

Digest 2022/17538

- Any communications made between China Department or BE Beijing and Stanley Johnson (the Prime Minister's father) since January 2021
- Any communications made within China Department or BE Beijing (including to other Departments) regarding Stanley Johnson (the Prime Minister's father) visiting the Chinese Ambassador since January 2021
- Any advice China Department or BE Beijing has given Stanley Johnson, or his son Max Johnson, ahead of their upcoming visit to China this year

Item 1:

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 19 April 2022 19:59
To: Caroline Wilson
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Zac Goldsmith's private office

OFFICIAL

Hi Caroline

On a separate note, in case you weren't already aware Stanley Johnson will be hosting Ambassador Zeguang and others at his home for lunch tomorrow in his capacity helping to set up the World Coastal Forum. Stanley does a lot of work with China on the environment and if you would find it helpful I'd be happy to introduce the two of you over email.

Best,

[Redacted] Senior Private Secretary to Lord Goldsmith [Redacted]

Item 2:

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 13 October 2021 14:47
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Invitation for Lord Goldsmith meeting with Amb. Zheng (China)

Thanks [Redacted], all,

We will also make the point to Stanley Johnson and apologies for not doing so sooner.

All the best,

[Redacted] Assistant Private Secretary to Lord (Zac) Goldsmith | Minister of State for the Pacific & the Environment

Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) & Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 13 October 2021 11:17

To: [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: Re: Invitation for Lord Goldsmith meeting with Amb. Zheng (China)

Thanks all and apologies, I read the original email from [Redacted] in haste, not clocking Stanley J angle. 100% support [Redacted] email below, and [Redacted] proposed next step (highlighted).

[Redacted] what time is your meeting as great if others shout asap beforehand if they disagree.

Once we're agreed, [Redacted] can you also go back to Mr Johnson and highlight this, [Redacted]

On Wed, 13 Oct 2021 at 11:11, [Redacted] wrote:

Hi all,

[Redacted]

China Department can let the Chinese Embassy know Lord Goldsmith would welcome an opportunity to discuss CBD and COP26 Forest and Land Use issues with the Ambassador. We've got a call this afternoon that we could raise this in, but if that's too short notice to agree a course of action we can find another opportunity.

[Redacted] **Team Leader, Global Goods and Multilateral Organisations |**

China Department | Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office |

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 13 October 2021 10:23

To: [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: Re: Invitation for Lord Goldsmith meeting with Amb. Zheng (China)

Hi [Redacted]

[Redacted] I'll let [Redacted] and others in Beijing comment on whether that's enough of an issue to prevent us accepting.

Otherwise I agree it could be helpful from a COP26 perspective,

Thanks

[Redacted]

International Engagement - China, Japan and RoK
lead
COP26, United Nations Climate Change Conference
[Redacted] www.ukcop26.org

On Wed, 13 Oct 2021 at 10:20 [Redacted] wrote:

Thanks all. Agree that from a CBD perspective we should take this. [Redacted]

Others are better placed to advise on the COP26 issues.

All the best

[Redacted] Joint Head of International Environment Negotiations, with [Redacted]

[Redacted] **From:** [Redacted]

Sent: 13 October 2021 10:12

To: [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: Re: Invitation for Lord Goldsmith meeting with Amb. Zheng (China)

Hi [Redacted]

Welcome views of others on the chain but my view is this is a definite accept. As well as CBD objectives, useful to use this to follow up on the PM invite to the WLS Forest & Land Use Event, and to highlight the Glasgow Leaders Declaration on Forests & Land Use.

Thanks

[Redacted]

On Wed, 13 Oct 2021 at 09:58, [Redacted] wrote:

Hi all

Just resurrecting this chain although trimming off FACT people. Through informal channels (Stanley Johnson) Ambassador Zheng has requested a meeting with Minister Goldsmith about the CBD meeting which is happening at the moment in Kunming. By the sounds of it, the Ambassador recently met with CPD.

In light of China's [coal](#) announcement yesterday I was wondering if we could please get some advice on handling and whether the Minister should take the meeting.

