All members received a link to the Devex article making reference to the UK APPG on PDRH hearing report on Abortion in the Developing World and the UK

9th March: All member received 'Preliminary Impacts of Trump's Expanded GGR in Nigeria and Uganda'

13th March: Holly Lynch MP and Karl Turner MP received a link to the article 'Salvadoran court releases woman wrongfully imprisoned after stillbirth'

15th March: All committee members received a Bond briefing paper '6 criteria for donor engagement with the private sector'

20th March: All members received briefing from the RCOG opposing the Conscientious Objection (Medical Activities) bill on 23rd March 2018 in the HoL

26th March: All members received a link to two articles on Abortion in the UK and Latin America

Please find enclosed all briefings sent as appendix 22b

General Collaboration, Meetings, Correspondence and Consultations

The APPG on PDRH continue to campaign and advocate for the full implementation of the ICPD PoA.

Enquiries to and about the APPG on PDRH and its parliamentary activities have been dealt with regularly via e-mails, over the phone and via face-to-face communications at meetings and conferences.

Collaboration and communications continue with a variety of national and international SRHR organisations and stakeholders including:

United Nations Population Fund; International Planned Parenthood Federation; Marie Stopes International; UK SRHR Network; Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, British Pregnancy Advisory Service; Forced Marriage and FGM NGOs including: Plan UK, Foundation for Women's Health Research and Development, Iranian and Kurdish Women's Rights Organisation, Agency for Culture and Change Management UK, Girls not Brides; Commonwealth Medical Trust, Global Justice Centre; Population Sustainability Network and other NGOs, academic institutions and individuals working on SRHR and related health issues.

Meetings

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

The APPG on PDRH sent condolences to Dr Babatunde, ED UNFPA's family and UNFPA following his sudden death in June 2017. In August 2017 a letter was sent to UNFPA Sierra Leone in connection with the country's devastating mudslide.

Dr Natalia Kanem, was appointed as the Acting UNFPA ED in July 2017 and attended and spoke at the UK APPG on PDRH and IPPF and UNFPA 2017 World Population Day reception in the UK Parliament.

In February 2018 the UK APPG on PDRH hosted a luncheon in the UK Parliament for Dr Natalia Kanem to welcome her in her new position. Key members of the APPG on PDRH were in attendance.

The APPG on PDRH has been in contact with and communicated regularly throughout the year with Dr Natalia Kanem, Matthew Jackson, UNFPA representative in London and Ragaa Said, Parliamentary Liaison Officer, New York office. Topics of mutual interest have been the July 2017 Family Planning Summit, UK DFID Select Committee visit to New York in July 2017, UNFPA's SWOP report launch in November 2017, the UK APPG on PDRH study tour to Ethiopia in November 2017 and Sierra Leone in 2016, the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in March 2018, CHOGM in London April 2018, the RCOG and UK parliamentary activities on FGM.

UNFPA also conducted another financial spot check into the APPG on PDRH accounts in the spring of 2018. APPG on PDRH income and expenditure list was sent to UNFPA along with invoices, salary slips etc. UNFPA also submitted written evidence and gave oral evidence to the APPG on PDRH hearings on Abortion in the Developing World and the UK and has sent briefings for parliamentary debates upon request.

Please find enclosed sample communications sent as appendix 23

International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF)

The APPG on PDRH said farewell to Tewodros Melesse, Director General of IPPF at the WPD reception in July 2017 and welcomed the new Director General Dr Alvaro Bermejo in November 2017. Matthew Lindley also left IPPF this year for a new position Italy. Matthew Lindley has been the APPG on PDRH main contact within IPPF for more than ten years.

The APPG on PDRH's main contact is now Riva Eskinazi and the majority of correspondence has been in connection with joint events (please see APPG on PDRH briefing meeting section for further information), the Human Rights Council, attendance at conferences, the 2017 November study tour to Ethiopia, and anti-choice activities in the UK Parliament, where IPPF briefings have been shared and disseminated with members.

IPPF also submitted written evidence and gave oral evidence to the APPG on PDRH hearings on Abortion in the Developing World and the UK.

Please find enclosed sample communications as appendix 24

Marie Stopes International (MSI)

Throughout the year the APPG on PDRH has been in regular communications with MSI the main contacts being Sarah Shaw and Thomas Lee, as Bethan Cobley has been on maternity leave.

Several briefing papers pertinent to parliamentary debates were received and disseminated and joint parliamentary events were organised (please see APPG on PDRH briefing meeting section for further information).

Of particular importance this year was the Ethiopia study tour, where MSI kindly took on the responsibility of coordination and logistics in country (please see APPG on PDRH study tour section for further information).

In May 2017 Dr Naresh, Director of Family Health Division Ministry of Health, Nepal visited the UK and met with APPG on PDRH representative to discuss abortion care provisions in the UK. Delegates also had a guided tour of the UK Parliament.

The APPG on PDRH has received updates and follow up information from MSI in relation to the suspension of MSI's clinics the year.

MSI also submitted written evidence and gave oral evidence to the APPG on PDRH hearings on Abortion in the Developing World and the UK.

Please find enclosed sample communications as appendix 25

UK SRHR Network

The APPG on PDRH has been in regular contact with the UK SRHR Network and its member organisations and staff throughout the year. Of particular interest was the meeting organised with DFID staff to brief interested parties on the forthcoming Family Planning Summit in July 2017. The UK SRHR Network was subsequently sent information on the UK CDC Bill, which had received little attention from SRHR NGOs. The APPG on PDRH also received briefings from network members in preparation for conferences and UK SRHR Network communications with the SoS for ID. All SRHR NGOs received a link to the Devex article making reference to the UK APPG on PDRH hearing report on Abortion in the Developing World and the UK and members were of course invited to the launch of the report in March 2018.

Please find enclosed sample communications as appendix 26

Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG)

Baroness Jenny Tonge and Ann Mette Kjaerby have met with Lesley Regan, President RCOG and Kelley Ireland, Special Advisor several times during the year at round table discussions/meetings and conferences. Discussion and communications have mainly been in connection with anti-choice activities in the UK Parliament with dissemination of RCOG briefings, drafting of written PQs on UK family planning service provisions, maternal health and funding.

The RCOG also submitted written evidence and gave oral evidence to the APPG on PDRH hearings on Abortion in the Developing World and the UK, and Lesley Regan spoke at the launch of the report in March 2018.

Please find enclosed sample communications as appendix 27

British Pregnancy Advisory Service (BPAS)

The APPG on PDRH remains in regular contact with BPAS. BPAS briefings have been disseminated to members to combat anti-choice activities in the UK Parliament and importantly pro-choice organisations has been strategising with select MPs and Peer on how to decriminalise abortion in the UK following Stella Creasy MP's intervention at the Queen's Speech this year, which secured free abortion services for women/girls of NI when travelling to England. Written PQs have also been tabled with support from BPAS on UK tampon tax and the

APPG on PDRH co-hosted the annual BPAS dinner on the 24th November 2017, HoC, London (please see briefing section for further information).

BPAS also submitted written evidence and gave oral evidence to the APPG on PDRH hearings on Abortion in the Developing World and the UK and attended the launch of the report in March 2018.

Please find enclosed sample communications as appendix 28

Forced Marriage and FGM NGOs: PLAN UK, Foundation for Women's Health Research and Development (FORWARD), Iranian and Kurdish Women's Rights Organisation (IKWRO), Agency for Culture and Change Management (ACCM) UK and Girls not Brides

The APPG on PDRH has met and communicated with above NGOs this year, as a follow up to Baroness Jenny Tonge's PMB in 2016 to increase the age of marriage to 18 in the UK. Future plans are to table amendments to The Domestic Abuse Bill to increase age of marriage to 18 in the UK. The Government opened a consultation on the Bill this spring and the APPG on PDRH submitted its hearing report on child marriage to the consultation. The Bill is now expected in the autumn 2018. Several written PQs have also been tabled in relation to the Bill.

A new APPG on FGM has been formed this year with Zac Goldsmith MP and Jess Phillips MP as co-chairs and members include: Nicky Morgan MP, Tulip Siddiq MP, Baroness Featherstone, Tan Dhesi MP, Helen Whately MP, Peter Aldous MP, David Amess MP, Jeremy Lefroy MP, Julian Lewis MP, James Cleverly MP, Rosena Allin-Khan MP, Hannah Bardell MP, Jacob Rees-Mogg MP, Caroline Lucas MP, Nusrat Ghani MP, Stephen Crabb MP and Tim Farron MP, with advisory support from survivor activist Nimco Ali, The National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) and women's group Donor Direct Action.

Please find enclosed sample communications as appendix 29

Commonwealth Medical Trust (COMMAT)

The APPG on PDRH has been in communications with COMMAT this year, mainly in connection with CHOGM. Ann Mette Kjaerby attended the COMMAT/UNFPA CHOGM strategy meeting in February 2018 and gave feedback at the APPG on PDRH committee meeting to members (please see other briefing meetings and DFID section for further information).

Communications has also touched on the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) adopting an SDG Indicator Framework and Ugandan MPs visiting the UK supported by COMMAT.

Please find enclosed sample communications as appendix 30

Global Justice Center (GJC)

The APPG on PDRH sent its condolences to Janet Benshoof's family and colleagues at the GJC following her death in December 2017. Akila Radhakrishnan was appointed the new President of the organisation in 2018. Select UK parliamentarians continue to receive GJC briefings on abortion provisions for women raped in armed conflict and the GJC also submitted written and gave oral evidence to the UK APPG on PDRH hearings on Abortion in the Developing World and the UK.

Please find enclosed sample communications as appendix 31

Population Sustainability Network (PSN)

The APPG on PDRH has been in communications with David Johnson, ED PSN, and other staff in connection with briefing meetings of joint interest and funding opportunities for PSN. Several members attended PSN's side event to the Family Planning Summit in July 2017.

Please find enclosed sample communications as appendix 32

Correspondence

The APPG on PDRH has been in communications with many SRHR/population experts and individuals including:

- Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU) staff in connection with IPU delegations visiting the UK and the UN CSW, 12th – 16th March 2018, New York, USA;
- Camila Azevedo from the Faculty for Sexual and Reproductive Health (FSRH) regarding a film on abortion who was directed to Wendy Savage for expert advice;
- Royal College of Midwives (RCM) regarding Baroness Jenny Tonge's written PQs on UK midwifery workforce and the launch of their annual State of Maternity Services report;
- Christian Fiala to obtain briefings for the Conscientious Objection (CO) PMB in the HoL,
- Sightsavers to set up a round table briefing meeting on disabilities and SRHR, which took place in May 2018;
- Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) in connection with their recruitment of parliamentarians to their volunteer programme in Mozambique;
- HIV/AIDS Alliance in connection with their parliamentary briefings meetings;
- Louise Arimatsu in connection with the Istanbul Convention and UK ratification;
- UK Accountability Advocates regarding the SDG in the UK and written PQs;
- Women's Political Leaders Global Forum that were looking for board members on their maternal health mapping project;
- Good Women's network and the UK Government's Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy in connection with Baroness Jenny Tonge speaking at their meeting in November 2017 on the topic of why we need more women in politics and how can social changemakers work better with the government; and Mr Chris Bain, Catholic Agency for Overseas Development (CAFOD) CE who sadly declined a meeting with the APPG on PDRH in November 2017 after numerous communications with his office and Cardinal Nichols recommendation to contact him for a meeting to discuss the importance of FP/SRHR.

Please find enclosed sample communications as appendix 33

Press

The APPG on PDRH continue its press activities to engage new members and update the public of APPG on PDRH activities.

Of particular importance this year was the APPG on PDRH 6th July 2017 press luncheon organised in the lead up to the Family Planning Summit with the aim of increasing press coverage and gain women's and men's magazines interest in APPG on PDRH parliamentary activities.

An extensive invitation list was prepared and disseminated to magazine editors with the title 'A round table luncheon with MPs and Peers to celebrate World Population Day, Family Planning: Empowering People, Developing Nations!'

Please find enclosed invitation list and invitation as appendix 34

The luncheon saw Rhiannon Evans from Grazia, Natasha Lunn from Red, Andrea Thomson from Marie Claire, Claire Sanderson from Women's Health, Kate Finney from Baby London, Sam Taylor from The Lady and Jessica Abrahams from Devex. Matthew Jackson, UNFPA representative in London, Riva Eskinazi, IPPF, Kelley Ireland, RCOG and Claire Straw from the Gates Foundation also attended the luncheon.

Baroness Jenny Tonge welcomed all to the round table luncheon and a round table introduction followed with a screening of a short GapMinder film with the recently deceased world-renowned Hans Rosling and his use of Trendalyzer software visualising global population trends.

APPG on PDRH members in attendance then made personal statements relating to the ICPD PoA and the linkages between modern contraception, migration, conflict, climate change, urbanisation and poverty. Holly Lynch MP made reference to abortion and her recent EPF study tour to Latin America; John Mann MP highlighted the linkages between population demographics and conflict/migration; Liz McInnes MP touched on the topic of child marriage and youth; Virendra Sharma MP made reference to the link between family planning and maternal health; Baroness Northover spoke on gender-based violence with particular reference to rape in war zones; Baroness Jenkin referred to social and economic empowerment and the SDGs; Baroness Uddin highlighted the importance of tackling FGM; Baroness Sheehan referenced SRHR funding and the GGR; and Baroness Barker referred to the links between HIV/AIDS and SRHR.

A question and answer session and discussion followed amongst all around the table including the topics designer vaginas and the UK; Brexit; and the SheDecides campaign and the forthcoming Family Planning Summit.

Articles were published on below topics:

- Marie Claire on The Melinda Gates, contraception and Family Planning Summit;
- Grazia on abortion and contraceptive usage; the morning after pill and Boots;
- Red Magazine on contraception, developing countries and the Family Planning Summit;
- Devex on the Family Planning Summit and SheDecides Fund; and
- RCOG press release on all women and girls having access to high quality family planning.

Please find enclosed articles as appendix 35

A follow up interview was requested with Baroness Jenny Tonge by Grazia editor on the topic of designer vaginas, which took place over the phone in October 2017 with Polly Dunbar, freelance editor for Grazia.

In August 2017, Hannah Yusuf from the BBC contacted the APPG on PDRH in response to its November 2010 child marriage hearing report looking for extra statistics and information. Hannah Yusuf was also referred to 'GirlsNotBrides' and FORWARD for follow up information.

Late in August 2017 'GirlsNotBrides' contacted the APPG on PDRH requesting a member to be interviewed for The Times article on child marriage due to be published. Virendra Sharma MP kindly agreed to be interviewed and was referenced in The Times article.

Please find enclosed article as appendix 36

In September 2017 an APPG on PDRH press release was disseminated to an extensive press list, commenting on the one female member on the new DFID Select Committee.

Please find enclosed press release as appendix 37

In October 2017 an APPG on PDRH press release was disseminated opposing protests outside MSI clinics in the UK.

All magazine editors who attended the APPG on PDRH press luncheon in July 2017 received an invitation to UNFPA's SWOP report lunch on 17th October 2017.

During the summer of 2017 a press strategy was prepared for the forthcoming APPG on PDRH hearings on Abortion in the Developing World and the UK (please see Hearings section for further information)

The APPG on PDRH continued tweeting in connection with parliamentary activities including events hosted or attended and to coincide with parliamentary debates. The tweet strapline can be found on the APPG on PDRH front webpage and have included the following topics: abortion care in the UK, PSHE+ including Sex and Relationship education, DFID and contraception, child marriage, refugees and contraception, Canada funding 'SheDecides', APPG on Malaria and Neglected Tropical Disease event, Trump's cuts to foreign aid and UNFPA, abortion legislation in the UK, poverty and women's health in Africa, FGM, UN Commission on the status of Women, International Women's Day, the Dutch elections, migrant women not seeking maternity care in the UK, cancer in Africa, affordability of sanitary products, MSI and abortion in Afghanistan, UKAID, UK MPs criticism on aid spending cuts, Tampon Tax in UK, Trump's cuts to UNFPA, Professor Hans Rosling gaining UN Population Award, Bill Gates telling the UK government to continue with 0.7% international funding pledge, Guardian article on keeping 0.7% foreign aid spending, Holly Lynch MP working with APPG on PDRH after GE, contraception in conflict settings, men reforming US' reproductive and sexual health law, Northern Irish women accessing abortion services in England and Stella Creasey MP's amendment, The Guttmacher report 'Adding it Up', FORWARD's figures on FGM and the NHS, World Population Day, DFID commitment to family planning, Ireland's abortion regime to be reviewed by British politicians, abortion in El-Salvador, The Guttmacher's graph on unmet need for family planning, intersectionality, gender and health, graphs showing how Donald Trump is bad for the world, campaign to reduce price of morning after pill at Superdrug and Boots, APPG SRH's statement on gender neutral HPV vaccination, EuroNGO looking for testimonials from women in Global South, abortion reform in Chile, Trump and the Global Gag Rule, APPG submissions for evidence on abortion in the UK and developing countries, BPAS 'abortion Act 50 years on' conference, funding for IPPF and MSI, Indian court verdict on abortion for 10 year girl who was raped, survey on sexual health in England, study on withdrawal method in Ireland, new method to save women during child birth, report on disabled women's sexual health, article about abortion refugee, British attitudes towards abortion, impact of President Trump's anti-refugee policies and impact on women suffering from gender-based violence, making trade work for gender, abortion exhibition at Edinburgh Fringe Festival, Egypt promoting family planning as means to controlling population growth, climate change and storm Harvey, letter from Priti Patel on DFID aid, Virendra Sharma's article on child marriage, Jacob Rees-Mogg MP interview on abortion, Tunisia's marriage reforms, abortion clinic offering free abortions in Texas, Diana Johnson MP's tweet on decriminalising abortion, Liz McInnes MP's speech on the Rohingya, China and medical rights, young people and sexual health, article of First Lady of Malawi

opposition to child marriage, UNFPA's tweet on the SWOP report launch, BPAS' tweet on allowing home use misoprostol in the UK, a series of media articles on SWOP and global inequality, Bond's article on the humanitarian crises, RCOG's tweet on LSHTM's MARCH event, RCOG's Guardian article on its Abortion Task Force, BPAS' pro-choice activities, EuroNGOs' activities on abortion in Poland, FP2020's Vice article on investment returns in family planning, a series of tweets on protests and buffer zones outside of abortion clinics in the UK, BPAS' abortion tweets, a Guardian article on Scotland allowing home use of misoprostol, the Lib Dems Lords' article on Lord Steel's Abortion Act 1967, IPPF's tweet on the Global Gag Rule, the Guardian's article on anti-choice activities in Latin America, a series of tweets on abortion law reform in the UK, Dr Natalia Kanem's tweet on UNFPA's work on training midwives in Sierra Leone, BPAS' tweets asking Boots to lower the price of the morning after pill, Norman Lamb's MP tweet on the cross-party letter on the NHS and Care Convention, DFID's event on ending child marriage, Labour's letter to Boots on lowering the price of the morning after pill, the APPG on PDRH abortion hearings, Bond's article on the UK's ODA levels, Marie Claire's article on abortions in the UK, EuroNGO's stats on the EuroNGO conference, IPPF's Vice article on abortion rates in the UK, articles on ending violence against women and #16daysofactivism, the Standard's article on the impact of Brexit on abortion access for Irish women, EPF's letter to the Brazilian Government on its abortion reform, the Center for Reproductive Rights New York Times' article on El-Salvador jailing women who miscarry, EuroNGOs' tweet on standing in solidarity with the Spanish Federation of Family Planning, EuroNGOs' tweet on #WorldAIDSDay, Hans Rosling's TED talk on HIV/AIDS, The Guardian article on parents rejecting HPV vaccine, Devex article on progress on SRHR in humanitarian settings, BPAS on welcoming Birmingham Council's introduction of buffer zones, ASTRA network on progress needed to ensure SRHR, DFID's work on preventing VAWG, Abortion Rights on denying right to abortion is a violation of human rights, BPAS consultation on protests outside of clinics, UNFPA on Time magazine front cover, BPAS on Times article on at home use of Misoprostol, Aljazeera article on CDC banning the use of certain terms including 'foetus', ElleUK article on anti-choice Vice Chair, BBC article on abortion figures in Ireland, RCOG press release on cervical cancer screening, article on FGM and Liberia, Baroness Jenkin receiving Blue Peter badge, Baroness Barker's speech in HoL on CO debate, BPAS' news on Boots lowering the price of the morning after pill, Ethiopia study tour report, MSI on contraception efforts in developing countries, Devex article on DFID's new priorities, Matthew Jackson on meeting between Dr Natalia Kanem and Penny Mordaunt MP, Stella Creasy MP's tweet on solidarity with Irish women, BPAS tweet on Home Office consultation on protests outside of clinics, Claire Pierson on abortion and Women, Peace and Security, 'She Decides' event, EDM on the Global Gag Rule, BBC article on child marriage, DFID on launch of Strategic Launch for Gender Equality, BBC article on home use of misoprostol, APPG on PDRH hearing report launch, London Irish Abortion Rights on Stella Creasy MP cross-party letter on abortion Northern Ireland, BBC article on domestic violence in the UK, International Women's Day, Devex article on APPG on PDRH report launch, the Economist article on contraception, Doctors for Choice UK on abortion providers, RCOG booklet launch 'What is a vulva anyway?', CNN opinion article on global investments in family planning, Stella Creasy MP's cross-party letter, CSW, Plan UK on period poverty in the UK, 'GirlsnotBrides' on sexual education, Centre for Reproductive Rights on Ireland and abortion, Devex article media rhetoric and public opinion of UK aid, Safe Abortion tweet on unsafe abortions burden to healthcare systems in Kenya, BBC article on abortion in El-Salvador, The Guardian article on rise of infant mortality in the UK, MSI on adolescents pregnancies and malnutrition, Bond on DFID and gender equality, article on safety of abortion, EPF on reproductive health supplies event.

