



## United Kingdom

### UK coalition members

ABColumbia  
Action Aid  
Amnesty International UK  
Burma Campaign  
CAFOD  
Campaign Against Arms Trade  
CARE International UK  
Christian Aid  
Ecumenical Council for  
Corporate Responsibility  
Engineers Against Poverty  
Global Poverty Project  
Global Witness  
Natural Resource Governance  
Institute  
The ONE Campaign  
OpenCorporates  
Open Knowledge Foundation  
Open Society Foundations  
Oxfam Great Britain  
Peru Support Group  
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Save the Children UK  
Scottish Catholic International  
Aid Fund  
Tearfund  
Transparency International UK  
United Nations Association of  
the UK  
World Vision International

The Rt Hon Priti Patel MP  
Secretary of State for International Development  
Department for International Development  
22 Whitehall  
London SW1A

17 February 2017

Dear Secretary of State

### **Extractive industry transparency**

As UK members of the global Publish What You Pay (PWYP) civil society coalition, we write to request a meeting with you to discuss the Government's leadership on extractives (oil, gas and mining) transparency and to seek your assurance that Government commitment to require country- and project-level reporting of payments to governments by extractive companies remains strong.

UK Government leadership has been crucial in establishing a global extractives transparency standard through the Reports on Payments to Governments Regulations 2014 and the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI). We particularly value the effective collaboration of your Department, which has a track record of working internationally to achieve progress in this field.

The recent vote by US legislators to "disapprove" the rule implementing Section 1504 of the Dodd-Frank Act is retrogressive. The Securities and Exchange Commission must still promulgate a new rule, and our US colleagues are committed to ensuring the United States remains on course to implement the global standard.

The first year of mandatory extractive company country-by-country and project-by-project reporting in the UK has been a success in making host governments more accountable to their citizens, with no evidence of competitive burdens on, or harm to, companies. We appreciate your Department's efforts to ensure the data that results from these initiatives is used to improve people's lives. And we will contribute to the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy's review of UK-based and London-listed extractive companies' reporting this year, which can send a strong signal to other governments about the importance of greater openness in the sector.

Continuing UK leadership of this agenda in the context of "Global Britain" requires a reaffirmation of the value of these disclosures, and progressing commodities trading transparency around the sale of oil, gas and minerals following commitments made at the London Anti-Corruption Summit and in the UK's Third Open Government Partnership National Action Plan.

We look forward to the UK Government continuing to champion extractive sector transparency and accountability.

Please let us know when we might meet with you to discuss these matters by responding to this letter via Miles Litvinoff, Publish What You Pay UK Coordinator (mlitvinoff@pwpuk.org; 01442 825060; 07984 720103).

We look forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely



Simon Taylor  
Founder Director  
**Global Witness**



Saira O'Mallie  
UK Director (Interim)  
**The ONE Campaign**



Daniel Kaufmann  
President and CEO  
**Natural Resource Governance Institute**



Neil Thorns  
Director of Advocacy  
**CAFOD**



Chris Taggart  
Chief Executive and Co-Founder  
**OpenCorporates**



John Arnold  
Executive Director  
**Ecumenical Council for Corporate Responsibility**



Rosemary Thorp  
Vice-President  
**Peru Support Group**



Kenneth Boyce  
Head of Private Sector  
**Christian Aid**



Miles Litvinoff  
Coordinator  
**Publish What You Pay UK**