Many thanks,

[Redacted] Private Secretary to Lord Goldsmith | [Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 23 August 2021 14:36

To: [Redacted] **Cc:** [Redacted] **Subject:** RE: Invitation for Lord Goldsmith meeting with Amb. Zheng (China)

An alternative/additional way to prompt a formal request from the Chinese Embassy for a meeting might be for Lord Goldsmith's office to reply to Stanley Johnson, thanking him for passing on the letter and asking him to let the Chinese Embassy know that we look forward to receiving a request for a meeting through the formal channels. I suspect all concerned would take that as an indication that a formal request would receive a positive response.

[Redacted] | **Team Leader, Global Goods and Multilateral Organisations |**

China Department | Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office |

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 23 August 2021 13:36

To: [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: Invitation for Lord Goldsmith meeting with Amb. Zheng (China)

Hi all,

Agreed this would be useful from a COP26 perspective and if we could get a strong steer to CPD to raise a follow up in his upcoming visit then this feels like the most advantageous opportunity. Simon, assuming (but do correct me if I am wrong) you were referring to the FACT Ministerial on the 30th September and therefore we could look to schedule before this.

Happy to help coordinate key DEFRA outcomes for this discussion.

Many thanks,

[Redacted] **International Biodiversity and Climate | Head of Bilateral Engagement | Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs**

[Redacted] | Marsham Street, London

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 23 August 2021 11:57

To: [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: Invitation for Lord Goldsmith meeting with Amb. Zheng (China)

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

Hi all,

Thanks for sharing.

Definitely agree that any meetings should be set up through official channels. Our suggestion is that CPD could raise this with Minister Huang on his visit in a couple of weeks to hopefully then get agreement to a Lord Goldsmith- Vice Minister meeting (maybe ahead of the COP15 event as [Redacted] suggests). But we would also need a clear steer from relevant teams on exactly what this could cover.

[Redacted] - to note re the briefing!

Thanks

[Redacted] Climate and Natural Resources Advisor

Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO)

British Embassy, 11 Guang Hua Lu, Beijing 100600

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 23 August 2021 08:52

To: [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: Re: Invitation for Lord Goldsmith meeting with Amb. Zheng (China)

Hi all,

From a COP26 perspective, I think this would be a useful conversation to have. We want to engage China on COP26 forests outcomes, preferably ahead of the FACT ministerial scheduled for 30 April. ZG is the best person on our side to engage with China on this. I don't know if CPD will raise it on his coming visit, but would not expect him to do so in detail.

The question for embassy colleagues (cc'd) is on the handling. Does ZG have better options to engage with China - e.g. a ministerial call, or does that look unlikely? Is this communication with Stanley Johnson a useful hook to use as an opening, or should we just ask for a meeting (if we agree we want one) without reference to that?

Regards,

[Redacted]

On Mon, 23 Aug 2021 at 08:28, [Redacted] wrote:

Morning all!

I don't judge a meeting with the Chinese Ambassador to be particularly critical in terms of delivering our CBD objectives at the moment, but I think it would be a welcome show of cooperation if they were to have a short meeting ahead of the COP opener that is due to take place mid-October. When is CPD due to visit?

And happy too of course to follow [Redacted] advice that we shouldn't arrange anything off the back of this approach.

All the best

[Redacted] Joint Head of International Environment Negotiations, with [Redacted]

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 20 August 2021 18:33

To: [Redacted] **Cc:** [Redacted]

Subject: RE: Invitation for Lord Goldsmith meeting with Amb. Zheng (China)

Hi [Redacted]

I don't think we should set anything up on the basis of the Ambassador's letter to Stanley Johnson. We should wait for the Chinese Embassy to use the contact details Mr Johnson has given them to make a direct request for a meeting through official channels. (Which is something the Embassy are quite capable of doing without Mr Johnson's assistance).

It's more for CBD and COP26 colleagues to judge how useful a meeting would be, but if we think a meeting would be helpful, I wonder if it would make sense to wait until after CPD Sharma's visit to China?

[Redacted] **Team Leader, Global Goods and Multilateral Organisations |**

China Department | Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office |

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 20 August 2021 17:13

To: [Redacted] **Cc:** [Redacted]

Subject: FW: Invitation for Lord Goldsmith meeting with Amb. Zheng (China)

Hi all,

Lord Goldsmith has been passed the attached invitation via Stanley Johnson from Ambassador Zheng, and I wanted to seek your advice on the suggestion for a Lord Goldsmith meeting.