Parliamentary Statements, Legislation, Debates, EDMs and Parliamentary questions

The UK Conservative Government remains explicit in its support for international family planning and SRHR. The APPG on PDRH and other MPs/Peers have held the UK Government accountable to its promises via PMB, amendments to Bills, debates, EDMs and written and oral PQs. Of particular importance this year have been activities to highlight the importance of SRHR services for refugees and combatting sexual violence, defending reproductive health service funding and abortion rights. Note only some of below activities are attributed to the APPG on PDRH (please see the APPG on PDRH's website for full information)

House of Commons

Oral Ministerial Statements

G20, 10th July 2017

Prime Minister Theresa May updated the House on the G20 summit in Hamburg, where she reaffirmed the UK's continued commitment to the Paris agreement, spending 0.7% of GDP on ODA, and her commitment to assisting European Union (EU) countries with the refugee crisis. The G20 also agreed on a comprehensive approach for the global refugee crisis, including ensuring that refugees claim asylum in the first safe country they reach and developing a better overall approach to managing economic migration and providing humanitarian and development assistance to refugees in their home region. The UK also committed £55 million to support the Government of Tanzania in managing their refugee and migrant populations.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 38

Maternity Safety Strategy, 28th November 2017

Jeremy Hunt MP updated the House on the Government's strategy to improve safety in NHS maternity services. He stated that whilst improvements had been made, more work was needed to halve the rate of maternal deaths, neonatal deaths, brain injuries and stillbirths. He announced additional measures such as independent investigations by healthcare safety investigation branches instead of NHS trusts; working more closely with the Ministry of Justice to make sure neonatal deaths are properly investigated; improving training of maternity staff; and increasing maternity premiums by 10% that are paid by trusts under the clinical negligence scheme. This will be refunded possibly by the Government.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 39

Aid Sector: Safeguarding, 20th February 2018

Penny Mordaunt MP updated the House on the measures the Government was taking following the sexual exploitation scandal by aid workers in Haiti in 2011. She explained that Oxfam had agreed to withdraw its bidding for any new UK Government funding until it satisfied DFID's safeguarding standards. She further stated that she had written to all 192 NGOs receiving funding from DFID working overseas, outlining the steps they need to take in order to ensure that their safeguarding policies are fully in place, and that all concerns about specific cases have been referred to relevant authorities. All 393 non-UK charity partners, 500 suppliers and multilateral partners had been reminded of their obligations and DFID's standards.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 40

Burma, 15th March 2018

Mark Field MP updated the House on the Rohingya crisis in Burma, where he reiterated the Government's commitment to relieving the situation in the region, including £59 million to help ensure the Rohingya refugees' health and wellbeing. He also reiterated DFID's support to victims of sexual violence and assault. Due to restricted access in northern Rakhine, UK aid is also being distributed via other channels including the World Food Programme and the Red Cross. International diplomatic efforts are additionally being pursued through the Burmese authorities and through the UN Security Council.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 41

Written Ministerial Statements

International Development, 20th April 2017

Priti Patel MP announced that DFID would increase humanitarian aid to Yemen to £139 million and £100 million in humanitarian aid to Nigeria in the financial year 2017 - 2018. The money will be primarily spent on food assistance to treat severe acute malnutrition among children, to provide clean water and provide education to children. Additional aid would be provided in Syria and Somalia. She further announced that £75 million would be invested to kick start economic growth and create jobs in Lebanon and Jordan over the next three years. These funds will leverage up to £250 million of concessional finance from Multilateral Development Banks, including through the Global Concessional Financing Facility. Priti Patel MP also announced that UK Aid will be reformed in order to maximise its impacts by investing in programs which will deliver more value for money, amounting to £400 million of efficiency savings by 2019 - 2020.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 42

DFID Supplier Review, 9th October 2017

Priti Patel MP announced that DFID was introducing a new DFID Supply Partner Code of Conduct to ensure that DFID's contractors were delivering the best possible results. The code would cover commercial requirements, ethical behaviours, transparency obligations, environmental sustainability and social responsibility. Priti Patel MP argued that greater transparency would drive down costs along its supply chains, ensure more value for money and a more comprehensive approach to supplier management, and hold suppliers to account.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 43

Economic Development in Africa and South Asia, 16th October 2017

Priti Patel MP announced a gradual capital increase of the CDC over the next five years, in order to boost economic growth in Africa and Asia. This capital increase, which will average of up to £703 million per year, will allow the CDC to further investments and increase jobs in the poorest and most fragile states in Africa and Asia, allowing them to meet the SDGs.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 44

Equalities, 23rd October 2017

Justine Greening MP announced that women residing in Northern Ireland (NI) would no longer need to pay to have abortions in England. She further stated that abortion providers would be invited to apply for funding in order to extend their services to women from NI free of charge. Funding would be accessed via a grant scheme administered by the Department

of Health (DoH). The cost of abortion services would be met by the Government Equalities Office with additional funding provided by HM Treasury. A small number of procedures would continue to be provided through the NHS where this is necessary for medical reasons. NHS providers would also be reimbursed by the DoH. Support with travel costs would also be provided if the woman meets financial hardship criteria.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 45

Official Development Assistance, 1st November 2017

Priti Patel MP announced the achievement the Government had made on the international level in modernising the global definitions of ODA by giving more flexibility in defining when countries are eligible for ODA. For the first time, the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) agreed on the need to create a new mechanism to re-admit countries that had graduated from ODA eligibility back to the list of ODA-eligible countries if their GNI per capital falls low enough, for example as a result of natural disasters or humanitarian crises. Further to this, the UK secured changes needed in order to recognise the UK's contribution to the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank as ODA. As a result of these changes, over £100 million of UK government spending will be classified as ODA this year and count towards the 0.7% target.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 46

Report of the Expert Working Group on Hormone Pregnancy Tests, 15th November 2017

Steve Brine MP updated the House on the Commission on Human Medicine review on Human Pregnancy Tests (HPTs). The report published by the Expert Working Group found that there was no causal link between the use of HPTs during early pregnancy and adverse outcomes of pregnancy (such as miscarriage, stillbirth or congenital anomalies). Although there was never reliable evidence that the HPTs during the 1950s till the 1970s were unsafe, concern on the issues, coupled with the development of better HPTs, meant that a number of precautionary actions were taken to restrict the use of HPTs, which were voluntarily removed from the market. Steve Brine MP additionally stated that the Expert Working Group had made a number of recommendations to safeguard future generations, including strengthening the systems in place for detecting, evaluating, managing and communication safety concerns with the use of medicines in early pregnancy. The Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) will coordinate the implementation of these recommendations, in collaborating with relevant organisations; and the Commission on Human Medicines, together with its Expert Advisory Group on Medicines' for Women's Health, will ensure progress is regularly monitored.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 47

Tailored Review of ICAI, 7th December 2017

Penny Mordaunt MP announced to the House that the Government was publishing a mandate review of the Independent Commission for Aid Impact (ICAI), which assessed its efficiency and governance arrangements. The review gathered the views from a wide range of stakeholders, and recommendations were formulated to ensure that the ICAI's work and independence was preserved. The review also made a number of recommendations to improve ICAI's effectiveness, including by developing improved measures to measure its performance and by adopting a more consultative approach to developing recommendations that would increase their value.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 48

Abortions in England for Women in Northern Ireland, 6th March 2018

Jackie Doyle-Price MP announced that the scheme allowing women resident in NI to access abortions in England free of charge, was now in place. The three main providers of abortions in England had been awarded grants by the Department for Health and Social Care (DHSC) to fund these provisions. The cost of the services will also be met by the Government Equalities Office with additional funding provided by Her Majesty Treasury. A small number of procedures would continue to be provided through the NHS where this is necessary for medical reasons. She further stated that women from Northern Ireland would be eligible for a consultation with an abortion provider, the abortion procedure, HIV or sexually transmitted infection testing, contraception and support with travel costs if the woman meets financial hardship criteria. A central booking service will be managed by BPAS.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 49

Domestic Abuse, 8th March 2018

Amber Rudd MP announced that the Government was launching a consultation to address domestic abuse focusing mainly on prevention to rehabilitation. The consultation would aim to promote awareness by raising the public and professional's awareness on the issue; protecting and supporting victims; ensuring effective response to perpetrators from initial police response through to conviction and management of offenders (including rehabilitation); and improving responses and performance to domestic abuse across all local areas and agencies/sectors.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 50

Opposition Day Debate: Refugees and Human Rights, 12th March 2018

Mark Field MP updated the House on refugees and human rights situation internationally, stating that human rights were central to UK foreign policy. The UK was working closely with European partners to meet the challenge of unmanaged migration. He further explained that the Government would continue to prevent conflict by tackling modern slavery, ensuring children, especially girls, access education and ensuring that the goals in the Paris agreement are met. Conflict resolution efforts would especially continue in Burma and Syria, where humanitarian aid was also being provided.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 51

Maternity Safety, 27th March 2018

Jeremy Hunt MP announced new measures to ensure that all women receive the care needed throughout their pregnancy to birth. Starting by 2019, 20% of women would benefit from 'continuity of care' model. To support this, the DHSC will plan the largest ever increase in NHS midwives and maternity support staff by creating 650 new training places for midwives in 2019—a 25% increase. The Government will continue to work with NHS

England, Universities and the Royal College of Midwives to ensure that these targets and the levels of midwives needed are met and to ensure clear training pathways.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 52

Legislation

Human Fertilisation and Embryology (Welfare of Women) Ten Minute Rule Bill, 21st March 2018

Siobhain McDonagh MP motioned that leave be given to bring in a Bill aimed to amend the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 2008 to make provisions about the welfare of women undergoing any medical, surgical or obstetric treatment services provided for the purpose of assisting women to carry children in cases of In-vitro fertilisation. Siobhain McDonagh MP proclaimed that whilst provisions had been made in the Act for the welfare of the children, there was an absence of welfare for the women involved in the treatment, which is known to cause serious health side effects in women.

The Bill was read and agreed to move to a second reading. The second reading will be 15th June 2018.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 53

Debates

Tackling Infectious Diseases, 20th April 2017

Virendra Sharma MP introduced the above debate to raise the issue of infectious diseases globally. Despite current global efforts, 1.5 billion people have a neglected tropical disease, and another 1.5 billion are at risk of contracting one. Virendra Sharma MP raised concerns such as the rise of infectious diseases in the Global South, antimicrobial resistance, President Donald Trump and leaving the EU, all of which would prevent current global efforts in preventing and treating infectious diseases. MPs also discussed the rise of neglected tropical diseases, epidemics such Ebola and the Zika virus, and the need to ensure that 0.7% aid target is met. James Wharton MP stated that Government had pledged £1.1 billion towards the fifth replenishment of The Global Fund, including a commitment to double private sector contributions to tackling malaria up to a maximum of £200 million. Additionally, DFID will invest £357 million to fund research into infectious diseases through the Ross Fund which will lead to a total of £1.5 billion to research in this field over the next 4 years.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 54

Health, Social Care and Security, 28th June 2017

Diana Abbott MP introduced the above debate to discuss the impacts of austerity measures on the NHS, and emergency and social services in the UK. Jess Phillips MP and Stella Creasy MP discussed the issue of domestic violence and abortion and the need to ensure that women who are in abusive relationships access the social and health services they need, and the need for the UK to ensure access to abortion services for women from NI. Jeremy Hunt MP stated that more money had been provided to the NHS and that all women in the UK should have the same rights to access healthcare and that a consultation would happen in the future, where women from NI should make their voices heard.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 55

Baby Loss Awareness Week, 10th October 2017

Philip Dunne MP introduced this Government led debate to mark Baby Loss Awareness Week, where he reinstated the Government's commitment to providing high bereavement quality care and to reduce the number of babies lost through still birth, miscarriage and other causes of infant deaths by 20% by 2020. He announced further measures including the safer maternity care action plan, which set out additional support for the maternity and neonatal

services; improving evidence-based practice; and improving multi-disciplinary teams with an £8.1 million maternity safety training fund. MPs discussed the need to continue these efforts and raise awareness on the issue during Baby Loss Awareness Week

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 56

The Rohingya and the Myanmar Government, 17th October 2017

Rushanari Ali MP introduced the Backbench Business Committee debate to raise the issue of human rights violations committed on the Rohingya in Burma and the report published by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. The report contained witness accounts from the Rohingya, including women and girls who had been raped by the Burmese military. MPs discussed the need to hold the military to account and to ensure that women and girls needs are met in Rohingya refugee camps. Mark Field MP ensured the House that the UK was playing a leading role in diplomatic and humanitarian efforts in the region, by putting pressure on the Burmese government, by raising the issue in the UN and by pledging an addition £30 million in humanitarian support.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 57

Surgical Mesh Implants, 18th October 2017

Emma Hardy MP introduced the above debate to call on the Government to tackle the risks of surgical mesh implants in women. MPs discussed the lack of information provided to patients following mesh implants, the lack of specialised healthcare to treat complications, the lack of National Institute of Clinical Excellence (NICE) guidelines on mesh removal, poor assessment during clinical trials, and whether mesh implants should be banned. Jackie Doyle-Price MP stated that NICE guidelines would be published before the end of 2017, and that the Government was working with NICE and regulatory authorities on improving clinical practice in order to minimise complications and patient suffering.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 58

Valproate and Foetal Anticonvulsant Syndrome, 19th October 2017

Norman Lamb MP introduced the Backbench Business Committee debate to raise awareness on the effects of epilepsy drug sodium valproate during pregnancy and to ensure that women are informed of the potential risks of the drug and that the Government takes further action on the issue. MPs discussed issues around specialist treatment, Pharmaceutical companies' accountability, the need for the sodium valproate toolkit to reach all women, and the need to publish the prescribing rates for valproate for every Clinical

Commissioning Group.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 59

Rohingya Crisis, 28th November 2017

Roberta Blackman-Woods MP led this debate on the Rohingya crisis, where she emphasised the need to address women and girls needs in Rohingya refugee camps. She further stated that despite international efforts, it is estimated that there is a shortfall of £247 million in the funding needed from the international community to meet the overall needs of refugees in the camps. MPs discussed the need to improve sanitary conditions for refugees and establish safe spaces for women. Mark Field MP replied saying that the UK was the largest bilateral

donor to the crisis, contributing up to £59 million and would look into the situation of sexual violence incidents to provide the best solution.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 60

Sanitary Products, 29th November 2017

Layla Moran MP led this debate on access to sanitary products in the UK, where she highlighted the growing issues of period poverty. MPs discussed its impact on girls' education, homeless women, refugees and asylum seekers, stigma around menstruation, and the need for the Government to allocate more funding towards sanitary products in schools. Anne Milton MP responded saying that the Government needed to investigate the number of absences caused by period poverty further, before allocating funding. She further stated that the Department for Education does not issue specific guidance to schools on the provision of sanitary protection, but that school offices should have supplies for children who are caught short.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 61

World AIDS Day 2017, 5th December 2017

Stephen Doughty MP introduced this debate to mark World AIDS Day. He noted that despite improvements in reducing the transmission of HIV and AIDS related deaths globally, more work is needed to tackle stigma, access to pre-exposure prophylaxis and anti-retroviral treatments, and reduce HIV transmission to women of reproductive age. Roberta Blackman-Woods MP highlighted the impact of Donald Trump's GGR on HIV prevention and women's SRHR. Virendra Sharma MP discussed the links with HIV and tuberculosis and the need to tackle the co-morbidity of it. Alistair Burt MP responded saying that the UK is the second-largest international donor for HIV prevention, treatment and care and would continue to promote SRHR and would continue to donate money to UNFPA.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 62

Hormone Pregnancy Tests, 14th December 2017

Mike Penning MP introduced the debate on hormone pregnancy testing, where he called upon the Government to review the links between exposure in pregnancy to hormone pregnancy tests and adverse outcomes in pregnancy. MPs discussed the possibility of having an independent and judge led inquiry. Steve Brine MP responded saying that the report published by the Commission on Human Medicines Expert Working Group on Hormone Pregnancy Tests contained rigorous evidence on the inquiry and the Government had tasked the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency with implementing the recommendations by the expert group.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 63

International Disaster Relief, 6th February 2018

Andrew Bowie MP led the debate discussing the UK's commitment to spend 0.7% of GNI on ODA and the need to invest more aid in the Department for Defence to tackle humanitarian crises and disasters. MPs debated ODA's value for money and how it should be spent to alleviate poverty. Alistair Burt MP responded saying that the UK would continue to invest in humanitarian responses overseas, and that aid is targeted to make sure they reach those who are most vulnerable: women and girls, children and those with disabilities.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 64

Vote 100 and International Women's Day, 8th March 2018

This Government led debate was introduced by Amber Rudd MP who announced that the Government was launching a consultation on tackling domestic abuse, which will help to inform the Domestic Abuse Bill. The consultation would seek to transform the Government's approach to domestic abuse, addressing the issue at every stage from prevention to early intervention to bringing more perpetrators to justice. Stella Creasy MP suggested that, following CEDAW's report on NI, that women travelling from NI to the UK for abortions constituted a form of violence against women; Justine Greening MP highlighted DFID's efforts in promoting gender equality and SRHR globally; Jess Phillips MP discussed the need to tackle VAWG globally; Rushanara Ali MP discussed the need to address women and girls needs in conflict zones; Thangam Debbonaire MP highlighted the need to meet the SDGs to achieving gender equality and the need to tackle sexual harassment; Liz McInnes MP discussed the APPG's report on abortion and the impact of the GGR. Victoria Atkins MP responded saying that the Government supported more than 6,000 communities across 16 countries, had made public commitments to end FGM and enabled 8.5 million women to access modern methods of family planning over the last five years. DFID had also just launched its strategic vision for gender equality, which would focus on areas such as education, economic empowerment and violence.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 65

Oral Parliamentary Questions

Domestic Violence Refuges, 24th April 2017

Vicky Foxcroft MP asked what assessments the Government had made on the adequacy and availability of domestic violence refuges for women. Marcus Jones MP responded saying that since 2014, £33 million had been invested in services, including refuges, to support victims of domestic abuse, and that 76 projects across the country would receive a share of £20 million to support victims of domestic abuse, creating 2,200 extra bed spaces and giving support to more than 19,000 victims.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 66

Equality and Women's Rights: Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) Discussions, 6th July 2017

Christian Matheson MP and Anna McMorrin MP asked Justine Greening MP what discussions she had had with the DUP on the Government's commitment to equality and women's rights. Justine Greening MP responded saying that the UK would continue to promote equality and women's rights. Maria Miller MP asked whether the Government would consider giving women in NI further access to abortion. Justine Greening MP responded saying that the Government would ensure that women traveling from Northern Ireland to England for abortions would continue to have the same rights as women residing in England.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 67

Climate Change, 11th July 2017

Alex Norris MP asked what steps the Government was taking to support the Paris Agreement on climate change. Boris Johnson MP replied saying that it was aiming to reduce 80% of emission by 2050 and helping other countries to do so too.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 68

UN Target: Aid, 12th July 2017

Matt Todda MP asked whether the Government planned to continue to meet the UN target of spending 0.7% of GDP on aid to developing countries. Priti Patel MP stated that meeting the targets was crucial and that poverty reduction was at the heart of DFID's agenda. Pauline Latham MP asked what the Family Planning Summit had achieved. Priti Patel MP reiterated the importance of family planning in alleviating poverty and would work further with the private sector in order to deliver commodities in developing countries.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 69