Instinctively it feels like a good opportunity, but I wanted to test that in the context of our CBD and COP26 objectives, and our China bilateral engagement. If we do go ahead, I'd also welcome thoughts on preferred timing.

Please do cascade to others who may need to see, or discuss with your teams. I'd welcome thoughts – feel free to use this chain to discuss, or happy to set-up a short meeting if useful too.

Thanks and have a good weekend all.

Best wishes,

[Redacted] Assistant Private Secretary to Lord (Zac) Goldsmith | Minister of State for the Pacific & the Environment

Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) & Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)

[Redacted]

From: Stanley Johnson [Redacted]

Sent: 16 August 2021 19:36

To: Zac Goldsmith

Cc: PS, Zac Goldsmith; SHARMA, Alok; [Redacted]

Subject: Re:Invitation for Amb. Zheng

FYI. Received today from Ambassador's Zheng's office.

All best

Stanley

Stanley Johnson,

International Ambassador, Conservative Environment Network;

[Redacted]

<http://www.stanleyjohnson.org/>

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 16 August 2021 18:08

To: Stanley Johnson

Subject: Re:Re: Re:Invitation for Amb. Zheng

Dear Mr. Johnson,

Please find the attached letter from Amb. Zheng.

Kind regards.

[Redacted]

PA to Ambassador Zheng Zeguang
Embassy of the People's Republic of China

[Redacted]

Add: 49-51 Portland Place, London, W1B 1JL

----- □□□□ -----

□□□: Stanley Johnson [Redacted]

□□□: [Redacted]

□ □: 2021 □ 08 □ 16 □ 22 □ 48 □ 24 □

□ □: Re: Re: Invitation for Amb. Zheng

Please would you be kind enough to tell the Ambassador that the tea from Hangchow he gave us is wonderful! Very many thanks!

Stanley

Stanley Johnson,

International Ambassador, Conservative Environment Network;

[Redacted]

<http://www.stanleyjohnson.org/>

Item 3:

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 23 August 2021 08:57

To: [Redacted]

Subject: FW: Invitation for Lord Goldsmith meeting with Amb. Zheng (China)

We've discussed this before and never really got to a final decision including from London, but some thoughts to add to the mix:

- An unofficial channel, even if the PM's father, is not the best way to do this
- I don't see why, in principle, ZG couldn't engage with a Vice Minister (if he has someone appropriate)?

- In any case, we should try the capital to capital route first (and if they decline, then we could conclude that Amb Zeguang is best)
- Perhaps the direct contact is something which CPD could raise with Huang, to get his agreement?

But would be interested in your thoughts.

[Redacted]

Minister-Counsellor (Economic, Environment, and Trade Policy)
China Network SRO for COP 26

Item 4:

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 12 August 2021 16:02
To: [Redacted]
Subject: Stanley Johnson

All

If helpful, this is what we understand Stanley Johnson raised with the Chinese Ambassador to London on Tuesday. Shared with me via private office but has wider application than CBD.

[Redacted]

[Redacted] Deputy Director, Joint
Head of International Environment
Negotiations, International
Biodiversity and Climate



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

[Redacted]

Joint Head of team with
[Redacted]

- please copy us both into your
emails

EA: [Redacted]

Item 5:

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 17 August 2021 01:19
To: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Stanley Johnson

Thanks [Redacted] – that reads more like a DEFRA/[Redacted] brief than a Stanley Johnson one. It's quite specific on HMG policy.

So I wonder to what extent he raised it all. Do we have any sense of what the Chinese Ambassador said?

[Redacted]

Minister-Counsellor (Economic, Environment, and Trade Policy)

China Network SRO for COP 26

Item 6:

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 20 September 2021 03:15
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: FW: China / WLS FLU Event

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

Hi,

FYI.

I think those are standard lines from China- although it does go into a bit more detail than they usually do.

I'm unclear about the Stanley Johnson meeting though... in what capacity is he conducting the meeting? Surely it is not for him to talk about the WLS event....

Thanks

[Redacted]

Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO)
British Embassy, 11 Guang Hua Lu, Beijing 100600

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 20 September 2021 04:22
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: China / WLS FLU Event

Dear [Redacted]

I took away from Friday an action to find out the authenticity of the document from the Chinese Ambassador that had been shared with Stanley Johnson, and Stanley called me Saturday. Attached are a full document set – two letters Stanley received from the Chinese Ambassador in August, the talking points Stanley had for his meeting, and the response from the Chinese Ambassador. I've copied below the section on "China supports tackling deforestation in supply chains". My question - I think mainly for [Redacted] is whether – from a policy perspective – if there is anything new in the statement below. The title suggests a proactive position, although the substance focuses just on illegal timber.

Stanley is meeting the Ambassador again on Wednesday at 4pm in London. This could be an opportunity to (1) socialise about the WLS forests event and if China wants to speak; and (2) ask how much further China is willing to go on action on deforestation in supply chains. I presume this is inadvisable, but Stanley is indicating his willingness to help, if appropriate. He has also asked if LZG could come with him (again I presume no).

Please let me know - [Redacted]

3. China supports tackling deforestation in supply chains

Forests play an important role in the global carbon cycle. As a responsible

global player, China has been committed to the protection, restoration and

sustainable development of the global forest resources.

- At home, China's achievements in protection and restoration of forest

resources are an important contribution to the global efforts to slow

down the diminishing forest coverage and to restore forests.

- China has also taken an active part in global mutually-beneficial

cooperation to promote the sustainable development of forest resources.

On timber and other forest commodities

- China has strict regulations on the import of timber and other forest

commodities. We strongly oppose and vigorously crack down on the

illegal logging and trade of timber. The Chinese Government and the

governments of the relevant countries have established cooperation

mechanisms and signed MOUs on this issue.

- The operation of Chinese logging companies abroad and their logging

activities are carried out in accordance with local laws and regulations.

- The Chinese Government stands ready to engage in close cooperation

with all the countries, including African countries, to vigorously crack

down on illegal logging and illegal trade of timber.

- We will also uphold the strategy for global cooperation on forest

resources that highlights win-win cooperation and sustainable development, and make greater contribution to maintaining normal

international trade of forest commodities and stepping up protection

of the global forest resources.

FOI2023/03780: Digest

Document 1

From: [redacted]

To: [redacted]

Date: 13/2/23

Subject: re [redacted]

Good morning [redacted]

I hope you're having a lovely Monday so far.

I am just getting in touch to let you know that unfortunately [redacted] is no longer available on Wednesday.

Should you be looking to reserve any other dates in the future please do reach out.

All the best,

[Redacted]

From: [redacted]

Sent: 09 February 2023 14:40

To: [redacted]

Cc: [redacted]

Subject: RE: [redacted]

Hi [redacted]

It was nice to speak with you just now. Following our conversation we will have [redacted] on hold for you. As discussed if you are able to confirm by 14:00 tomorrow it would be appreciated.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Best,

[Redacted]

From: [redacted]

Sent: 09 February 2023 10:42

To: [redacted]

Subject: RE: [redacted]

Hi [redacted]

Thank you for the email, I am pleased to confirm that we have availability for your meeting in [redacted] in the afternoon of the 15th of February.

15th February 2023 | 15:00 – 16:00

[Redacted]

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Best,

[Redacted]

From: [redacted]

Sent: 08 February 2023 17:13

To: [redacted]

Cc: [redacted]

Subject: RE: [redacted]

Many thanks [redacted]

Dear [redacted] –

By way of introduction, I work in China Department in the Foreign Office. We're arranging an external meeting next week between senior FCDO officials and a Chinese delegation, and are looking for a suitable venue. The meeting will take place on Wednesday (15th) from 3-4pm, with up to 12 people. I wondered whether you have anything suitable available?

If so, I'd be really grateful if you could provide further details.

Many thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | China Department | Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office

Email: [redacted] | Office: [redacted] | Mobile: [redacted]

From: [redacted]

Sent: 08 February 2023 15:45

To: [redacted]

Cc: [redacted]

Subject: FW: [redacted]

Hi [redacted]

[Redacted]

Meanwhile, please can I introduce [redacted] from the Foreign Office, who is hoping to book venue for some of their events. [Redacted] will follow up with details about [redacted] enquiry.

Best wishes,

[Redacted]

Document 2

On Feb 8, 2023, at 8:00 AM, [redacted] wrote:

Dear [redacted],

Thanks so much for getting back so quickly, and that's wonderful that you can joint next week.