Aid Programmes: Africa, 12th July 2017

John Mann MP asked if DFID had assessed the effectiveness of its programmes in Africa and when core funding for organisations such as the IPPF and MSI could be reinstated. Priti Patel MP responded saying that UK Aid funding was tackling global challenges, and that DFID will continue to work with partners on critical issues such as family planning.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 70

Agenda 2030, 12th July 2017

Kerry McCarthy MP asked how the Government would implement its report "Agenda 2030: Delivering the Global Goals. Rory Stewart MP responded saying that DFID would implement it. Maria Miller MP asked what the status of the UK's progress in implementing the SDGs was. Rory Stewart MP responded saying that the Office for National Statistics was currently compiling a report for the UN, and that the Government would submit themselves for a voluntary assessment of the UK's performance on the SDGs at home and abroad.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 71

Transvaginal Mesh Implants, 10th October 2017

Paul Masterton MP asked what discussions the Minister was having with MHRA on transvaginal mesh implants, and whether it would now be considered a high-risk procedure. Jack Doyle-Price MP responded saying that Lord O'Shaughnessy had met the MHRA, and that further discussions would take place with NHS England on the support being given to patients who have suffered the consequences of them. She further stated that guidance would be updated by the New Year which would cover treatment complications and how to support better outcomes.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 72

Rohingya Refugees (Bangladesh), 18th October 2017

David Hanson MP and Mary Creagh MP asked what the Government was doing to support the Rohingya in Bangladesh. Priti Patel MP stated that the UK was the largest bilateral donor in the region, and that an additional £30 million was being spent in light of the refugee crisis.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 73

Topical Questions, 18th October 2017

Kelvin Hopkins asked what the Government was doing to ensure that equal opportunities were being met in education to meet SDG 4. Priti Patel MP answered saying that the UK was actively encouraging international bodies and countries to step up their efforts. Wes Streeting MP asked how the Government would ensure that Rohingya women who are pregnant access the services they need. Priti Patel MP said that the Government was working with UN

agencies and humanitarian organisations to ensure that women and girls access the services they need.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 74

Commonwealth Development, 18th October 2017

Adam Afriyie MP asked what DFID was doing to promote development and free trade in Commonwealth countries. Rory Stewart MP answered saying that the UK contributed substantial aid to Commonwealth countries through bilateral aid, and that the UK would seek tariff free access with the Commonwealth after Brexit.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 75

Relationship and Sex Education, 6th November 2017

Stella Creasy MP asked when the Government would open its consultation on the provision of relationship and sex education guidance in schools. Justine Greening MP answered saying that it was pressing ahead with its consultation, which will include views from parliamentarians, parents and young people. Interim guidance will be launched in the meantime.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 76

Maternity Services, 14th November 2017

Antoinette Sandbach MP asked what steps the Government was making to improve maternity safety in NHS hospitals. Jeremy Hunt MP answered saying that a plan was launched in 2014 to halve the amount of neonatal deaths, neonatal injuries, maternal deaths and stillbirths. The Government would also work on implementing 24 recommendations from the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 77

Hormone Pregnancy Tests, 16th November 2017

Yasmin Qureshi MP asked for the Minister to make a statement on the recently published "Report of the Commission on Human Medicines' Expert Working Group on Hormone Pregnancy Tests". Steve Brine MP answered that based on scientific evidence, no casual association was found between the use of hormone pregnancy tests during early pregnancy, and adverse outcomes of pregnancy with regard to either miscarriage, stillbirth or congenital abnormalities. He further explained that the evidence reviewed by the expert working group would be published in the New Year, once it has been rightly checked in line with the legal duties of data protection and confidentiality.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 78

Topical Questions, 21st November 2017

Daniel Zeichner MP asked what the FCO was doing to tackle climate change. Boris Johnson MP answered that the UK was championing climate change and was working with its partners on implementing the Paris climate change agreement.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 79

Value for Money, 29th November 2017

James Duddrige MP asked what assessment DFID had made on value for money of its spending in Bangladesh to help the Rohingya people. Rory Stewart MP answered saying that £40 million was being spent humanitarian assistance in Bangladesh and was being monitored carefully. This assistance goes to providing shelter and protection, particularly protection against sexual violence in conflict.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 80

Topical Question, 19th December 2017

Alistair Carmichael MP asked when the Government will implement mandatory warnings so that pregnant women know about the risks associated with valproate. Steve Brine MP answered saying that extensive work had been done in order to communicate advice on the risks of valproate in pregnancy through a huge number of channels, to help professionals and patients

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 81

Violence Against Women and Girls, 8th January 2018

Eddie Hughes MP and Maria Caulfield MP asked what steps the Government was taking to tackle VAWG. Amber Rudd MP answered saying that the Government had published its cross-Government VAWG strategy, which set out an ambitious programme for reform and was supported by increased funding of £100 million. She also stated that the Government would introduce a draft Domestic Abuse Bill to further support victims and to bring perpetrators to justice.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 82

The Commonwealth, 9th January 2018

Suella Fernandes MP asked what steps the Government was taking to promote the Commonwealth. Boris Johnson MP answered saying that the upcoming summit will showcase the Commonwealth and the work it does.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 83

Topical Questions, 11th January 2018

Justine Greening MP asked the Home Secretary when the Government would start their guidance on sex and relationship education and how they will encourage cross-party support on it. Amber Rudd MP answered that she hoped to work across the House for their support on the guidance.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 84

Small Charities: Funding, 17th January 2018

John Lamont MP asked what DFID was doing to help small charities access funding from them. Harriet Baldwin MP replied saying that a small charities challenge fund was launched in the last year to support the work of small UK-based charities in international development, which will enable these organisations to increase their reach and the impact of their projects. These have been publicised through various regional channels to raise awareness of this fund, including through MPs.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 85

Period Poverty, 2nd February

Paul Williams MP asked what steps the Government was taking to end period poverty. Victoria Atkins MP replied saying that the Government was seeking to encourage bids to the Tampon Tax fund in order to address it, in addition to encouraging local campaigns to encourage local authorities to provide free sanitary protection for women and girls living in poverty.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 86

Girls' Education, 20th February 2018

David T. C. Davies MP asked what steps the Government was taking to support the delivery of girls' education throughout the world, and how they would ensure that organisations that are delivering them are fit for purpose. Harriet Baldwin MP answered saying that girls' education was at the heart of the FCO and DFID's work, and that the SoS for ID had written to all organisation to ensure that safeguarding levels are raised and would be making a statement later that day.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 87

Internally Displaced People (IDPs), 28th February 2018

Rushanara Ali MP asked what DFID was doing to support IDPs. Penny Mordaunt MP answered saying that DFID was providing multi-year funding to support IDPs and the communities that host them through both humanitarian and long-term development programmes, and that moves will be taken to set up a new panel looking at the particular and unique needs of IDPs.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 88

Aid Spending, 28th February 2018

Daniel Kawczynski MP asked what steps DFID was taking to promote value for money in aid spending, and that more NGOs and the armed forces carry out overseas work. Harriet Baldwin MP responded saying that all aid is rigorously monitored and that projects are measured against a robust monitoring framework to ensure that they remain cost-effective. She also stated that DFID worked closely with the Department for Defence to ensure the armed forces are used where appropriate.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 89

OECD, 27th March 2018

Bim Afolami MP asked what plans the Government had to strengthen links with the OECD after the UK would leave the EU, and what they had been doing to build up bilateral relationships within the OECD. Mark Field MP stated that links with the OECD would continue after the UK leaves the EU, and that the UK will renew its commitment with the OECD and its members to continue to open global markets, particularly through the trade of services, and to explore new issues, including digital trade.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 90

Promoting Education in the World, 27th March 2018

John Howell MP asked what discussions the Foreign Secretary had had with his Cabinet colleagues on promoting education throughout the world. Harriet Baldwin MP replied saying

that the Foreign Secretary would continue to support education throughout the world with the help of DFID and the Department for Education.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 91

Diets During Pregnancy, 29th March 2018

Barry Sheerman MP asked what steps the Government was taking to adopt a cross-departmental approach to improving women's diets during pregnancy. Caroline Dineage MP replied saying the Government would continue to collaborate on improving diets, and that dietary guidance for women before, during and after pregnancy was available on NHS Choices and Start4Life, and via health professionals too. The Government also launched the Healthy Start programme, which would help pregnant women, families and children under four who live in low-income households to sustain a healthy diet.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 92

Written Parliamentary Questions

Members of Parliament tabled a wide variety of SRHR/FP/population written parliamentary questions this year on the following subjects, which are all available on the APPG on PDRH website:

- Abortion
- Abortion: Childbirth
- Abortion: Cleft Palate
- Abortion: Clinics
- Abortion: Down's Syndrome
- Abortion: Finance
- Abortion: Northern Ireland
- Abortion: Nurses
- Abortion: Private Sector
- Abortion Act 1967
- Africa: Female Genital Mutilation
- Antenatal Care
- Armed Conflict: Females
- Armed Conflict: Sexual Offences
- Asylum: Females
- Baby Care Units
- Bangladesh: Rohingya
- British Overseas Territories: Overseas Aid
- British Pregnancy Advisory Services
- Brook Advisory Services
- Burma: International Assistance
- Burma: Overseas Aid
- Burma: Rohingya
- Burma: Sexual Offences
- Cambodia: Human Rights
- Central America: Health Services
- Central America: Overseas Aid
- Cervical Cancer
- Cervical Cancer: Screening
- China and Vietnam: Human Trafficking
- Contraceptives
- Contraceptives: Research
- Contraceptives: Young People
- Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence
- Crimes of Violence: Females
- Commonwealth: European Development Fund
- Department for International Development: Procurement
- Department for International Development: Public Expenditure
- Detainees: Pregnancy
- Genito-urinary Medicine
- Government Equalities Office: European Union (Withdrawal) Bill
- Health Education: Sex
- Health Services: Closures
- Health Services: Fees and Charges
- Health Visitors: Maternity Services
- Hormones: Pregnancy Tests
- Human Papillomavirus: Vaccination
- Human Trafficking: Prostitution
- HIV Infection
- HIV Infection: Clinical Trials
- HIV Infection: Drugs
- HIV Infection: Ethnic Groups
- In Vitro Fertilisation
- International Assistance
- International Assistance: Security
- International AIDS Conference
- Marie Stopes International
- Marie Stopes International: Maidstone
- Maternity Services
- Maternity Services: Northern Ireland
- Midwives: Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust
- Migration: International Cooperation
- Nigeria: Overseas Aid
- Nurses: Recruitment
- Ovarian Hyperstimulation Syndrome
- Overseas Aid
- Overseas Aid: Charities
- Palestinians: Domestic Violence
- Perinatal Mortality
- Pregnancy: Advisory Services
- Pregnancy: Counselling
- Pregnancy: Depressive Illnesses
- Pregnancy: Mental Health Services
- Pregnancy: Screening
- Pregnancy: Smoking
- Pregnancy: Streptococcus
- Pregnancy: Disability
- Pregnancy Complications
- Prosperity Fund
- Refugees: Sexual Offences
- Rohingya: Violence
- Ross Fund

- Developing Countries: Abortion
- Developing Countries: Environment
- Developing Countries: Family Planning
- Developing Countries: Females
- Developing Countries: HIV Infection
- Developing Countries: Private Finance Initiative
- Developing Countries: Sanitation
- Developing Countries: Young People
- Development Aid
- Domestic Violence
- Domestic Violence: Homicide
- East Africa: Overseas Aid
- El Salvador
- Essure
- EU Aid
- Female Genital Mutilation
- Female Genital Mutilation: Clinics
- Females: Northern Ireland
- Forced Marriage
- Forced Marriage: Prosecutions
- Family Planning Association
- Gender Selection: Northern Ireland
- Sanitary Protection: VAT
- Sierra Leone: Female Genital Mutilation
- Social workers: Training
- South Asia: Equality
- South Sudan: Violence
- Sustainable Development: Children and Young People
- Syria: Education
- Syria: Females
- Syria: Internally Displaced People
- Tanzania: Offences against Children
- Tanzania: Teenage Pregnancy
- Transvaginal Mesh Implants
- UN Convention on the Status of Refugees
- UN Economic and Social Council
- UN Women
- Violence against Women and Girls Ministerial Group
- Yemen: Health Services
- Yemen: Humanitarian Aid
- Yemen: Overseas Aid

EDMs

EDM 237 - Cost of Emergency Contraception, 20th July 2017

Peter Bottomley MP, 17 signatures

That this House notes that the manufacturers' cost of production and the wholesale prices of emergency contraception have reduced significantly; further notes the reductions in retail prices by some retailers; and expects every other reputable retailer to review their margins to avoid maintaining prices that can be characterised as ripping off vulnerable people at a time of stress.

Please find a list of MPs who signed the EDM enclosed as appendix 93

EDM 304 – Effects of HPV Vaccine, 12th September 2017

John Mann MP, 8 signatures

That this House notes that while the HPV vaccination is expected to help to reduce the incidence of cervical cancer in the future, and that the majority of girls have been vaccinated without any apparent adverse reactions, all medicines and medical interventions carry some elements of risk; further notes a number of girls have reported seriously disabling illness with strong temporal relationship to the HPV vaccination that includes symptoms listed on the Patient Information Leaflet which have proved to be long-lasting; and calls on the Government to support such girls in receiving timely medical investigation and treatment and with access to education.

Please find a list of MPs who signed the EDM enclosed as appendix 94

EDM 325 - Free Provision of Sanitary Products for Girls from Low-Income Families, 14th September 2017

Layla Moran MP, 26 signatures

That this House is deeply concerned that girls in the UK are missing time in school because of a lack of access to sanitary products; recognises the unaffordable cost of sanitary products for some low-income individuals and families; notes that this is a hidden problem that some girls may find difficult to discuss, and as such the number of girls affected is likely to be higher than any estimates available; applauds the brilliant work of charities and organisations alike who have been trying to address the issue through charitable donations and distribution of sanitary products; and calls on the Government to take immediate action to ensure that girls are not prevented from going to school because they do not have access to sanitary products, including the provision of free sanitary products in schools for those girls needing them.

Please find a list of MPs who signed the EDM enclosed as appendix 95

EDM 417 – Child Marriage, 17th October 2017

Virendra Sharma MP, 39 signatures

That this House recognises the great step forward which India has taken in ending child marriage; acknowledges that according to The United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) in India 47 per cent of women are married before they are 18 years old and 18 per cent by the age of 15, while the age of consent is still 18; notes that child marriage has been used as a loophole to escape rape charges; further recognises that a child should not marry or be forced to marry; and urges the UK Government, and the Department for International Development in particular, to do whatever they can to support India in enforcing the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act.

Please find a list of MPs who signed the EDM enclosed as appendix 96

EDM 480 – Women in Syria, 31st October 2017

Tim Farron MP, 28 signatures

That this House notes that, according to the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, 11,427 of the 331,765 documented casualties of the Syrian conflict are women, recognises that, according to the World Health Organization, 57 per cent of Syria's public hospitals have been damaged while 37 per cent are no longer functioning due to ongoing fighting; regrets that two thirds of maternal deaths globally occur in conflict-ridden countries; expresses concern that women and girls in Syria experience high levels of gender-based violence and lack access to healthcare facilities; further regrets the psychological trauma experienced by women and girls who are living through the Syrian conflict; and urges the Government to support, with ring-fenced funding, the efforts of local organisations inside Syria that provide specific health care for women and girls, including psychological support services.

Please find a list of MPs who signed the EDM enclosed as appendix 97

EDM 962 - USA Policy on Abortion Services Overseas, 21st February 2018

Harriet Harman MP, 41 signatures

That this House notes that a year has passed since the reinstatement of the Global Gag Rule, otherwise known as the Mexico City Policy, by the US Administration; recognises that this expanded policy has started to have a devastating impact on access to reproductive health services in the developing world and that the policy threatens to undermine the fundamental human rights of millions of women; further notes that this policy is counterproductive and will lead to more unsafe abortions by limiting access to contraception and life-saving safe abortion services; acknowledges that non-governmental organisations which will not adhere to the policy, such as Marie Stopes International and the International Planned Parenthood Federation, can no longer receive new funding support from the US and risk having to scale back interventions; and urges the Government to support those affected organisations and to work with like-minded governments to ensure women in the developing world can continue to exercise their reproductive rights through access to high quality services.

Please find a list of MPs who signed the EDM enclosed as appendix 98

House of Lords

Oral Ministerial statements

G20, 10th July 2017

The Lord Privy Seal gave an update on the G20 summit, where he confirmed the UK's commitment to the Paris Climate Change agreement, commitment to continue spending 0.7% of GNI on ODA, and to ending violence against women in the UK and overseas and human trafficking.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 99

Hormone Pregnancy Tests, 16th November 2017

Lord O'Shaughnessy updated the House on the Commission on Human Medicine review on HPTs. The report published by the Expert Working Group found that there was no causal link between the use of HPTs during early pregnancy and adverse outcomes of pregnancy (miscarriage, stillbirth or congenital anomalies). Although there was never reliable evidence that the HPTs used during the 1950s till the 1970s were unsafe, concern on the issues, coupled with the development of better HPTs meant that a number of precautionary actions were taken to restrict the use of HPTs, which were voluntarily removed from the market. In addition to this, the Expert Working Group has made a number of recommendations to safeguard future generations through strengthening the systems in place for detecting, evaluating, managing and communication safety concerns with the use of medicines in early pregnancy, which can be found in the report. The Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency will coordinate their implementation, in collaborating with relevant organisations; and the Commission on Human Medicines, together with its Expert Advisory Group on Medicines' for Women's Health, will ensure its progress is regularly monitored.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 100

Maternal Safety Strategy, 28th November 2017

Lord O'Shaughnessy updated the House on the Government's strategy to improve safety in NHS maternity services. He stated that whilst improvements had been made, more work was needed to halve the rate of maternal deaths, neonatal deaths, brain injuries and stillbirths. He announced additional measures such as independent investigations by healthcare safety investigation branches instead of NHS trusts; working more closely with the Ministry of Justice to make sure neonatal deaths are properly investigated; improving training of maternity staff; and increasing maternity premiums by 10% paid by trusts under the clinical negligence scheme. This possibly will be refunded by the Government.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 101

Safeguarding in the Aid Sector, 20th February 2018

Lord Bates updated the House on the measures the Government was taking following the sexual exploitation scandal by aid workers in Haiti in 2011. Oxfam had agreed to withdraw from bidding for any new UK Government funding until it satisfied DFID's safeguarding standards. He further stated that the SoS had written to all 192 NGOs receiving funding from DFID working overseas, outlining the steps they needed to take to ensure that their safeguarding policies were fully in place, and that all concerns about specific cases had been referred to relevant authorities. All 393 non-UK charity partners, 500 suppliers and

multilateral partners had been reminded of their obligations and DFID's standards.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 102

Legislation

Conscientious Objection (Medical Activities) Private Member's Bill, Second Reading, 26th January 2018

Baroness O'Loan introduced this anti-choice PMB to expand on conscientious objection (CO) provisions to allow any member of one of the professions allied to medicine, which are regulated by the Health and Care Professions Council to conscientiously object to performing an abortion or end-of-life care; ensure that employers cannot discriminate on their staff who have conscientiously objected in the past; and that in legal cases the burden of proof on CO shall rest on the person claiming to rely on it and counts as sufficient evidence. Peers who objected to the Bill stated that the Bill would undermine patients' rights; it would hinder access to abortion services; it does not require that a health professional makes provisions to refer the patient to another health professional; the 'prepare for, support or perform termination of pregnancy' terminology as vague; current law and procedures on CO are sufficient; the need for health professionals to exercise their skills in the 'overstretched NHS'; and it could expand to other areas of obstetrics and gynaecology.