We're aware of the US sanctions and very clear that this will not be a 'business as usual' meeting - we intend to press them very hard!

I had no idea about [redacted] though. That's really interesting, and we'd really welcome your advice on how to approach that.

I'll send you an invitation now.

[Redacted]

On Feb 7, 2023, at 5:19 PM, [redacted] wrote:

Dear [redacted],

As you may have already heard, the Governor of Xinjiang (Erkin Tuniyaz) is planning to visit the UK next week, followed by other European countries. We've been told that he intends to meet a range of stakeholders in order to discuss the situation in Xinjiang. We've agreed to meet him at senior official level, and intend to use the opportunity to press for a change in China's approach and to make requests on specific issues, including individual cases.

Ahead of the meeting, our Directors for Open Societies and North East Asia and China, who will meet the Governor, would welcome an opportunity to hear your thoughts on potential topics or requests to raise. We're really keen to make the most of this opportunity to push for tangible changes on the ground. We'd of course be happy to provide any feedback we receive following the meeting. [Redacted].

We'd like to offer 2-2:45pm on Monday, 13 February. [Redacted]. We'll circulate an invitation with further details once we've heard back from you.

Many thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | China Department | Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office

Email: [redacted] | Office: [redacted] | Mobile: [redacted]

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Document 3

From: [redacted]

Sent: 07 February 2023 17:22

To: [redacted]

Cc: [redacted]

Subject: Meeting with FCDO Director - Xinjiang

Dear [redacted],

I hope you're very well.

As you may have already heard, the Governor of Xinjiang (Erkin Tuniyaz) is planning to visit the UK next week, followed by other European countries. We've been told that he intends to meet a range of stakeholders in order to discuss the situation in Xinjiang. We've agreed to meet him at senior official level, and intend to use the opportunity to press for a change in China's approach and to make requests on specific issues, including individual cases.

Ahead of the meeting, our Directors for Open Societies and North East Asia and China, who will meet the Governor, would welcome an opportunity to hear your thoughts on potential topics or requests to raise. We're really keen to make the most of this opportunity to push for tangible changes on the ground. We'd of course be happy to provide any feedback we receive following the meeting. [Redacted].

We'd like to offer 2-2:45pm on Monday, 13 February. [Redacted]. We'll circulate an invitation with further details once we've heard back from you.

Many thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | China Department | Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office

Email: [redacted] | Office: [redacted] | Mobile: [redacted]

Follow us online: www.gov.uk/fcdo

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Document 4

From: [redacted]

Sent: 01 February 2023 16:35

To: [redacted]

Cc: [redacted]; Andrew Pittam; Giles Montagnon;

Separately, Dan has suggested that he might do a meeting with key civil society people in the UK before as well as after the Governor meeting, to source their ideas on things to push on as well as to then report back. Would welcome your views on this (could help our public comms, though wonder if a pre meeting might just lead to lots of "why are you meeting this guy???")

[Redacted]

[Redacted], China Department

Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

Document 5

From: [redacted]

To: Andrew Pittam: [redacted]

Date: 8/2/23

Subject: [Redacted] meeting with Dan

FYI – meeting confirmed for Friday, 1330. SpAds signed off.

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 08 February 2023 16:09

To: [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: FCDO, Director Dan Chugg (North East Asia and China Directorate).

All confirmed our end.

Kind regards

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 08 February 2023 16:09

To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: FCDO, Director Dan Chugg (North East Asia and China Directorate).

Hi [redacted]

That slot works perfectly for Dan. I have added a Teams call to the diary. [Redacted] should have received a scheduler. Grateful if you can confirm it has been received?

Best wishes,

[Redacted]

[Redacted] Director of North East Asia and China (Dan Chugg)

Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office

[Redacted] | Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office | King Charles St |
London | SW1A 2AH

Mob: [redacted] | Email: [redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 08 February 2023 14:45
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: FCDO, Director Dan Chugg (North East Asia and China Directorate).

Could we do the 1330 to 1400?

Would teams work or a direct phone call?

Kind regards

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 08 February 2023 14:33
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: FCDO, Director Dan Chugg (North East Asia and China Directorate).

Hi [redacted]

Thank you for the swift response.