The Bill was read a second time and committed to a Committee of the Whole House.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 103

Conscientious Objection (Medical Activities) Private Member's Bill, Committee Stage, 23rd March 2018

Lord Steel introduced an amendment to the Bill to only allow health professionals to conscientiously object to abortion if they were participating in a hands-on capacity as per current legal provisions in the Abortion Act 1967. Peers debated the amendment and the legal definition 'hands-on' participation in the context of abortion. Baroness Jenny Tonge and Baroness Flather both expressed the need to respect women's rights and reproductive choices. Lord Steel withdrew his amendment. The session was adjourned and will be resumed to a later date which is to be announced.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 104

Debates

Queen's Speech: Debate (2nd Day), 22nd June 2017

Members of the House debated on international development and foreign policy following the Queen's speech. Member's commended the UK's commitment to upholding the 0.7% of GNI to ODA, however expressed concerns in global politics such as Trump's cuts in international aid. Baroness Sheehan discussed the need for the UK to commit to reach international aid standards and the need to invest in humanitarian assistance.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 105

Queen's Speech: Debate (2nd Day, continued), 22nd June 2017

Members of the House continued following the previous debate (see above). Baroness Jenny Tonge highlighted the need invest in family planning and SRHR following President Trump's global gag rule and defunding of UNFPA. Lord Ahmad responded saying the UK will continue to meet 0.7% target and will continue to show global health leadership by promoting and

supporting comprehensive, evidence-based sexual and reproductive health and rights.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 106

Queen's Speech: Debate (4th Day), 27th June 2017

Members of the House debated the Home Office's priorities following the Queen's speech. Baroness Williams outlined the Home's Office's commitment to tackling domestic violence by bringing in new legislation and investing an additional £20 million pounds in addressing the issue. Peers outlined the need to invest in domestic violence services, to protect victims, and issues related to police enforcement. Baroness Father discussed the need to address discrimination in domestic violence cases.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 107

Sierra Leone: Ebola, 30th October 2017

Baroness Hayman led the debate on Sierra Leone's development since the Ebola outbreak. Peers commended the Government's efforts during and following the outbreak, particularly in their investment in reproductive, maternal and neonatal health programmes, however expressed concerns on DFID's management and long-term funding of the programme and sustaining the wider healthcare system. Baroness Jenkin discussed the need for community engagement in order to prevent future outbreaks; Baroness Jenny Tonge and Baroness Sheehan made reference to their APPG on PDRH Sierra Leone study tour and the need to invest both in contraceptive services and the health system more widely. Lord Bates responded saying that Sierra Leone would continue to be one of the best-funded countries on a per capita basis and that DFID will continue to work from a bottom up approach with its partners to invest in the reproductive health and the health system as a whole.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 108

Brexit: Least Developed Countries, 16th November 2017

The Earl of Sandwich led this debate on the impact of Brexit and trade agreements with less developed countries (LDCs). Peers highlighted the uncertainties of the future of development aid following the UK's departure from the EU development fund, tackling humanitarian crises and NGO funding, and meeting the SDGs in LDCs. Viscount Craigavon expressed the need for DFID to continue investing in family planning and collaborating with UNFPA in the field of SRHR. Lord Bates responded saying that the UK would continue to collaborate closely with EU in development and will continue to meet its target in its domestic investments.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 109

DFID Economic Development Strategy, 27th November 2017

Baroness Nicholson of Winterbourne introduced the debate to discuss DFID's new development strategy. Members discussed the need to tackle corruption, invest in jobs, public health, social and minority development, the SDGs, and humanitarian assistance as a means for economic development and tackling poverty. Baroness Jenkin highlighted the need to further private investment including through the CDC Lord Bates responded saying that DFID would work on improving trade with developing countries, and will work with the private sector improve investment to meet the SDGs.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 110

United States: Foreign Policy, 18th January 2018

Lord Ashdown led the debate on the USA's foreign policy, where members discussed the risk of global insecurity, President's Trump, climate change and population growth. Baroness Jenny Tonge noted the impact of President Trump's on the GGR, and the need for the UK to invest in SRHR. Lord Ahmad replied saying that the UK was committed to tackling climate change and investing in women and girls' empowerment.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 111

Water: Developing Countries, 24th January 2018

Lord Cameron of Dillington led the debate on ensuring access to water in developing countries, where he stressed the need for the UK to invest in water infrastructure, agricultural irrigation, and governance and management of water. Peers discussed the need to address water-borne diseases, improving infrastructure to protect women and also address climate change. Baroness Sheehan highlighted the impact of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) programmes in advancing SDG5. Lord Bates responded arguing that the UK Government are investing £51 million over six years to support improved management of water resources and will work with countries and private investors to ensure that these meet the SDG targets.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 112

International Women's Day: Progress on Global Gender Equality, 8th March 2018

Baroness Williams of Trafford introduced the Government led debate to celebrate International Women's Day, where she highlighted the UK's commitment and leadership in ensuring women and girl's empowerment and human rights are met globally. She stated that UK Aid has enabled 8.5 million women to access modern methods of family planning over the last five years. She also announced the start of the Government's open consultation on the UK's upcoming legislation on tackling domestic abuse nationally, which will aim to protect and support victims, and make sure that agencies effectively respond to domestic abuse. The Bill will create a domestic abuse commissioner and create a new domestic abuse protection order regime to create a clearer pathway of protection for victims. She also announced that the Government had pledged an additional £12 million in funding for domestic abuse services. Baroness Northover and Baroness Tonge both discussed the APPG on PDRH report on abortion, highlighting the number of unsafe abortions occurring every year. Baroness Hussein-Ece discussed British and Minority Ethnic (BME) women's rights in the UK and their representation in the public domain; Baroness Flather highlighted the need for men to help women achieve equality; Baroness Jenkin talked about overpopulation and poverty and DFID's efforts in investing in SRHR; Baroness Hodgson and Lord Loomba highlighted the need to achieve SDG5 and sexual violence in conflict zones; Baroness Barker discussed Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning+ (LGBTQ+) rights and the need to invest in women and girls in the developing world; Baroness Manzoor talked about the need to address child marriage and FGM in developing countries; Baroness Healy talked about access to SRHR in detention centres in the UK; Baroness Uddin discussed the need to tackle discrimination of Muslim women in Britain and Baroness Hoopa highlighted the need for more female parliamentarians in developing countries.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 113

CHOGM 2018, 22nd March 2018

Lord Ahmad led the debate where he highlighted the Government's priorities for CHOGM. The events theme were: building a more prosperous future by making the compelling case

for free trade; building a safer future by addressing security challenges, such as global terrorism, organised crime and cyberattacks; building a sustainable future, including by helping small and vulnerable states to mitigate the effects of climate change; and building a fairer future by promoting the values of democracy, freedom and good governance set out in the Commonwealth charter. Members discussed the need to meet the SDGs and promoting gender equality and human rights.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 114

CHOGM 2018 (continued), 22nd March 2018

Members resumed the debate on CHOGM (see above), where they highlighted the need to tackle poverty and women's empowerment and the need to include civil society. Baroness Jenny Tonge discussed the need to invest sexual and reproductive health, noting family planning's links to poverty reduction; Baroness Flather highlighted the need for women's issues to be brought to the forefront of the summit and the need to address climate change. Lord Ahmad responded saying that the SDGs were at the core of the summit, and that the UK would continue to work in women and girls' empowerment, tackle climate change and poverty.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 115

Domestic Abuse, 22nd March 2018

Baroness Lister led the above debate to ask the Government what plans they have to support victims of domestic violence. Members discussed the impact of funding cuts and new universal credit on refuges and on the implementation of the Istanbul Convention. Baroness Jenkin welcomed the Government's new consultation and upcoming Bill on domestic violence, however asked whether funding would be consistent throughout the UK. Baroness Barker highlighted the impact of funding cuts on trans' individuals' ability to access domestic violence services. Baroness Williams answered saying that the legislative proposals outlined in the consultation by the Government will be accompanied by a package of non-legislative action to tackle domestic abuse and an additional £20 million for support services. She also stated Government would work with civil society to review the current model for commissioning and funding of refuges.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 116

Oral Parliamentary Questions

United Nations SDGs, 26th April 2017

Lord McConnell of Glenscorrodale asked what action the Government will take to deliver on the implementation of the SDGs. Lord Bates answered saying the Office for National Statistics (ONS) had published a consultation document measuring the implementation of the SDGs inside the UK. Lord Foulkes of Cumnock asked whether 0.7% will be spent according to ODA principles. Lord Bates responded ensuring Members that it would.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 117

Overseas Development Assistance, 3rd July 2017

Lord Collins of Highbury asked how the Government intend to consult NGOs regarding its commitment to work with like-minded countries to change the rules relating to overseas development assistance. Lord Bates answered saying that they were being consulted on changes they believed would be beneficial in delivering the SDGs and that the Government was committed to delivering value for money. Baroness Hodgson asked what the

Government was doing to simplify the grant proposal process for NGOs. Lords Bates replied saying that Government would launch a small charities fund in the near future for grants up to £50,000.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 118

Myanmar and Bangladesh: Rohingya, 11th July 2017

Baroness Berridge asked what assessments the Government had made on the ongoing persecution of the Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar. Baroness Goldie responded saying that the UK was committed to supporting a long-term solution for Rohingya in Burma and would continue investing humanitarian aid and diplomacy in the region.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 119

Istanbul Convention, 12th July 2017

Baroness Gale asked what the Government's timetable was for the ratification of the Istanbul Convention. Baroness Williams responded saying that the Government was committed to ratifying it and was in the process of drafting legislation to facilitate the process of extraterritorial jurisdiction.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 120

Health: Obstetrics and Gynaecology, 17th July 2017

Baroness Kennedy of Cradley asked the Government what the Government was doing to tackle the high infant mortality rate in the UK according to the RCOG's recommendations. Lord O'Shaughnessy responded saying that the Government was committed to following the recommendation and had started the 'Saving Babies' Lives' care bundle which included an £8 million maternity safety training fund, a maternal and neonatal health safety collaborative programme, and a national standardised perinatal mortality review tool.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 121

Nigeria, 18th July 2017

Baroness Northover asked what the Government was doing to promote climate change with the USA in the region. Baroness Goldie responded saying that the UK was doing everything it can to contribute to both the recognition of climate change and its alleviation. Lord Anderson of Swansea asked what the Government was doing to deplore the position of the Trump Administration in withdrawing their funds from their family planning programmes. Baroness Goldie responded saying that the UK was contributing to alleviate population issues through its humanitarian aid and Nigeria Stability and Reconciliation Programme.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 122

East Africa: Refugee Crisis, 19th July 2017

The Earl of Sandwich asked what the UK was doing to address the refugee crisis and acute food emergency in East Africa. Lord Bates responded saying that UK aid was reaching 3.3 million people with food assistance and over 2.4 million people with water and sanitation. The UK is also assisting in the prevention of trafficking in the region. Baroness Sheehan asked whether DFID was planning to increase investment in humanitarian aid for disaster risk reduction and if they would extend the Disasters and Emergencies Preparedness Programme when it expires in March 2018. Lord Bates responded saying he had not looked

at the programme but would consider it.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 123

Myanmar: Rohingya People, 5th September 2017

Lord Bishop of St Albans asked what the Government was doing to address the Rohingya crisis in Myanmar. Baroness Goldie stated that the UK had provided humanitarian assistance and that diplomatic discussions were underway in the region.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 124

Domestic Violence: Victims, 12th September 2017

Baroness Donaghy asked what measures the Government was taking to ensure that victims of domestic violence had access to safe and secure accommodation in both the short and long term. Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth answered saying that £100 million had been secured in the spending review for tackling VAWG and to support victims of domestic abuse; £20 million was funded from 2016-18 in accommodation-based support and service reform.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 125

Burma: Rohingya People, 11th October 2017

Baroness Kinnock asked what the Government was doing to prevent human rights violations against the Rohingya people in Burma. Lord Ahmad responded saying that the UK was working with partners to implement the Annan commission recommendations and was working with governments in the region to prevent further human rights violations.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 126

Overseas Aid and Defence Expenditure, 13th November 2017

Lord Lee asked the Government how much overseas aid expenditure was being spent on defence and if the 0.7% figure would be revisited. Lord Bates said that the ratio of defence expenditure to overseas aid expenditure in 2016 was more than 3:1 and defended the 0.7% figure saying that £42.2 billion was spent on defence and £13.3 billion on overseas aid in 2016.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 127

Domestic Violence and Abuse Bill, 27th November 2017

Baroness Donaghy asked whether the upcoming Domestic Violence and Abuse Bill would include measures to prevent VAWG, criminal justice measures to deal with perpetrators and whether they would consider sex education too. Baroness Williams of Trafford replied stating that the Government would conduct a rigorous consultation to identify the legislative and non-legislative measures needed to protect victims.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 128

HIV: Global Response and Young People, 30th November 2017

Lord Collins asked whether the Government was considering engaging with young people in its international HIV response strategy. Lord Bates responded saying the UK was the one of the largest donors in the response to HIV but would consider engaging further with young

people in the upcoming HIV summit.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 129

HIV Prevention Services: Public Health Funding, 30th November 2017

Lord Cashman asked how reductions in public health spending had affected access to sexual health and HIV prevention services in London, for men who have sex with men (MSM), and BME people. Lord O'Shaughnessy responded saying that the UK had seen a 20-30% decline in HIV diagnosis in those groups, and that they would ensure that they can fully access the services they need.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 130

Syria: Refugees, 16th January 2018

Baroness Hodgson asked what the UK was doing to assist refugees and internally displaced persons in the countries bordering Syria. Lord Bates responded saying that the UK was at the forefront of the humanitarian response, giving £543 million to Lebanon and £429 million to Jordan to help with the refugee crises.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 131

Health: Alma-Ata Declaration, 22nd January 2018

Lord Crisp asked what the Government's plans were to celebrate the Alma-Ata Declaration. Baroness Watkins asked what the Government was doing to achieve sections IV and VI of the declaration. Lord Bates responded saying that the Government was working to reinforce community and primary based care in order to achieve universal health coverage.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 132

Pregnancy: Folic Acid, 23rd January 2018

Lord Rooker asked whether the Government had made a decision on implementing the Scientific Advisory Committee's advice on the mandatory fortification of flour to prevent neural tube defects. Baroness Chisholm of Owlpen replied saying that Ministers were considering the advice and that Government would make a decision in the future.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 133

Sub-Saharan Africa: Public Services and Governance, 23rd January 2018

Lord Bruce of Bennachie asked how much ODA will be spent on supporting sustainable public services and good governance in Sub-Saharan Africa over the next two years. Lord Bates answered that the Government had invested £1.1 billion in governance in the region.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 134

UN SDGs, 1st February 2018

Lord Collins asked whether the Government intended on publishing the Voluntary National Review (VNR) of the UK in relation to the SDGs, and whether they would consider increasing funding for the Global Partnership for Education. Baroness Stedman-Scott answered saying that they intended to do so in 2019, and that the SoS will attend the Replenishment summit, which will be followed by an announcement soon after.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 135

Health: Pelvic Mesh Implants, 6th February 2018

Lord Hunt of Kings Heath asked the Government when they intended to review the safety of mesh implants. Lord O'Shaughnessy answered that Government was currently implementing NHS England mesh working group recommendations on optimising care for surgical mesh use in cases of urinary incontinence and pelvic organ prolapse. He also stated that updated guidelines will be published in February 2019, and that MHRA was reviewing evidence on its safety however there was not enough evidence to support banning them completely.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 136

Baroness Jenny Tonge received many letters on the subject of vaginal mesh from sufferers. An investigation has been set up chaired by Baroness Cumberledge.

UN SDGs, 1st March 2018

Lord McConnell of Glenscorrodale asked whether the SDGs will be discussed at CHOGM and whether it will address issues encompassed in SDG16. Baroness Stedman-Scott responded saying that CHOGM will cover four key themes relevant to the SDGs—fairness, sustainability, prosperity and security, and will cover issues related to these goals promoting trade and inclusive economic growth, fostering SD of the world's oceans and tackling human trafficking. The Government will work with Commonwealth countries on implementing SDG16 at home and abroad.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 137

Domestic Violence: Women, 8th March 2018

Baroness Bertin asked what support the Government was giving to help women who are victims of domestic violence. Baroness Williams of Trafford answered saying that an additional £100 million had been invested to support women who are victims and that the Government had launched a consultation on its upcoming Domestic Abuse Bill, which would seek views on how to further support victims and target perpetrators.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 138

Abortion: Misoprostol, 20th March 2018

Baroness Watkins of Tavistock asked what plans the Government had to enable women undergoing early medical abortion to take the second dose of the medication at home. Lord O'Shaughnessy answered saying the Government had no plans to approve home use but would keep this matter under review and assess further evidence as it arises. He further stated there were still legal uncertainty on the SoS power to grant home use of misoprostol and would monitor the situation in Scotland closely. He also stated that the Government at the moment was committed that women seek and have abortions in medical settings.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 139

Commonwealth Summit: Human Rights, 21st March 2018

Baroness Berridge asked the Government what their human rights priorities were for the CHOGM Communiqué. Lord Ahmed of Wimbledon responded saying that CHOGM will focus on human rights enshrined in the Commonwealth Charter, including democracy, freedom of expression, the rule of law, and opposition to all forms of discrimination. He also emphasised the importance of LGBT rights and women's rights at CHOGM.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 140

HPV Vaccinations, 26th March 2018

Baroness Altmann asked when the Government would provide HPV vaccinations to all boys. Lord O'Shaughnessy answered saying that the Government was awaiting final advice from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation. The Committee is considering a wide range of benefits including cost and clinical benefits, which will be published at later date.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 141

Written Parliamentary Questions

Peers tabled a wide variety of SRHR/FP/population written parliamentary questions this year on the following subjects, which are all available on the APPG on PDRH website:

- Abortion
- Abortion: Clinics
- Abortion: Northern Ireland
- Afghanistan: Peace Negotiations
- Armed Conflict
- Armed Conflict: Sexual Offences
- Burma: Rohingya
- Commonwealth: Brexit
- Commonwealth: HIV Infection
- Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting
- Conflict, Stability and Security Fund
- Contraceptives
- Democratic Republic of Congo: Overseas Aid
- Developing Countries: Health Services
- Developing Countries: HIV Infection
- Developing Countries: Poverty
- Developing Countries: Sanitary Protection
- Domestic Violence
- Domestic Violence: Convictions
- East Africa: Overseas Aid
- Egypt: Human Rights
- Ethiopia: Overseas Aid
- Family Planning
- Female Genital Mutilation
- Female Genital Mutilation: Plastic Surgery
- Forced Sterilisation
- Flour: Folic Acid
- Gaza: Armed Conflict
- Global Challenges Research Fund
- Global Financing Facility
- Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria
- Home Education
- Health Services
- Human Papillomavirus: Vaccination
- HIV Infection
- HIV Infection: Drugs
- HIV Infection: Foreign Nationals
- HIV Infection: Health Services
- HPV Vaccines
- Immigrants: Detainees
- Marie Stopes International: Finance
- Overseas Aid
- Refugees
- Ross Fund
- Sexual Offences
- Southern Africa: Overseas Aid
- South Sudan: Refugees
- Syria: Humanitarian Aid
- Sudan: Human Rights
- Surgical Mesh Implants
- UK Permanent Representation to the EU
- UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
- UNFPA
- UNICEF: Finance

UK GOVERNMENT MEETINGS, CORRESPONDENCE AND PUBLICATIONS

The APPG on PDRH continue to hold the UK Government accountable to its promises and furthering the ICPD PoA. Members of the APPG on PDRH have met and spoken both formally and informally at meetings, receptions and conferences with DFID ministers and civil servants.

DFID team

The DFID ministerial team in 2017 – 2018 were:



Penny Mordaunt MP, SoS for DFID, November 2017 – today's date



Priti Patel MP, SoS for DFID, July 2016 – November 2017



Alistair Burt MP, MoS for DFID and MoS for the Middle East at the FCO, June 2017 – present date



Harriet Baldwin MP, MoS for DFID and MoS for Africa at the FCO, January 2018 – present date



Lord Bates, MoS for DFID, October 2016 – present date



James Wharton MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State (PUSS) for DFID, July 2016 – June 2017



Rory Stewart MP, MoS for DFID (jointly with the FCO), June 2017– January 2018



Nick Dyer, New Permanent Secretary July 2017 – present date

The latest DFID organogram is available here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dfid-organogram>

DFID's Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights Team - formerly the AIDS & Reproductive Health Team (the team's remit includes policy on HIV, Family Planning, FGM and the continuum of sexual, reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health) continue to be the APPG on PDRH's focal point and has the following team members:

- Will Niblett - Team Leader
- Jerry Ash - Deputy Team leader
- Jane Hobson - Senior Social Development Adviser
- Meena Ghandi - Senior Health Adviser
- Sally Chakawhata - Programme and Policy Officer
- Julie Jones – Programme and Policy Officer
- Beth Scott - Health & Social Development Adviser
- Sushmita Das - Statistics Adviser
- Juliet Whitely – Policy Adviser
- Thea Willis – Policy Adviser Abortion/FGM
- Neena Thandasseri – Programme and Policy Officer
- Kiran Attridge – Health Adviser
- Veronica Warren - Policy Officer (Admin)
- Flo Carson – Social Development Adviser

DFID Meetings

The APPG on PDRH held a meeting with Alistair Burt MP, MoS for ID and his team on 16th October 2017. In attendance from the APPG on PDRH were Baroness Jenny Tonge, Liz McInnes MP, Baroness Jenkin, Baroness Sheehan, Baroness Barker and Baroness Hussein-Ece and Baroness Uddin.

Alistair Burt MP welcomed all to the round table meeting and set out his vision for DFID on family planning and SRHR. He reiterated DFID's continued support for comprehensive family planning and SRHR services and the implementation of DFID's position paper on abortion.

A round table discussion followed on the following subjects:

- DFID funding to family planning/SRHR including to UNFPA, IPPF and MSI;
- Joint work with other Governments to mitigate the effects of USA administration defunding of UNFPA and the expanded GGR;
- APPG on PDRH hearings on Abortion in the Developing World and the UK; and
- UK support to the Rohingya refugee's in Bangladesh

All APPG on PDRH members were impressed with Alistair Burt MP's outline of DFID's support for the full ICPD PoA.

A follow up briefing on DFID's specific support to the Rohingya was received following the meeting as promised and circulated to APPG on PDRH members.

On 15th November 2017 Ann Mette Kjaerby met with Thea Willis, DFID, new Advisor on Abortion/FGM to discuss the forthcoming APPG on PDRH hearings on abortion and related issues.

On 15th January 2018 chairs of APPGs working on ID and MPs/peers interested in ID were invited to a meeting with Priti Patel MP, SoS for ID. Baroness Jenny Tonge was also in attendance and highlighted the importance of family planning/SRHR including abortion services.

On 16th January 2018 Baroness Jenny Tonge attended DFID Select Committee meeting on ODA. The meeting raised concerns with regards to ODA being diverted to other Government departments. Written follow up questions were tabled including below:

Baroness Jenny Tonge:

To ask Her Majesty's Government what proportion of the UK overseas development assistance was not spent by the DFID in the following years (1) 2013–14, (2) 2014–15, (3) 2015–16, and (4) 2016–17.

Lord Bates:

Information on the amount of ODA spent by the UK Government can be found in the Statistics on International Development publication on gov.uk website

For ease of reference the table below sets out ODA spend by DFID and by other UK contributors.

Table of UK ODA1 by contributor and proportion of total: 2013 to 2016

ODA contributor	2013		2014		2015		2016	
	£ millions	% of total	£ millions	% of total	£ millions	% of total	£ millions	% of total
DFID	10,016	87.8%	10,084	86.2%	9,772	80.5%	9,874	73.8%
Non—DFID	1,391	12.2%	1,616	13.8%	2,364	19.5%	3,507	26.2%
<i>Of which²</i>								
Other HMG Department	1,162	10.2%	1,076	9.2%	1,595	13.1%	2,455	18.3%
Non-Departmental ODA³	229	2.0%	540	4.6%	768	6.3%	1,052	7.9%
Total UK ODA	11,407	11,700	12,136	13,381				

On 22nd February 2018 Baroness Jenny Tonge and Baroness Hayman met with Lord Bates as a follow up to the HoL debate on Sierra Leone. At the meeting, Baroness Jenny Tonge highlighted the importance of continued DFID funding to UNFPA/SRHR NGOs in Sierra Leone and reference was made to the successful Aberdeen women’s hospital, but also the lack of funding/ equipment/technology available in the country to treat cervical cancer and the lack of vaccinations to prevent the spread of HPV.

UK Government Correspondence

The majority of correspondence between the APPG on PDRH and DFID and UK Government this year related to the Family Planning Summit, abortion in the UK and globally as a follow up to the UK APPG on PDRH hearings on Abortion in the Developing World and the UK, CHOGM and the forthcoming Domestic Violence and Abuse Bill.

In April 2017 a join letter was sent to Priti Patel MP, SoS for ID from Chairs of APPGs working on ID issues to determine UK’s review of the SDGs.

In May 2017 the G7 Global Parliamentary declaration was sent to relevant cabinet ministers and civil servants in preparation for the 43rd G7 conference in Italy. The declaration is available here: <https://www.epfweb.org/node/646> (please see the conference section for further information)

Numerous correspondence took place in July 2018 in connection with the APPG on PDRH World Population Day reception and press luncheon, and DFID, The Gates Foundation and UNFPA Family Planning conference and reception. All to ensure maximum collaboration and impact.

Please find enclosed sample communications as appendix 142

In July 2018 the APPG on PDRH also communicated with Priti Patel MP, SoS for ID, raising concern about the continued delay in DFID financial support to NGOs including IPPF and MSI.

Please find enclosed communications as appendix 143

In November 2017 Baroness Jenny Tonge received a letter from Lord Bates outlining UK Government continued support to Sierra Leone including on HPV following the HoL debate on Sierra Leone.

As Penny Mordaunt MP was appointed the new SoS for ID in November, Baroness Jenny Tonge sent a letter of congratulations on her new appointment.

Please find enclosed communications as appendix 144

In December 2017 the APPG communicated with Jackie Doyle Price MP, PUS for Health making inquiries about medical abortions in people's home in England. A reply was received stating that there are no plans to change current designated areas for abortion in England and Wales.

Please find enclosed communications as appendix 145

In the spring of 2018 communications focussed on the APPG on PDRH hearings on Abortion with a particular focus on DFID supported abortion projects.

In February 2018 Baroness Jenny Tonge sent a letter to Lord Ahmad requesting his support at the CHOGM to reference the important linkages between family planning and economic growth. A reply was received encouraging further communications with the commonwealth secretariat regarding the APPG on PDRH's involvement in the CHOGM. This resulted in the APPG on PDRH being offered 5 spaces at the CHOGM Women's Forum with speaking possibilities from the floor (please see conference section for further information).

Please find enclosed communications as appendix 146

The final CHOGM communique did not refer to SRHR and is available here:

<https://www.chogm2018.org.uk/sites/default/files/CHOGM%202018%20Communique.pdf>

In March 2018, the UK Government opened its consultation on the forthcoming Domestic Violence and Abuse Bill and the APPG on PDRH submitted its 2012 hearing report on child marriage – 'A Childhood Lost'.

Please find enclosed cover letter as appendix 147

Late in March 2018 the London Irish Abortion Rights campaign letter was circulated to members obtaining signatures to support abortion in Northern Ireland. Several members signed the campaign letter which was sent to the UK Government.

Please find enclosed letter as appendix 148

UK Government Publications

Below is a list of important and relevant family planning and SRHR UK Government documents published this year:

Family Planning Summit, the UK's Commitments – July 2017

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/644641/Family-Planning-Summary1.pdf

UK national action plan on women, peace and security 2018 to 2022 – January 2018

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/677586/FCO1215-NAP-Women-Peace-Security-ONLINE_V2.pdf

DFID Strategic Vision for Gender Equality: Her Potential, Our Future – March 2018

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/708116/Strategic-vision-gender-equality1.pdf#

INTERNATIONAL FUNDING TO FAMILY PLANNING/SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS AND HIV/AIDS

Based on internationally agreed methodology, DFID spent 10.7% in 2015-16 and 9.49% in 2016-2017 of its ODA on SRHR.

DFID continues to support UNFPA with the core contribution of £20 million in 2017-2018 and non-core contributions were £94.7 million in 2015-2016, £87.5 million in 2016-2017 and £110.9 (provisional) in 2017-2018.

IPPF received direct central funding from DFID via the Programme Partnership Agreement, to the amount of £8.6 million in 2015-2016, £6.45 million in 2016-17 and no further funds in 2017-2018. No non-core funding was provided in this period. In 2018-2019 IPPF will receive restricted funding from DFID as part of the Women's Integrated Sexual Health (WISH) programme, which is a commercial tender.

MSI received direct central funding from DFID also via the Programme Partnership Agreement, to the amount of £4.4 million in 2015-2016, £3.3 million in 2016-2017 and no further funds in 2017-2018 and non-core contributions were £41,700 million in 2015-2016, £35,595 in 2016-2017 and £56.247 million in 2017-2018.

UNICEF received from DFID £48 million in core funding over the past 3 years and non-core funding increased from £287.6 million in 2015-2016 to £354 million in 2016-2017 to £383.2 million (provisional) in 2017-2018.

UNAIDS received from DFID £15 million in core funding over the past 3 years and nil in non-core funding was provided in this period.

UN Women received from DFID £12.5 million in core funding over the past 3 years and non-core funding was £4.2 million in 2015-2016, £8.3 million in 2016-2017 and £6.2 million (provisional) in 2017-2018.

WHO received from DFID £14.5 million in core funding over the past few years.

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria received £100 million in 2015-2016, £153 million in 2016-2017 and £317 million (provisional) in 2017-2018.

Women and Children First UK received DFID funding through Comic Relief grants; £282,018 in 2015–2016, £317,127 in 2016–2017 and £103,604 (provisional) in 2017–2018. They also received DFID funding via the UK Aid Direct programme, which amounted to approximately £29,924 from September 2014 to August 2018.

DFID Core contributions to International Organisations, 2010/2011 – 2017/2018 (£ thousands)

Organisation	2017/18	2016/17	2015/16	2014/15	2013/14	2012/13	2011/12	2010/11	Funding Stream
UNFPA	20,000	20,000	20,100	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	DFID - Core Funding
WHO	14,500	14,500	14,500	14,500	14,500	12,500	27,240	28,723	DFID - Core Funding
UNICEF	48,000	48,000	48,000	48,000	46,000	47,800	40,000	23,600	DFID - Core Funding
UNAIDS	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	DFID - Core Funding
IPPF	NIL	6,450	8,600	8,600	8,600	8,600	6,450	12,015	DFID - Programme Partnership Agreement
MSI	56,247	35,595	41,700	34,000	-	-	-	1,063	Other - Non Core Funding
	NIL	3,265	4,400	4,400	4,300	4,353	4,353	-	DFID - Programme Partnership Agreement
Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria	317,000	153,000	100,000	285,000	543,044	127,908	128,100	296,600	DFID - Core Funding
UN Women	12,500	12,500	12,500	12,500	12,500	-	-	-	DFID – Core Funding

DFID bilateral expenditure directly targeting HIV and AIDS, 2010/11 – 2016/17 (£ millions)

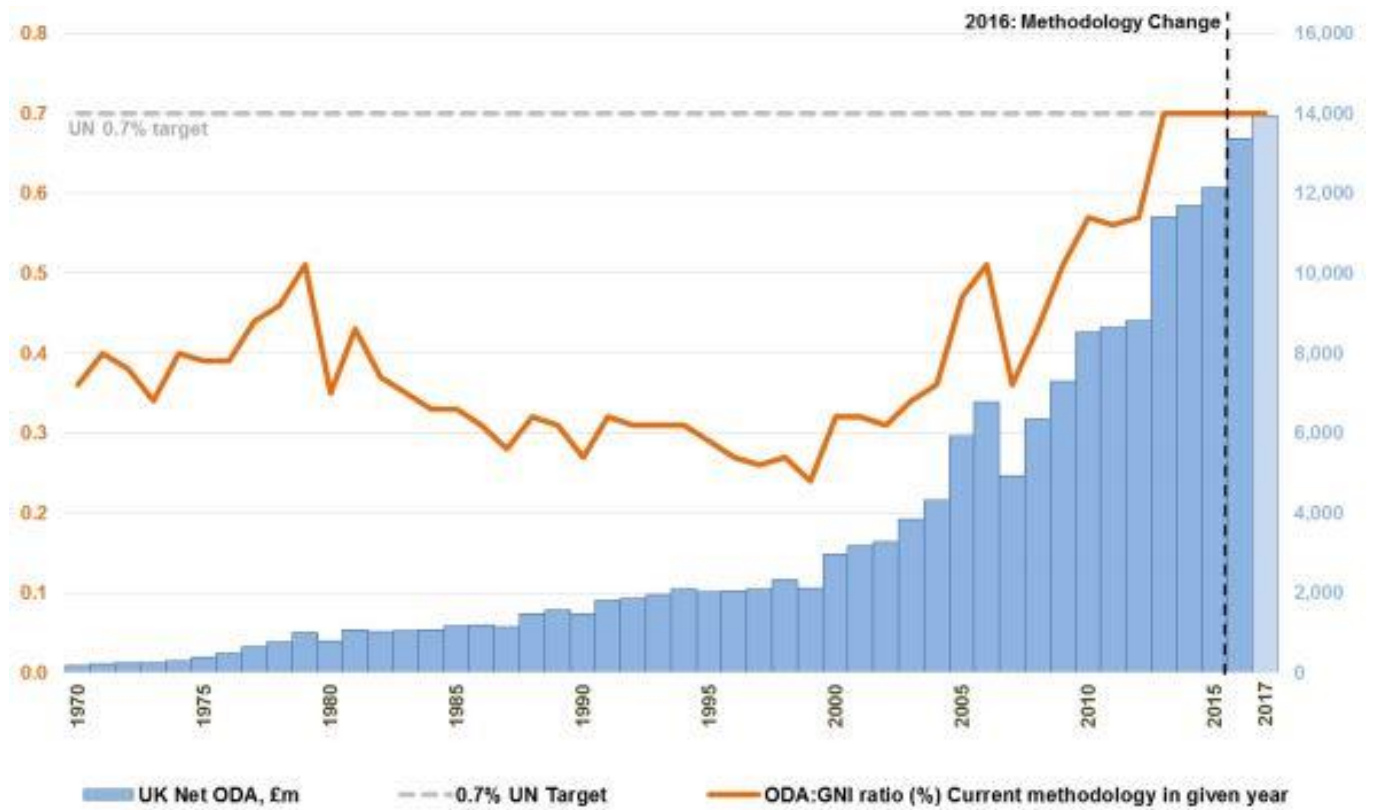
Input Sector Code	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
13041 HIV/AIDS including STI Prevention	119.1	69	50.3	37.5	25.7	21.5	22.7
13042 HIV/AIDS including STI Treatment and Care	52.7	27.3	40.2	10.9	8.1	5.7	4.4
Grand Total	171.8	96.3	46.1	48.4	33.8	27.2	27.1

DFID bilateral expenditure directly targeting reproductive health, 2010/11 – 2016/17 (£ millions)

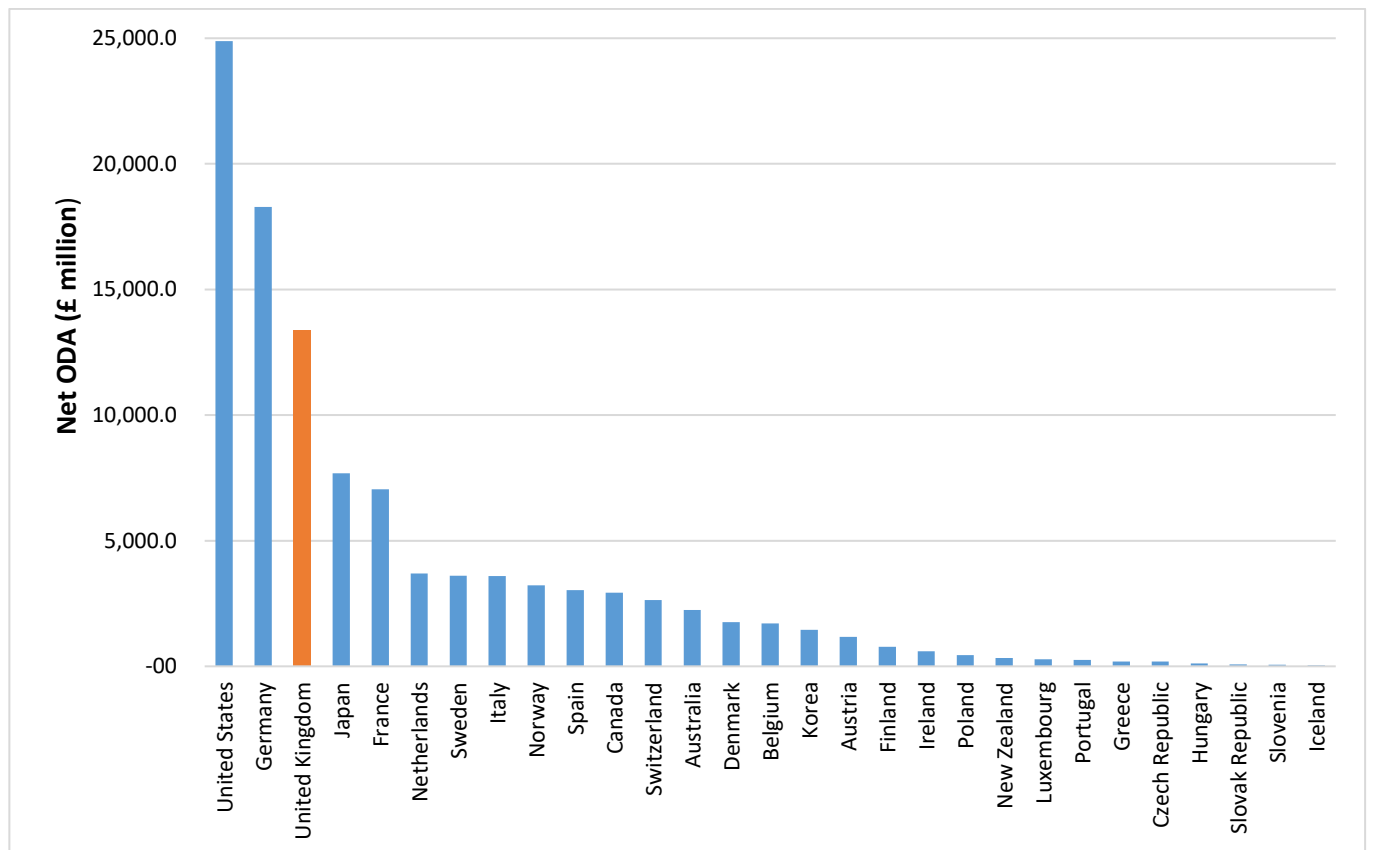
Input Sector Code	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
13010 Population Policy and Administrative Management	7.1	6.1	5.4	11.5	4.3	3.1	3.9
13021 Reproductive Health Care	48	108.9	36.7	49.4	55.4	46.3	51.4
13022 Maternal and Neonatal Health	50	121.4	125.8	163.4	207	124.7	122.5
13030 Family Planning, Health	31.1	43.8	109.7	127	124.5	121	108.2
13081 Personnel Development for Population and Reproductive Health				9.3	12.9	18.6	21
Grand Total	136.1	280.1	277.6	360.6	404.1	313.7	307.2

The two tables above provide details of DFID bilateral expenditure directly targeting reproductive health and HIV/AIDS activities. However, according to DFID, the UK's direct spend on HIV should not be seen as the sum of their work. DFID is seeking to increasingly optimise linkages and integration with other sectors where greater impact and efficiency can be achieved. The UK also supports the prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS projects and programmes at the country level, strengthening health systems in their partner countries to deliver HIV outcomes and funding research. DFID are unable to accurately disaggregate UK HIV expenditure from these wider interventions.

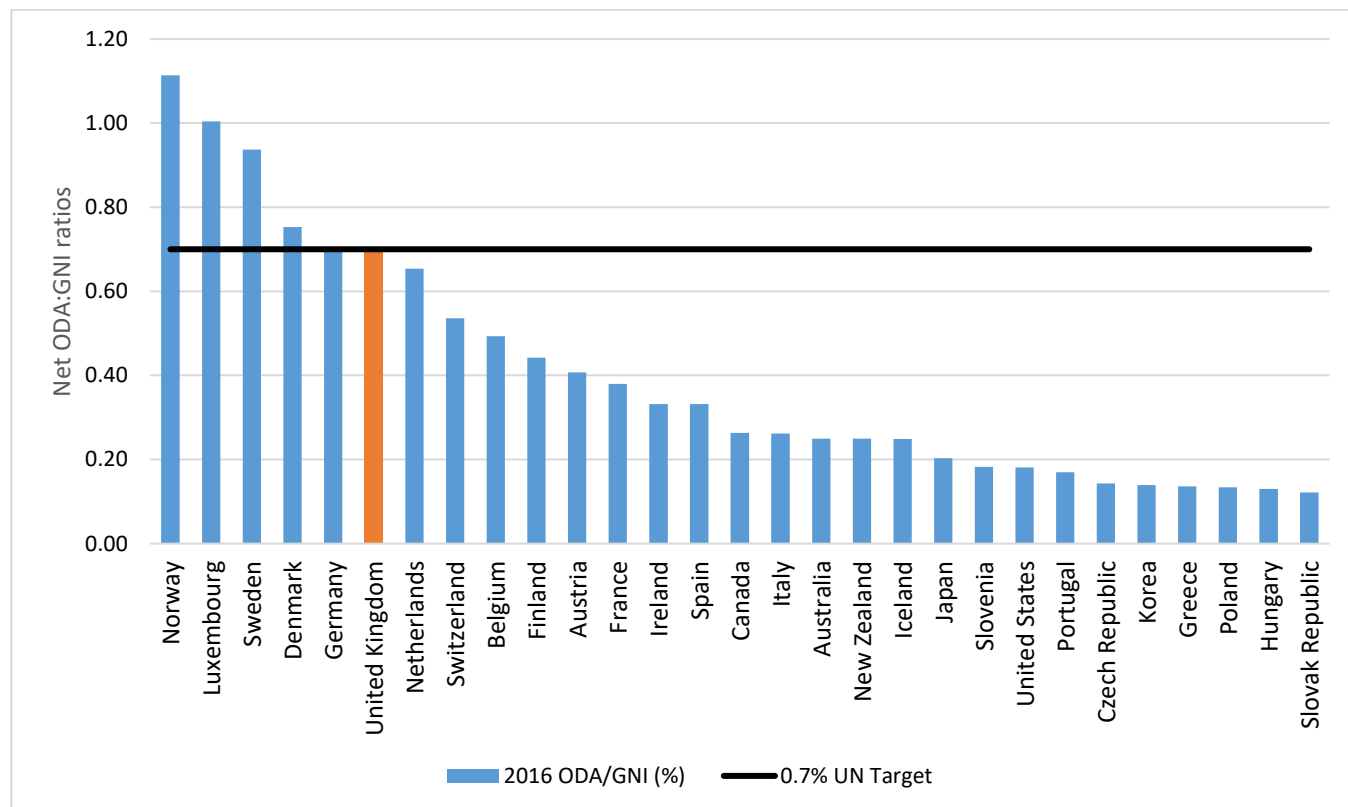
Provisional UK ODA level 1970-2017 (£ millions)



Provisional Net ODA from DAC Donors, 2017 (£ millions)



Provisional Net ODA/GNI ratios from DAC Donors, 2017



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

APPG on PDRH members have attended several international conferences this year listed below:

EPF and AIDOS G7/G20 International Parliamentarians Conference, “She Moves: The Challenges a World on the Move: Migration and Gender Equality”, 4th – 5th May 2017, Rome, Italy



Baroness Sheehan, Baroness Northover, Baroness Barker and Baroness Hussein-Ece attended above conference organised by the Italian APPG on Global Health and Women’s Rights in collaboration with the Italian Association for Women in Development (AIDOS) and EPF.

The conference was organised in association with the Italian G7 Presidency and with the support of the Italian Senate and Chamber of Deputies.

In attendance were 100 participants including parliamentarians, observers, and speakers from G7 and G20 countries as well as from some emerging economies.

Pia Locatelli, Coordinator of the Group on Global Health & Women's Rights, Laura Boldrini, President of Chamber of Deputies, and Linda Lanzillotta, Deputy President of Senate, opened the event by offering welcoming statements. Paolo Gentiloni, President of the Council of Ministers, then recalled the important initiatives being promoted by the Italian G7 Presidency to support gender equality. The opening speech was held by Nobel Peace Prize winner Aung San Suu Kyi, State Counsellor of Myanmar.

Participants at the two-day conference discussed the migration and demographic phenomenon through a gender perspective, with a particular focus on their implications for international policies and for the promotion and protection of women's rights. Special attention was given to the challenges of the reception of migrants, linked to unprecedented migration flows, to the higher costs that women and children are often forced to pay, and to the need to strengthen health systems to achieve greater equity in delivering healthcare, including SRHR, especially for women and children.

At the end of the conference, the parliamentarians approved a document with several recommendations, which was delivered to the Under-Secretary Maria Elena Boschi for the subsequent transmission to the Italian G7 Presidency.

This parliamentary appeal document called on world leaders to:

- Provide comprehensive sexuality education and establish a health system that focuses on universal access to full sexual and reproductive health services including family planning and information for young people;
- Adopt policies that embrace the contributions migration makes to the political, economic, social and cultural fabric of countries of origin and destination alike;
- Promote, protect and fulfil the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants, especially those of women and children;
- Incorporate a gender perspective into policies and strengthen national laws, institutions and programmes to combat gender-based violence including harmful practices, trafficking in persons and discrimination against women and girls; and
- Create an environment where girls and women are empowered

The full appeal is available

here: https://www.epfweb.org/sites/epfweb.org/files/rome_parliamentarians_appeal.pdf

Child Marriage film event, 9th May 2017, University of Leicester, Leicester, UK

Baroness Hussein-Ece attended and spoke at above event, where Dr Eylem Atakav, Senior Lecturer in Film and Television Studies, University of East Anglia showcased her video "Growing Up Married" (see media coverage here:

<https://www.thefword.org.uk/2016/10/growing-up-married-documentary>)

Prof Helen Wood, Head of the Media and Communications Department at the University of Leicester, provided the opening welcome statement and introduction at the above film event, the screening followed and a discussion amongst the panellists chaired by Dr Alison Harvey, Lecturer in Media and Communication, Deputy Research Director, Media Cultures Cluster

School of Media, Communication and Sociology, University of Leicester followed with a question and answer session.

“Growing Up Married” focused on child brides in Turkey, where 1 in 3 marriages include a child. The documentary showcased the experiences of four women married as children and aimed to stimulate research and debate on this significant human rights issue.

The event drew a range of University of Leicester researchers across sociology, media, and communication as well as law, criminology, and history, politics, and international relations, as well as members of the public.

A dinner was hosted by the university following the screening for speakers and panellists and the Media and Gender Research group leads, which Baroness Hussein-Ece attended.



Baroness Hussein-Ece with other speakers and panellists

The film can be viewed here: <https://www.uea.ac.uk/humanities/gender-studies/research/growing-up-married>

RCOG India conference, 30th June 2017 London

Baroness Jenny Tonge and Ann Mette Kjaerby attended above conference organised by the Federation of Obstetric and Gynaecological Societies of India (FOGSI), the All India Co-ordinating Committee (AICC) and the RCOG Experts, where they shared, presented and had open discussions on important issues in the specialty including the topics of ultrasound and pregnancy screening and endometriosis, infertility, and gynaecological issues such as fibroid and endometriosis. Standardisation of care, development of guidelines and new innovate ideas were presented and discussed and all participants were given the opportunity to exchange ideas, share and learn from experiences to improve women’s obstetric and gynaecological health care. The event was attended mainly by consultants and trainees in obstetrics and gynaecology with some associated specialists. Course organisers included: Dr Rishma Pai, Mubai; Miss Raneer Thakar, Croydon; Dr Ameet Patki, Mumbai; Mr Nick Panay, London; and Mr Philip Toozs-Hobson, Birmingham. Lesley Regan, President RCOG welcomed and opened the one-day conference.

Please find enclosed invitation, programme and attendance certificate as appendix 149

LSHTM Research Symposium, Bridging the gap to FP2020: Evidence to accelerate progress towards meeting the need for family planning, 10th July 2017, London

The APPG on PDRH was represented at above one day conference, hosted by the LSHTM, Population Council, and MSI in collaboration with the DFID-funded Research Programme Consortium Strengthening Evidence for Programming for Unintended Pregnancy (STEP UP) and the Maternal healthcare markets Evaluation Team (MET). The symposium coincided with the 2017 Family Planning Summit and aimed to:

- Share the latest evidence on unmet need for family planning;
- Review evidenced-informed programming for addressing unmet need for family planning; and
- Discuss a research agenda aligned to the global architecture for family planning.

The event saw a mixed audience including academics, implementers, donors, governments, and civil society representatives for invigorating presentations and discussions on the state of evidence, programme innovation, and the research agenda to bridge the gap to FP2020.

Speakers included:

- Dr Ian Askew, Director, Department of Reproductive Health and Research, WHO;
- Julia Bunting, President, Population Council;
- Dr Gilda Sedgh, Principal Research Scientist, The Guttmacher Institute;
- Dr Harriet Birungi, Senior Associate and Country Director, Population Council;
- Prof John Cleland CBE, Emeritus Professor of Medical Demography, LSHTM;
- Dr Saumya Rama Rao, Senior Associate, Reproductive Health Program, Population Council;
- Prof Sally Theobald, Chair in Social Science and International Health, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine;
- Dr Mary-Ann Etiebet, ED at MfM ; and
- Effiom Nyong Effiom, Country Director, Marie Stopes Nigeria

Of particular interest at the conference was The Guttmacher Institute's latest report: '[Adding It Up](#)', which showed that 214 million women want to avoid pregnancy but are not using family planning.

Around 214 million women are not benefiting from contraception for their health and wellbeing as well as for their families and societies. Importantly, unmet need isn't framed as the number of women who don't want to get pregnant but *cannot access* contraception, or are *denied access* to contraception. Instead, it's simply the number of women who *aren't using* contraception for a range of reasons.

To satisfy unmet demand, we need to understand why women aren't using contraception even though they don't want to become pregnant and this reality is complex. When asked, women rarely cite limited access to family planning as the reason why. The top reasons women give are:

- concerns about the side effects of contraceptive methods;
- infrequent sex;
- they or others oppose contraception;

- they don't think they have to use contraception when they are breastfeeding.

Please find enclosed conference programme and The Guttmacher research summary paper as appendix 150

Capturing this complexity is not easy in a short, punchy message!

DFID, The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, UNFPA Family Planning conference, 11th July 2017

Several members were invited and attended above conference including Baroness Tonge, Baroness Northover, Baroness Sheehan, Baroness Hussein-Ece, Baroness Barker and Baroness Uddin.



The conference was hosted by DFID, UNFPA and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in collaboration with Family Planning 2020 (FP2020) and in close partnership with United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and Global Affairs Canada, to re-energise global commitment to one of the “best buys” in development: rights-based family planning programmes.

The 2017 Family Planning Summit sought to sharpen the focus on lessons learned and proven solutions, while broadening and deepening DFID's network of partners to bring local actions and solutions to scale—particularly for populations that have traditionally been left behind, such as adolescents and youth, and women and girls in humanitarian situations.

The Family Planning Summit:

- Profiled commitments from FP2020 countries and demonstrate their continued and increased leadership on family planning;
- Provided a platform for donors to complement these critical investments;
- Strengthened global data on adolescents to help inform and improve efforts to increase access and services;
- Promoted an innovative financing solution to address the shortfall in contraceptives;
- Strengthened national policies and programming to improve the health of adolescents and young people by turning political commitments into evidence-based action plans;
- Built upon the efforts of the vibrant family planning community to meet the aim of universal access to sexual and reproductive health, including family planning; and
- Ensured that family planning is more integrated into humanitarian response interventions.

The event brought together ministers of finance, health, and international cooperation, the UN, foundations, the private sector, and civil society and youth advocates from around the world.

The one-day summit was comprised of a mix of plenaries and spotlight sessions all highlighting the power of family planning. The plenary sessions featured high-level, high-impact commitments, interventions, and remarks from world-renown leaders, civil society organizations, and youth. Plenary speakers demonstrated country leadership, showcased the diversity of the dynamic FP2020 partnership, and highlighted innovative solutions that can be taken to scale to accelerate progress.

Between plenaries, participants had the option to attend a variety of spotlight sessions that offered deeper insights into the technical content of family planning work, including on the Sahel, humanitarian settings, young people, the private sector, rights and more.

The full programme and spotlights list are available here:

<http://summit2017.familyplanning2020.org/>

In addition to the formal programme, the summit venue featured the Family Planning Inspiration Hub, which displayed six innovations that have the potential to accelerate progress in family planning.

At the FP Summit around 37 country governments, 16 private companies and 11 partner organisations, including civil society and private foundations, announced commitments to accelerate progress on rights-based family planning programmes.

In parallel with the Summit in London, more than 2500 people gathered at 21 satellite events across Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Indonesia, Malawi, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, Thailand and Uganda, demonstrating growing country leadership and support for family planning.

The summit built on the progress made since the Family Planning Summit in 2012 and reaffirmed international political support for women and girls to be able to decide for themselves whether, when and how many children to have. It addressed barriers to progress that are common across many countries, with a wide range of policy and programme commitments to ensure the money invested in family planning goes further. Summit commitments from country governments, donors, private sector, civil society and foundations can be found here: <http://summit2017.familyplanning2020.org/commitment.html>

FP2020 contributes to the goals of the 'Every Woman Every Child Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health'. The commitment to FP2020 supports the 'Every Woman Every Child' movement.

EPF and UNFPA ICPD Strategic Discussion with Parliamentarians, 28th – 29th August 2017, Vienna, Austria



Baroness Jenny Tonge speaking at Vienna strategic discussion, Austria

Baroness Jenny Tonge attended above conference, which saw thirty parliamentarians from all regions of the world, including two government ministers discuss politics around SRHR and the SDGs. Speakers included Kwabena Osei Danquah, Director of the Division for Governance and Multilateral Affairs and Nkeiruka (Kiki) Didigu, UNFPA; Christina Zampas, independent consultant & law fellow at the University of Toronto; and Serge Rabier, Senior expert at VDS Consulting.

Conference headlines were:

- Building consensus to advance the SRHR agenda;
- Changing population structures and their implications for the work of parliamentarians;
- International law concerning SRHR and the SDGs;
- Gender challenges in development; and
- Abortion & Demography.

Parliamentarians discussed ways to reform existing parliamentary institutional arrangements for addressing cross-cutting issues in SD. Best practices and country examples were presented as cross-party caucuses on population and development (PD) and the advancement of human rights, including sexual and reproductive health and rights, women's empowerment and gender equality, as well as investments in young people for SD.

Please find enclosed programme as appendix 151

EPF International Consultation for Parliamentarians on Upholding the Rights of Girls, Ending FGM and Child Marriage, 2nd – 3rd October 2017, Fez, Morocco



John Mann MP at FGM and Child Marriage conference, Fez, Morocco

John Mann MP attended above consultation. The event brought together experts and MPs from Africa, Arab States and Europe and the diaspora community to look at the situation of girls' rights and prepare for parliamentary actions the following week on 11th October, which was the UN recognised International Day of the Girl Child. It was a highly interactive meeting, where parliamentarians discussed country experiences and strategies implemented to tackling these harmful practices. Representatives from the African Union Commission, UNFPA, the European Commission and NGOs based in Africa and Europe were at hand to provide the MPs with insights aimed at deepening their knowledge and empowering them to become more impactful actors in upholding girls' rights. In the round table discussions, parliamentarians discussed the basic principles to be considered in laws and policies to these harmful practices and their role in ensuring enforcement of existing laws.

Please find enclosed programme and appendix 152

BPAS conference on The UK Abortion Act: A Promise Fulfilled? 24th – 25th October 2017, RCOG, London

Baroness Jenny Tonge attended above two-day conference organised by BPAS, The Centre for Health, Law and Society and the Universities of Kent and Leeds. It marked the 50th anniversary of the passage of The UK Abortion Act through Parliament on 27th October 1967 and aimed to address a range of important socio-legal, historical, political and clinical practice-based questions, focusing on the hopes and strategies of the broad coalition in favour of liberalising change and the extent to which they have been realised.

The conference brought together and fostered discussion between health care professionals, academics, policy makers, politicians, campaigners and service providers from the UK and a small number of other jurisdictions influenced by the Abortion Act.

The UK Abortion Act 1967 represented the fulfilment of over thirty years of sustained campaigning by the Abortion Law Reform Association, reflecting a liberalising reform agenda that sought to promote public health and address social inequality. At the same time, the Act was embedded in extant nineteenth-century criminal law responses to abortion and was shaped by a medical model for its management. Presentations were from a long list of imminent campaigners, activists, academics, lawyers, other experts and legislators: Dr Sheelagh McGuinness, University of Bristol; Prof Sally Sheldon, University of Kent; Dilys Cossey and Diane Munday, ALRA; Marge Berer, NAC/ICAR; Lisa Hallgarten, Voice for Choice; Kerry Abel, Abortion Rights; Katherine O'Brien, BPAS; Dr Gayle Davis, University of Edinburgh; Dr Goretti Horgan, Ulster University; Dr Carrie Purcell, University of Glasgow; Sir Denis Pereira Gray, Prof Juliet Cheetham, Committee Members; Caroline Woodroffe, Witness; Lord David Owen, then Minister for Health; Prof Anna Glasier, Honorary Professor University of Edinburgh and LSHTM; Prof Wendy Savage; Dr John Parsons; Dr Richard Lyus; Dr Megan Griffiths; Sean Rees; Joanne Fletcher, Nurse Consultant Gynaecology; Kinga Jelinska, ED at Women Help Women; Prof Allan Templeton, University of Aberdeen; Dr Ellie Lee, University of Kent; Prof Barbara Brookes, New Zealand; Prof Barbara Baird, Adelaide; Prof Joanna Erdman, Dalhousie University; Prof Jenny Morgan, University of Melbourne; Leah Hctor, Center for Reproductive Rights, Europe; Lord David Steel; Dr Evan Harris; Diana Johnson MP; Prof Lesley Regan, RCOG and Ann Furedi, BPAS.

Please find enclosed full programme enclosed as appendix 153

Full conference information available here: <http://www.bristol.ac.uk/law/abortion-act-conference/>

Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Health (FSRH) Current Choices Conference, Royal College of Physicians, 2nd - 3rd November 2017, London

Baroness Jenny Tonge and Ann Mette Kjaerby attended above conference, which provided an update on current SRHR service provisions in the UK.

Dr Asha Kasliwal, President, FSRH opened and welcomed participants to the 2 day conference which included a long list of topics as listed here: Commissioning landscape, emergency contraception, hormones and mental health; Contraception in the over 40's; Menopause and Hormone Replacement Therapy (HRT) postcode lottery; Complex HRT cases; Sex after the menopause; Dermatology and spotlight on the vulva; A glimpse into the future of SRH care; UK abortion care: issues and inequalities; abortion complications; Effect of unintended pregnancy and abortion on mental health and wellbeing; Online sexual health service: are they the answer? Are we excluding vulnerable groups?; SRH and sex workers; The forgotten sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including mycoplasma genitalia and trichomonas vaginalis; Inter Uterine System (IUS) not just for mums and older women; Inter-Uterine Devices (IUDs): tips and tricks for fitting; Subdermal contraceptive implant (SCI), potentially with a discussion of complex SCI removal; Culture and religion in SRH; and Let's talk about sex: why taking a sexual history is important in Primary Care.

Presenters included: Dr Najia Aziz, Consultant, Solent NHS Trust; Dr Michael C. Craig, Senior Lecturer & Honorary Consultant; Dr Ailsa Gebbie, Consultant Gynaecologist and Co-Director, Clinical Effectiveness Unit; Dr Heather Currie; Kathy Abernethy, Clinical Nurse Specialist, Menopause Clinical and Research Unit, Northwick Park Hospital, London North West Healthcare NHS Trust; Claudine Domoney, Gynaecology Clinical Effectiveness Lead, Chelsea and Westminster NHS Foundation Trust; Dr Katrina Erskine, Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist, Homerton Hospital; Sue Mann, Consultant SRH, Homerton University Hospital, Medical Expert - Sexual Health & Reproductive Health, Health and Wellbeing Directorate, Public Health England; Dr Meera Kishen, Past President, FSRH of the Royal

College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists; Clare Murphy, Director of External Affairs, bpas; Richard Lyus, Surgeon, BPAS; Dr Edna Astbury-Ward, Senior Lecturer, School of Social & Life Sciences, Glyndwr University; Dr Paula Baraitser, Consultant in Sexual Health, King's College Hospital, Senior Lecturer in Global Health, King's College London and Director, SH; Julie Ledger, Specialist Sexual Health Nurse, Manchester Action for Street Health (MASH); Dr Suneeta Soni, Consultant in Sexual Health and HIV, Sexual Health and Contraception Brighton and Hove; Dr Zara Haider, Bayer; Dr Anne Connolly, Vice President, FSRH; Dr Paul O'Brien, Raymede Clinic, Westside Contraception and Sexual Health Services, Central London Community Healthcare; Dr Deborah Boyle, Consultant Gynaecologist, The Lister Hospital; and Dr Melissa Gardner, GP Islington.

All participants had the opportunity to pose questions after presentations.

Please find enclosed invitation and full programme enclosed as appendix 154

RCOG, IWD event on SRHR in conflict, 2nd March 2018, RCOG, London

The APPG on PDRH was represented at above one day conference hosted to commemorate International Women's Day 2018. The event focused on 'Women affected by conflict: the role of health professionals.' In situations of war, essential health services crumble, underlined by a maternal mortality rate (MMR) that is 2.5 times higher, on average, in conflict and post-conflict countries.

Women usually don't start wars, but they do suffer heavily from the consequences. There are millions of women affected by conflict throughout the world and all too frequently they are overlooked. They may be used as a weapon of war, to demonstrate domination or simply be displaced as a result of the armed aggression. Their plight has been highlighted more recently, alongside the impact on other communities when large numbers of refugees move to other countries.

The RCOG noted that they do not have experience of working on the ground in areas of conflict. However, they have been approached by doctors involved directly in this work who feel that the College may have a role to play as it has educational packages and skills that would be of benefit in conflict situations.

Professor Lesley Regan, President, RCOG welcomed all to the event and was followed with an introduction to the day by Professor Mary Ann Lumsden, Senior Vice President, RCOG.

Topics presented included: The importance of security and education for girls and women in conflict and post conflict countries; The right to health; Health care of refugee women, a case study for Bangladesh; Supporting refugees in the UK; Responding to women's health needs in conflict affected populations; and The MSF Experience

Presenters included: Sarah Brown, President and Chair of Trustees of Theirworld and Executive Chair of the Global Business Coalition for Education; Mr Rajat Khosla, Human Rights Advisor, WHO; Professor Fawzia Hossain, Obstetrician and Gynaecologist, Human Rights Activist; Ms Rose McCarthy, Refugee Council Volunteer Coordinator; NCT expert Practitioner; Ms Brigid McConville, White Ribbon Alliance; and Dr Benjamin Black.

Please find enclosed the full programme as appendix 155

EPF Parliamentary meeting on Reproductive Health Supplies, 19th March 2018, Brussels, Belgium



Baroness Jenny Tonge and Virendra Sharma MP at Reproductive Health Supplies meeting, Brussels, Belgium

Baroness Jenny Tonge and Virendra Sharma MP attended above meeting with parliamentarians from other donor countries: Belgium, Finland, Portugal, and Spain (Basque Country). The full-day meeting aimed to:

- Make the case for investing ODA in family planning as a transformational development intervention;
- Showcase the added value and accomplishments of UNFPA Supplies; and
- Give practical examples of how donor country MPs can join the movement to meet the unmet need for family planning.

EPF Vice President Senator Petra de Sutter opened the parliamentarians' meeting and Neil Datta, EPF secretariat followed with a presentation on the political and financial environment and impact of family planning towards achieving the ICPD and universal access to SRHR. Dr Gifty Addico, Chief Commodity Security Branch, UNFPA and Ben Light presented an overview of sustainable family planning commodities and programmes: Catalysing increased access to family planning – UNFPA supplies; and Raffael Dattler, IPPF presented: Who funds what? An assessment of European donor performance on funding family planning in developing countries and what this means for reaching the SDGs.

A discussion followed on the two questions: What has worked in increasing funding for family planning? What have been the main obstacles to funding family planning?

Please find enclosed full programme enclosed as appendix 156

SUPPORT AND COLLABORATION WITH OTHER ALL-PARTY PARLIAMENTARY GROUPS

The APPG on PDRH continue to exchange information and support the establishment and activities of other APPGs both in the UK and abroad.

Support has been via e-mails and telephone conversations, face-to-face meetings in the UK and at external meetings, workshops and conferences.

UK APPG working on Global Health issues i.e. Global Health – MNTD – HIV/AIDS and Global TB

Ann Mette Kjaerby met with and attended meetings with representatives from above APPGs during the year to share and discuss collaborative activities. Aparna Barua Coordinator, APPG on MNTDs was the main organiser and coordinator of the meetings which lead to joint briefing meetings (please see briefing section in this report for joint event).

Please find enclosed sample communications as appendix 157

UK APPGs working on International Development

Ann Mette Kjaerby communicated with representatives from above APPGs during the year to share and discuss collaborative activities. Johanna Riha, the coordinator for the APPG on Global Health was the main organiser of meetings and activities. Upcoming events and calendars and possible scope for collaboration were on the agenda and joint letters were sent from Chairs of the APPGs to Priti Patel MP, SoS for ID in relation to UK review of the SDGs (please see DFID section for further information).

Please find enclosed sample communications as appendix 158

Rwanda APPG on Population and Development

The UK APPG on PDRH continues to send relevant funding opportunities to the above APPG.

Please find enclosed sample communications as appendix 159

UK APPG on Disability

Anna Denham, coordinator for above APPG and working for Disability Rights UK contacted the APPG on PDRH for a briefing on activities including member updates, which was shared. Discussions were set up via Baroness Uddin who is involved with Disability Rights UK.

Please find enclosed sample communications as appendix 160

UK APPG on HIV/AIDS

Tom Addison, temporary coordinator for above APPG contacted the APPG on PDRH for financial and administrative advice, which was shared.

Please find enclosed sample communications as appendix 161

UK APPG on FGM

Above APPG was re-established this year with Jess Phillips MP and Zac Goldsmith MP as chairs. The APPG on PDRH forwarded an EPF invitation to the new APPG in connection with their conference on FGM and child marriage in Fez, Morocco. NGOs working on FGM and child marriage in the UK were sent information about the newly re-established APPG.

Please find enclosed sample communications as appendix 162

HEARINGS

APPG on PDRH Hearing Report: WHO DECIDES? We trust Women. Abortion in the Developing World and the UK, March 2018



This year the APPG on PDRH held hearings on Abortion in the Developing World and the UK.

The hearing committee included in the Chair Baroness Jenny Tonge, Baroness Barker, Baroness Blackstone, Viscount Craigavon, Baroness Jenkin, John Mann MP, Lord Rea, Virendra Sharma MP, Gareth Thomas MP and Baroness Uddin.

A press release was disseminated widely including via social media in August 2017, requesting written evidence from organisations and experts on abortion with a focus on communities, interventions, and legislation that relate to abortion and –

- its practice in the past, present and future
- marginalised populations
- adolescents girls (<20)
- influencers
- populations in conflict settings
- quality of care
- healthcare provider workforce
- partnerships, and
- the use of digital technology.

The deadline for written submissions was 1st September 2017. 27 organisations submitted evidence and subsequently gave oral evidence at the parliamentary hearings held 20th, 22nd, 27th and 29th November 2017.

Please find press release enclosed as appendix and list of organisations that submitted written and gave oral evidence enclosed as appendix 163

The hearing report was drafted and finally launched in connection with International Women's Day on 7th March 2018 in the Jubilee Room, HoC with Rt Hon. Alistair Burt MP, MoS for ID as the key note speaker, supported by Lord Steel and Lesley Regan, President RCOG.

The event was well attended and received press coverage in Devex, Kaiser Family Foundation Daily Global Health Policy Report, The Daily Telescope, International Campaign on Safe Abortion news update, SafeHands for Mothers news update and EPF's newsletter.

The report was also sent to The Guardian writers in response to their articles on Abortion in the UK and Latin America.

Please find enclosed invitation to report launch press release enclosed as appendix 164

The UK APPG on Population, Development and Reproductive Health report has the following recommendations:

INTERNATIONAL

- The UK DFID is commended for taking a global leadership position in abortion and for its broad portfolio of global work
- DFID should do even more to support willing countries to expand access to safe and legal abortion;
- Expand availability of medical abortion globally;
- Work to broaden the laws to permit community and primary care health workers, pharmacists, nurses and midwives to provide abortion;
- Continue to ensure access to safe abortion to the full extent of the law, particularly in developing countries and in conflict situations;
- Increase funding for family planning and the wider sexual and reproductive health and rights agenda to 10% of official development assistance and 10% of national development budgets;
- DFID should reiterate its 2014 policy concerning abortions in conflict situations and international humanitarian law to humanitarian and other partners;
- The UK should use their voice to reinforce the importance and centrality of abortion to women's human rights and equality;
- Ensure adolescent girls and young women have access to youth-friendly and non-judgmental sexual and reproductive health services, including abortion care;
- Work to take abortion out of the criminal law and toward the release of all imprisoned woman and girls and healthcare professionals who are incarcerated because of punitive abortion laws;
- Support comprehensive sexuality education through in-school and out-of-school programmes for adolescents that promote comprehensive sexuality education including information on contraception and abortion.

UK

- Decriminalise abortion completely — as Canada has done;
- The Department of Health should follow WHO guidelines and define the home as a safe place to take abortion medication in England (as is already taking place in Scotland);
- If there are NHS contracts to independent providers, they must include a commitment to training with joint contracts that allow clinicians to move seamlessly across both the independent and NHS sectors;
- Follow WHO guidelines to allow primary care workers such as nurses and midwives to manage both surgical and medical abortion in the first trimester;
- The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) is best placed to develop appropriate clinical care pathways;
- Coordinate NHS abortion planning across the nations of the UK, so that women have timely access to high quality services. For example, a fair tariff for various types of abortion services should be agreed so there is no disincentive to treat second trimester and complex cases;
- Stop the erosion of family planning and sexual health services and instead ensure family planning and sexual health services are readily available, reducing the need for abortion overall;
- Increase understanding among politicians and policy makers with better education and information about abortion and the impact on women of restricting it and keeping it criminalised.

NORTHERN IRELAND

- The UK Government must give clear guidance on funding and a care pathway for women travelling from Northern Ireland to England for an abortion;
- Medical professionals of Northern Ireland must be clear about their legal obligations to women seeking abortions;
- Build coalitions to decriminalise abortion in Northern Ireland – using the momentum of the possible up and coming changes in the Republic of Ireland;
- Support research and campaign activities to combat misinformation and myths surrounding abortion in Northern Ireland.

The Report was referenced in both Houses the following day on 8th March 2018 at the IWD debates:

Liz McInnes MP said: “ ... Today is International Women’s Day. It was my pleasure yesterday to attend the launch of a report commissioned by the all-party group on population development and reproductive health, of which I am an active member. The report is entitled, “Who Decides? We Trust Women” and concerns abortion in the developing world and the UK. I pay tribute to the chair of the all-party group, Baroness Jenny Tonge, for her tireless work. As a retired GP, she really knows her subject and demonstrates the value that can be brought to the other place by experts in their field. The report makes the important point that from 2010 to 2014, one in four pregnancies worldwide ended in an abortion. Abortion rates have been declining in the developed world since 1990, but the rate in developing countries has remained fairly constant.

An estimated 56 million abortions occur worldwide each year, with three quarters taking place among married women. Significantly, abortion rates are roughly the same in countries where abortion is legally

restricted and those where it is liberally available. Restrictive abortion laws do not prevent women from seeking abortion; they only endanger women's health and lives as women seek unsafe procedures. There is a clear correlation between restrictive abortion laws and higher rates of maternal morbidity and mortality. In the group of countries where abortion is completely banned or allowed in very narrow circumstances, three out of four abortions are unsafe. Lack of money prevents women and girls from accessing safe abortions in the private sector. In addition, fear of being reported to the police prevents women and girls from seeking medical attention when they are faced with life-threatening complications due to unsafe abortions.

The report makes the important point that more family planning will reduce abortion worldwide. Family planning is one of the most cost-effective strategies to prevent maternal deaths and suffering from unsafe abortion. Indeed, the lowest rates of abortion in the world can be found in Germany and Switzerland, where family planning is widely and easily available. Yet only last week I heard from Marie Stopes International that due to President Trump's global gag, which blocks US funds going to any organisation involved in abortion advice and care overseas, its funding has been cut drastically, severely restricting its ability to provide contraceptive services to women and girls in the developing world. The international campaign SheDecides says that every girl and every woman has the right to do what she chooses with her body. She must have access to education and information about her body and her options, modern contraception and safe abortion. Only when women are in control of their own fertility will they have control over their own lives."

Baroness Northover said: "... We should not ignore the challenge of abortion. I welcome the report on abortion by the APPG and I pay tribute to the noble Baroness, Lady Tonge, in that regard. The report recognises that abortions will occur, and that so often deaths result where they are not legal and medically assisted. It estimates that the proportion of maternal mortality in developing countries resulting from unsafe abortion ranges as high as 18%. Maternal morbidity from the consequences of unsafe abortion is also common. The report points out, rightly, that young women, poor women and women in conflict situations are particularly vulnerable. I am proud of the fact that in coalition we put into law our commitment to 0.7% of GNI for aid, with a particular focus on women and girls. I am proud of the fact that DFID has not shied away from areas such as family planning and abortion over recent years—unlike Trump's America. Long may that continue..."

Baroness Tonge said: "...a majority of people who have spoken in this debate so far have mentioned my favourite subject, which is women's reproductive health, family planning and safe abortion. That is what I plan to talk about now, and to use my favourite phrase, you cannot promote the empowerment of women—the noble Baroness, Lady Jenkin, has already alluded to this—unless you give them power over their own bodies first. It is pointless talking about it unless you do that....the reason I had a late night last night is that my APPG on PDRH launched a paper. I have a copy with me here and noble Lords will all get one in the next week—I am sorry to advertise it but it is very important. The Who Decides? report is about safe abortion in the developing world. It also mentions this country, which I know is quite a contentious issue.

We need legal, safe abortion in all countries and we need improvements here in the UK. The noble Lord, Lord Steel, who was here earlier, piloted the Bill through Parliament in 1967. It was a tremendous thing for

the women of this country but it now needs updating. Women still need the permission of two doctors; often they have to have two different appointments, and it can take ages to get an appointment in the first place. They need better access.

Worldwide, the abortion rate is the same whether abortion is legal or illegal in a particular country—abortions still go on. Women who cannot access safe abortion will take matters into their own hands, and many die as a consequence. In fact, 68,000 women die every year from unsafe abortion in the rest of the world. So people who oppose safe abortion provision are promoting death—the death of young women and the death of mothers of young families.

Finally, I want all noble Lords, and in particular the Government, to look at the report. I hope the Minister will reply to me in her closing comments. It is terribly important that we look at provision worldwide. Medical abortion now is so much easier: two pills can be taken in the first 12 weeks to produce a much easier form of abortion through a very early miscarriage, and no surgical intervention is required. We must promote this method worldwide. We must make sure that it is available online and without the intervention of doctors. Women do not need doctors all the time to control our bodies; we can do it ourselves if we are given the means to do so... Will the Minister please say something about that and promise that women worldwide will get a better, easier deal with the advent of medical abortion, and likewise women in this country?"

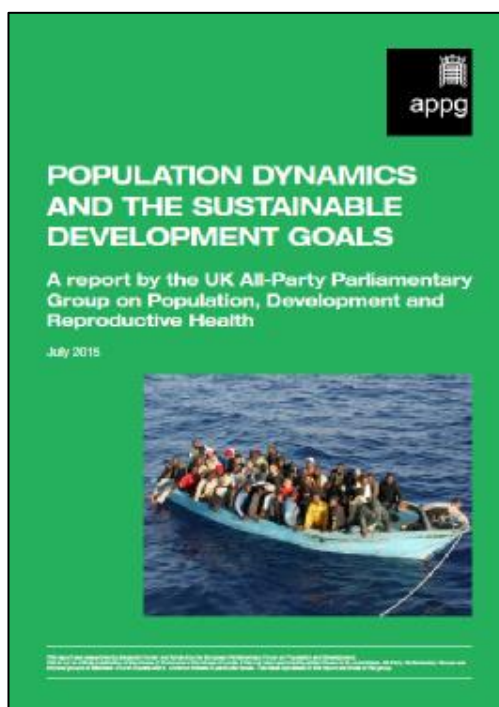
Baroness Hodgson said: "...My Lords, it is a great pleasure to follow the noble Baroness, Lady Tonge, and I much admire her wonderful work on promoting family planning, reproductive health and safe abortion..."

Meetings were held in the spring of 2018 between Catherine Calderwood, CMO Scotland; Baroness Tonge, Baroness Barker and Diana Johnson MP to discuss Medical Abortion in particular, following the decision in Scotland to make women's homes a designated area for medical abortions. Communications followed with the UK DoH about following the example of Scotland, but negative replies were received from Jackie Doyle-Price MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the DoH.

Please find communications enclosed as appendix 165

In March 2018 Baroness Watkins tabled an oral PQ in the HoL inquiring about England and Wales following Scotland's approval for women taking the second dose of the medication, misoprostol at home, if they so wish. Lord O'Shaughnessy, PUSC for DoH and Social Care replied: "Any change of policy would need to be done cautiously, in the light of the evidence and of legal developments—for example, relating to Scotland's decision to name homes as a place. It is on that basis that we will consider any further evidence."

APPG on PDRH Hearing Report: Population Dynamics and the Sustainable Development Goals, July 2015



The APPG on PDRH continues to highlight the important linkages between population dynamics and the SDGs, as per hearing report above, in parliamentary debates and at meetings and conferences. Hard copies of the report have been brought to conferences attended by members and Ann Mette Kjaerby throughout the year.

The report was also sent to interested parties including Sheelagh McGuinness, University of Bristol Law School in October 2017.

Please find enclosed sample communications as appendix 166

APPG on PDRH Hearing Report: The Child Marriage, “A Childhood Lost”, November 2012

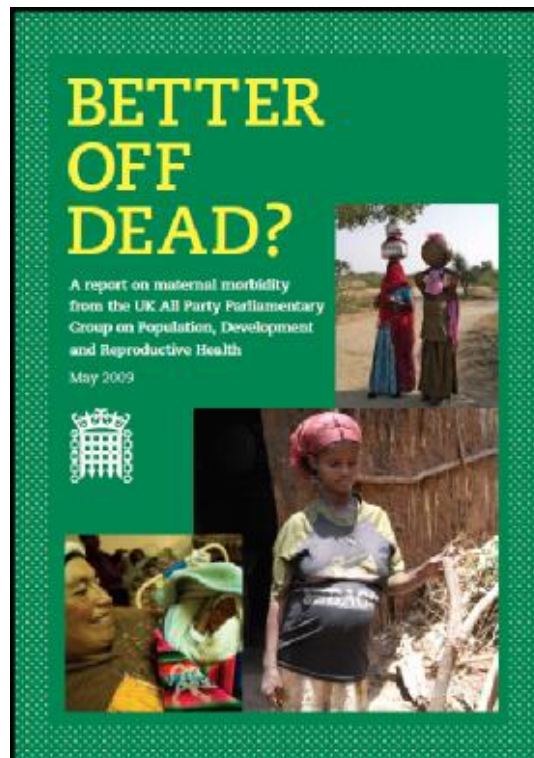


The APPG on PDRH continues to follow up on the above hearing report. Baroness Jenny Tonge's PMB did not proceed into the HoC in 2017 due to the HoC's timetable, lack of Government support and the early GE.

Baroness Jenny Tonge held strategy meetings with NGOs during the year to discuss the re-entry of a PMB or amendments to possible Government Bills. Parliamentary activities during 2018 – 2019 to increase the age of marriage to 18 will continue and the plan is at present to table an amendment to the forthcoming Domestic Abuse Bill in the autumn 2018.

Dr Eylem Atakav, Senior Lecturer in Film and Television Studies, School of Art, Media and American Studies, University of East Anglia, has been in contact with the APPG on PDRH, wanting to co-share and showcase her film on child marriage in the UK Parliament, but again due to the GE, collaboration instead lead to Baroness Hussein-Ece speaking at the Child Marriage film event, 9th May 2017, Leicester University, Leicester, UK (please see conference section for further information).

APPG on PDRH Hearing Report: Maternal Morbidity – “Better off Dead?”, May 2009



The APPG on PDRH continued to promote its 2009 Maternal Morbidity Hearing Report: ‘Better off Dead?’ The report can be downloaded from the APPG on PDRH website here:

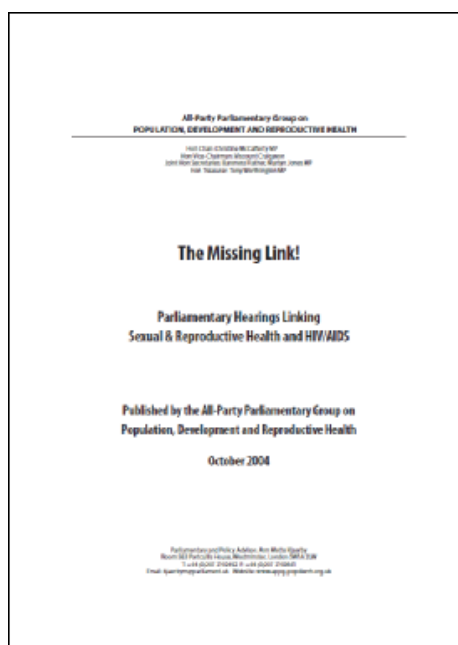
<http://www.appg-popdevrh.org.uk/Publications.html>

APPG on PDRH Hearing Report: Return of the Population Growth Factor – Its impact upon the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), January 2007/ May 2009



The APPG on PDRH 2007/2009 Hearing Report: ‘Return of the Population Growth Factor and its Impact upon the MDGs’ and 2009 updated summary leaflet can be downloaded from the APPG on PDRH website here: <http://www.appg-popdevrh.org.uk/Publications.html>

APPG on PDRH Hearing Report: Linking Sexual and Reproductive Health and HIV/AIDS, “The Missing Link”, October 2004



The APPG on PDRH 2004 Hearing Report: ‘The Missing Link’ can be downloaded from the APPG on PDRH website here: <http://www.appg-popdevrh.org.uk/Publications.html>

APPG on PDRH Hearing Report: FGM, November 2000



The APPG on PDRH continue to raise the devastating consequences of FGM in Parliament. Mandatory reporting to police has been introduced if a girl under the age of 18 is found to have undergone an act of FGM or if there are physical signs that an act of FGM may have been carried out on a girl under the age of 18. For details on what is required of professionals, please see here: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/child-abuse-and-neglect/female-genital-mutilation-fgm/legislation-policy-and-guidance/>

The UK however has still not seen a successful FGM prosecution but publicity around FGM remains high.

PUBLICATIONS

Activity Reports

Annual Activity Reports have been published since 1993/1994 to the present date and can be found on the APPG on PDRH website here: <http://www.appg-popdevrh.org.uk/>

Hearings/Surveys/Reports

WHO DECIDES? We trust Women. Abortion in the Developing World and the UK, March 2018

Population Dynamics and the Sustainable Development Goals, July 2015

A Report on Child Marriage in the UK and the Developing World, 'A Childhood Lost', November 2012

A Report on Maternal Morbidity – 'Better off Dead?' May 2009

'Return of the Population Growth Factor - Its Impact upon the Millennium Development Goals', January 2007 (Main Report and Executive Summary Report (translated into German and French)) and Updated Summary and Graphs/Tables, July 2009

'Linking Sexual and Reproductive Health and HIV/AIDS – "The Missing Link"' October 2004 (Main Report, Executive Summary and Recommendations Report and CD-ROM)

'FGM, Report of Parliamentary Hearing and Survey on FGM', May 2000

'Taking Young People Seriously: Improving Sexual and Reproductive Health for the Next Generation', Report of the Parliamentary Hearings held on 6 and 13 May 1998

'Development Strategies for the 21st Century: The South-South Partnership in Population and Development', Report of the Parliamentary Hearing March 1997

Report on Workshop "Working with Parliamentarians and Government Officials" London, March 1996

Implementing the Cairo ICPD 1994 Programme of Population, Reproductive Health and Development, European Parliamentary Forum for Action Report, Brussels 1995

'Women's Rights and Sexual Health', Report of Consultations held with agencies involved in women's issues, 1995

'The Well-Spent Pound' - an assessment of AID Agency priorities for population activities, NGO Review 1993

European Agenda for Action on World Population, Report of the European Parliamentarians Conference, London 1992

ACCOUNTS

Please find enclosed APPG on PDRH accounts April 2017 – March 2018 as appendix 167

ACRONYMS

ACT	Artemisinin-Based Combination Therapy
ACCM	Agency for Culture and Change Management
AGM	Annual General Meeting
AICC	All India Co-ordinating Committee
AIDOS	Italian Association for Women in Development
AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
APPG	All-Party Parliamentary Group
APPG on PDRH	All-Party Parliamentary Group on Population, Development and Reproductive Health
BGIPU	British Group Inter-Parliamentary Union
BME	British and Minority Ethnic
BPAS	British Pregnancy Advisory Service
BUPA	British United Provident Association
C	Conservative
CAFOD	Catholic Agency for Overseas Development
CoE	Council of Europe
CDC	Commonwealth Development Corporation
CE	Chief Executive
CHOGM	Commonwealth Head of Government Meeting
CMO	Chief Medical Officer
CO	Conscientious Objection
COMMAT	Commonwealth Medical Trust
CPA	Commonwealth Parliamentary Association
CPD	Commission on Population and Development
CSO	Civil Society Organisations
CSW	Commission on the Status of Women
DAC	Development Assistance Committee
DFID	Department for International Development
DHSC	Department of Health and Social Care
DoH	Department of Health
DUP	Democratic Unionist Party
Dr	Doctor
EC	Executive Committee
ECOSOC	UN Economic and Social Council
ED	Executive Director
EDM	Early Day Motion
EPF	European Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development
EU	European Union
EuroNGO	European Non-Governmental Organisations for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, Population and Development
FCO	Foreign and Commonwealth Office
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
FOGSI	Federation of Obstetric and Gynaecological Societies of India
FORWARD	Foundation for Women's Health Research and Development
FP	Family Planning
FP2020	Family Planning 2020
FSRH	Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Health
GE	General Elections

GFF	Global Financing Facility
GGR	Global Gag Rule
GJC	Global Justice Center
GNI	Gross National Income
GP	General Practitioner
HoC	House of Commons
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HLPF	High Level Political Forum
HoC	House of Commons
HoL	House of Lords
HPT	Human Pregnancy Test
HPV	Human Papilloma Virus
HRT	Hormone Replacement Therapy
IBRD	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
ICPD	International Conference on Population and Development
ICAI	Independent Commission for Aid Impact
ID	International Development
IDA	International Development Association
IDPs	Internally Displaced People
IKWRO	Iranian and Kurdish Women's Rights Organisation
ILGA	International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association
IPCI ICPD PoA	International Parliamentary Conference on the Implementation of the International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action
IPPF	International Planned Parenthood Federation
IPPR	Institute of Public Policy Research
IPU	Inter-Parliamentary Union
IUD	Inter-Uterine Device
IUS	Inter-Uterine System
IWD	International Women's Day
L	Labour
LD	Liberal Democrat
LDCs	Less Developed Countries
LGBTQ+	Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transsexual and questioning
LSHTM	London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MDR-TB	Multi-Drug-Resistant Tuberculosis
MET	Maternal healthcare markets Evaluation Team
MfM	Merck for Mothers
MHRA	Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency
MMR	Maternal Mortality Rate
MNTD	Malaria & Neglected Tropical Diseases
MoS	Minister of State
MP	Member of Parliament
MSc	Master of Science
MSI	Marie Stopes International
MSM	Men who have sex with men
NA	Non-affiliated
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NHS	National Health Service
NI	Northern Ireland

NICE	National Institute for Health and Care Excellence
NSPCC	National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children
ODA	Official Development Assistance
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
ONS	Office for National Statistics
PAI	Population Action International
PoA	Programme of Action
PD	Population and Development
PMB	Private Member's Bill
PQs	Parliamentary Questions
PSN	Population Sustainability Network
PUSS	Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
RCM	Royal College of Midwives
RCOG	Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists
RMNCAH	Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health
SCI	Subdermal Contraceptive Implant
SD	Sustainable Development
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SRH	Sexual and Reproductive Health
SRHR	Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
SoS	Secretary of State
STI	Sexual Transmitted Infection
SWOP	State of the World Population
TB	Tuberculosis
UK	United Kingdom
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
UN	United Nations
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
USA	United States of America
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VAWG	Violence Against Women and Girls
VNR	Voluntary National Review
VSO	Voluntary Service Overseas
WASH	Water, sanitation and hygiene
WHO	World Health Organization
XB	Cross Bencher

APPENDICES

- Appendix 1: APPG on PDRH agendas and committee meeting minutes
- Appendix 2: Nepal Ministry of Health and MSI meeting notes
- Appendix 3: Invitation to IPPF's World Population Day
- Appendix 4: Briefing for MfM meeting
- Appendix 5: BPAS dinner invitation
- Appendix 6: List of delegates who attended luncheon with Dr Natalia Kanem
- Appendix 7: Invitation to joint APPG on Sudan and APPG on PDRH event on maternal health in Sudan

- Appendix 8: Invitation to joint APPGs and MSc students on Global Health meeting
- Appendix 9: Invitation and agenda for SheDecides event
- Appendix 10: Invitation to GBIPU reception after the Queen's Speech
- Appendix 11: Invitation and programme for Margaret Pyke and Population and Sustainability Network family planning briefing meeting

- Appendix 12: Invitation to event and the recommendations from 'The Morning After' the 2017 Family Planning Summit NGO event

- Appendix 13: Invitation to BPAS reception
- Appendix 14: Invitation to ActionAid event: "Survivors Runaway"
- Appendix 15: Invitation to UNFPA SWOP report launch, and report front-, table of contents- and executive summary

- Appendix 16: Invitation to UN Global Goals for Sustainable Development, CPA and Bond meeting

- Appendix 17: Invitation and minutes of Save the Children Meeting: Global Financing Facility
- Appendix 18: Invitation, agenda, minutes and follow up communications to UNFPA, COMMAT and CHOGM strategy meeting

- Appendix 19: Sample of communications and Executive Summary of reports with Plan UK
- Appendix 20: Programme for the annual parliamentary secretariat retreat in Ajaccio, Corsica

- Appendix 21: Weekly parliamentary updates disseminated to members
- Appendix 22a: Future business circulated to members of the APPG on PDRH
- Appendix 22b: All written briefings sent to members of the APPG on PDRH
- Appendix 23: Sample communications with UNFPA
- Appendix 24: Sample communications with IPPF
- Appendix 25: Sample communications with MSI
- Appendix 26: Sample communications with UK SRHR Network
- Appendix 27: Sample communications with RCOG
- Appendix 28: Sample communications with BPAS
- Appendix 29: Sample communications with Forced Marriage and FGM NGOs
- Appendix 30: Sample communications with COMMAT
- Appendix 31: Sample communications with Global Justice Center
- Appendix 32: Sample communications with PSN
- Appendix 33: Sample communications with other SRHR experts
- Appendix 34: Invitation to press luncheon World Population Day: Family Planning: Empowering People, Developing Nations!

- Appendix 35: Press articles following press luncheon
- Appendix 36: Times article on child marriage
- Appendix 37: Press release on the election of one female MP onto the DFID Select Committee

- Appendix 38: HoC Oral Ministerial Statement on the G20
- Appendix 39: HoC Oral Ministerial Statement on the Maternity Safety Strategy

- Appendix 40: HoC Oral Ministerial Statement on the Aid Sector: Safeguarding
- Appendix 41: HoC Oral Ministerial Statement on Burma
- Appendix 42: HoC Written Ministerial Statement on International Development
- Appendix 43: HoC Written Ministerial Statement on DFID Supplier Review
- Appendix 44: HoC Written Ministerial Statement on Economic Development in Africa and South Asia
- Appendix 45: HoC Written Ministerial Statement on Equalities
- Appendix 46: HoC Written Ministerial Statement on Official Development Assistance
- Appendix 47: HoC Written Ministerial Statement on the Report of the Expert Working Group on Hormone Pregnancy Tests
- Appendix 48: HoC Written Ministerial Statement on the Tailored Review of the ICAI
- Appendix 49: HoC Written Ministerial Statement on Abortions in England for Women in Northern Ireland
- Appendix 50: HoC Written Ministerial Statement on Domestic Abuse
- Appendix 51: HoC Written Ministerial Statement on the Opposition Day Debate: Refugees and Human Rights
- Appendix 52: HoC Written Ministerial Statement on Maternity Safety
- Appendix 53: Human Fertilisation and Embryology (Welfare of Women) Ten Minute Rule Bill
- Appendix 54: HoC Debate on Tackling Infectious Diseases
- Appendix 55: HoC Debate on Health, Social Care and Security
- Appendix 56: HoC Debate on Baby Loss Awareness Week
- Appendix 57: HoC Debate on The Rohingya and the Myanmar Government
- Appendix 58: HoC Debate on Surgical Mesh Implants
- Appendix 59: HoC Debate on Valproate and Foetal Anticonvulsant Syndrome
- Appendix 60: HoC Debate on the Rohingya Crisis
- Appendix 61: HoC Debate on Sanitary Products
- Appendix 62: HoC Debate on World AIDS Day 2017
- Appendix 63: HoC Debate on Hormone Pregnancy Tests
- Appendix 64: HoC Debate on International Disaster Relief
- Appendix 65: HoC Debate on Vote 100 and International Women's Day
- Appendix 66: HoC Oral Parliamentary Questions on Domestic Violence Refuges
- Appendix 67: HoC Oral Parliamentary Questions on Equality and Women's Rights: DUP Discussions
- Appendix 68: HoC Oral Parliamentary Questions on Climate Change
- Appendix 69: HoC Oral Parliamentary Questions on UN Target: Aid
- Appendix 70: HoC Oral Parliamentary Questions on Aid Programmes: Africa
- Appendix 71: HoC Oral Parliamentary Questions on Agenda 2030
- Appendix 72: HoC Oral Parliamentary Questions on Transvaginal Mesh Implants
- Appendix 73: HoC Oral Parliamentary Questions on Rohingya Refugees (Bangladesh)
- Appendix 74: HoC Oral Parliamentary Questions on Topical Questions
- Appendix 75: HoC Oral Parliamentary Questions on Commonwealth Development
- Appendix 76: HoC Oral Parliamentary Questions on Relationship and Sex Education
- Appendix 77: HoC Oral Parliamentary Questions on Maternity Services
- Appendix 78: HoC Oral Parliamentary Questions on Hormone Pregnancy Tests
- Appendix 79: HoC Oral Parliamentary Questions on Topical Questions
- Appendix 80: HoC Oral Parliamentary Questions on Value for Money
- Appendix 81: HoC Oral Parliamentary Questions on Topical Questions
- Appendix 82: HoC Oral Parliamentary Questions on Violence Against Women and Girls
- Appendix 83: HoC Oral Parliamentary Questions on the Commonwealth
- Appendix 84: HoC Oral Parliamentary Questions on Topical Questions

- Appendix 85: HoC Oral Parliamentary Questions on Small Charities: Funding
- Appendix 86: HoC Oral Parliamentary Questions on Period Poverty
- Appendix 87: HoC Oral Parliamentary Questions on Girls' Education
- Appendix 88: HoC Oral Parliamentary Questions on Internally Displaced People
- Appendix 89: HoC Oral Parliamentary Questions on Aid Spending
- Appendix 90: HoC Oral Parliamentary Questions on OECD
- Appendix 91: HoC Oral Parliamentary Questions on Promoting Education in the World
- Appendix 92: HoC Oral Parliamentary Questions on Diets During Pregnancy
- Appendix 93: List of MPs who signed the EDM 237
- Appendix 94: List of MPs who signed the EDM 304
- Appendix 95: List of MPs who signed the EDM 325
- Appendix 96: List of MPs who signed the EDM 417
- Appendix 97: List of MPs who signed the EDM 480
- Appendix 98: List of MPs who signed the EDM 962
- Appendix 99: HoL Ministerial Statement on the G20
- Appendix 100: HoL Ministerial Statement on Hormone Pregnancy Tests
- Appendix 101: HoL Ministerial Statement on the Maternal Safety Strategy
- Appendix 102: HoL Ministerial Statement on Safeguarding in the Aid Sector
- Appendix 103: Private Member's Bill on Conscientious Objection (Medical Activities), Second Reading
- Appendix 104: Private Member's Bill on Conscientious Objection (Medical Activities), Committee Stage
- Appendix 105: Debate on the Queen's Speech (2nd Day)
- Appendix 106: Debate on the Queen's Speech (2nd Day, continued)
- Appendix 107: Debate on the Queen's Speech (4th Day)
- Appendix 108: Debate on Sierra Leone: Ebola
- Appendix 109: Debate on Brexit: Least Developed Countries
- Appendix 110: Debate on DFID's Economic Development Strategy
- Appendix 111: Debate on United States: Foreign Policy
- Appendix 112: Debate on Water: Developing Countries
- Appendix 113: Debate on International Women's Day: Progress on Global Gender Equality
- Appendix 114: Debate on CHOGM 2018
- Appendix 115: Debate on CHOGM 2018 (continued)
- Appendix 116: Debate on Domestic Abuse
- Appendix 117: Oral Parliamentary Questions on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals
- Appendix 118: Oral Parliamentary Questions on Overseas Development Assistance
- Appendix 119: Oral Parliamentary Questions on Myanmar and Bangladesh: Rohingya
- Appendix 120: Oral Parliamentary Questions on the Istanbul Convention
- Appendix 121: Oral Parliamentary Questions on Health: Obstetrics and Gynaecology
- Appendix 122: Oral Parliamentary Questions on Nigeria
- Appendix 123: Oral Parliamentary Questions on East Africa: Refugee Crisis
- Appendix 124: Oral Parliamentary Questions on Myanmar: Rohingya People
- Appendix 125: Oral Parliamentary Questions on Domestic Violence: Victims
- Appendix 126: Oral Parliamentary Questions on Burma: Rohingya People
- Appendix 127: Oral Parliamentary Questions on Overseas Aid and Defence Expenditure
- Appendix 128: Oral Parliamentary Questions on Domestic Violence and Abuse Bill
- Appendix 129: Oral Parliamentary Questions on HIV: Global Response and Young People
- Appendix 130: Oral Parliamentary Questions on HIV Prevention Services: Public Health Funding

- Appendix 131: Oral Parliamentary Questions on Syria: Refugees
- Appendix 132: Oral Parliamentary Questions on Health: Alma-Ata Declaration
- Appendix 133: Oral Parliamentary Questions on Pregnancy: Folic Acid
- Appendix 134: Oral Parliamentary Questions on Sub-Saharan Africa: Public Services and Governance
- Appendix 135: Oral Parliamentary Questions on UN SDGs
- Appendix 136: Oral Parliamentary Questions on Health: Pelvic Mesh Implants
- Appendix 137: Oral Parliamentary Questions on UN SDGs
- Appendix 138: Oral Parliamentary Questions on Domestic Violence: Women
- Appendix 139: Oral Parliamentary Questions on Abortion: Misoprostol
- Appendix 140: Oral Parliamentary Questions on the Commonwealth Summit: Human Rights
- Appendix 141: Oral Parliamentary Questions HPV Vaccinations
- Appendix 142: Sample communication with the DFID Team, UK Government
- Appendix 143: Communications with Priti Patel MP
- Appendix 144: Communications with Penny Mordaunt MP
- Appendix 145: Communications with Jackie Doyle Price MP
- Appendix 146: Communications with Lord Ahmad
- Appendix 147: Cover letter to the UK Government's consultation
- Appendix 148: London Irish Abortion Rights campaign letter on NI abortion reform
- Appendix 149: Invitation, programme and attendance certificate to the RCOG India conference
- Appendix 150: Conference programme and the Guttmacher research summary paper on Bridging the gap to FP2020: Evidence to accelerate progress towards meeting the need for family planning
- Appendix 151: Programme for the EPF and UNFPA ICPD Strategic Discussion with Parliamentarians
- Appendix 152: Programme for the EPF International Consultation for Parliamentarians on Upholding the Rights of Girls, Ending Female Genital Mutilation and Child Marriage
- Appendix 153: Programme for the BPAS conference on The UK Abortion Act: A Promise Fulfilled?
- Appendix 154: Invitation and programme for the FSRH Current Choices Conference
- Appendix 155: Programme for the RCOG IWD event on SRHR in conflict
- Appendix 156: Programme EPF Parliamentary meeting on Reproductive Health Supplies
- Appendix 157: Sample communications with the UK APPGs working on global health issues
- Appendix 158: Sample communications with the UK APPGs working on international development
- Appendix 159: Sample communications with the Rwanda APPG on PD
- Appendix 160: Sample communications with the UK APPG on Disability
- Appendix 161: Sample communications with the UK APPG on HIV/AIDS
- Appendix 162: Sample communications with the UK APPG on FGM
- Appendix 163: Press release and list of organisations that submitted written and gave oral evidence for the parliamentary hearings on Abortion in the Developing World and the UK
- Appendix 164: Report launch press release for Abortion in the Developing World and the UK
- Appendix 165: Communications with Jackie Doyle-Price MP on the home use of misoprostol
- Appendix 166: Sample communications on Population Dynamics and the SDGs
- Appendix 167: APPG on PDRD Accounts April 2017 – March 2018