Dan could do:

- Friday 10th Feb, 1100-1130;
- Friday 10th Feb, 1330-1400

Would either of these slots work?

Best wishes,

[Redacted]

[Redacted] Director of North East Asia and China (Dan Chugg)

Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office

[Redacted] | Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office | King Charles St |
London | SW1A 2AH

Mob: [redacted] | Email: [redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 08 February 2023 14:28

To: [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: FCDO, Director Dan Chugg (North East Asia and China Directorate).

Good afternoon

[Redacted]

Could Dan do earlier Monday? Or this Friday 10th Feb?

Kind regards

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 08 February 2023 13:08

To: [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: FCDO, Director Dan Chugg (North East Asia and China Directorate).

Importance: High

Hi team,

I hope you are well.

Dan Chugg, FCDO Director for North East Asia and China, has asked whether he could arrange a short meeting with [redacted] on Monday 13th February. He would like to discuss an upcoming inward delegation from China. Given potential sensitivities around the visit, we would welcome the opportunity to brief [redacted] in advance. We're conscious that [redacted].

Please let me know if either of the below slots work for [redacted]:

- Monday 13th Feb, 11:15-12:00;
- Monday 13th Feb, 12:30-13:00;

If neither of these slots work, please don't hesitate to let me know and I will suggest an alternative.

Best wishes,

[Redacted]

[Redacted] Director of North East Asia and China (Dan Chugg)

Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office

[Redacted] | Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office | King Charles St |
London | SW1A 2AH

Mob: [redacted] | Email: [redacted]

Document 6

From: Andrew Pittam

To: [Redacted]

Date: 10/2/23

Subject: RE: suggested points for [redacted] meeting

OFFICIAL

Thanks, looks very good. On handing stuff over, I noticed that [redacted] had
tweeted criticising us. Just in case that's relevant.

Andy

Sent from Outlook for iOS

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Friday, February 10, 2023 8:16:38 AM

To: Andrew Pittam; [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: Suggested Points for [redacted] Meeting

Andy, [Redacted]

I thought I'd drop Dan a line with some thoughts ahead of his call with [redacted] at
12:30pm. I suspect it might be tricky. Few points below in case you want a quick
scan before I ping across.

Many thanks,

[Redacted]

*

Dan,

I'm conscious you're due to speak to [redacted] at 1330. I'm sure you already have ideas on what to say, but I thought it might be useful to provide a few suggestions. I've also copied below the [redacted].

Suggested points:

Original purpose of the call was to sight you on our plans in advance, but obviously events have now taken over.

Seen [redacted], and understand your strength of feeling. But want to set out in a bit more detail our own thinking and rationale.

While the visit is frankly unwelcome, and the easier choice would have been to disengage, we do see it as a rare chance to communicate frankly to someone who has direct influence over China's policies in Xinjiang just how appalling their actions are, how much damage they're doing to China's reputation globally, and how deep the strength of feeling is in the UK.

CCP officials like Tuniyaz are largely insulated in China from robust, uncomfortable messages, and can become convinced of their own propaganda. This offers a rare chance to cut through that, genuinely make him feel deeply uncomfortable, and face up to hard-hitting evidence of the suffering the CCP has caused.

If the meeting goes ahead – and it is still not confirmed – I intend to use it to hand over satellite imagery, lists of detainees, and confront him with first hand evidence and testimony that we've compiled. Offering a meeting with activists in advance was done in a genuine spirit of transparency and openness.

I know that [redacted] raised concerns this would offer China a propaganda win. But by not engaging, they would immediately spin this as further evidence that we are only willing to hear one side of the story – [redacted]. We need to counter that and show that we are willing to engage. [Redacted] While you may not agree with this approach, I wanted to explain in more detail some of the nuance of our thinking.

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | China Department | Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office
[Redacted]

OFFICIAL

Document 7

From: [Redacted]

To: Dan Chugg; Hazel Cameron; Andrew Pittam; [Redacted]

Date: 7/2/23

Subject: RE: FS Submission - Xinjiang Governor Visit to UK

Great, thanks Dan. We'll get this set up. And agreed on [redacted].

Good qu on interpretation – we'll check with the Embassy and get back to you.

[Redacted]

From: Dan Chugg

Sent: 07 February 2023 12:58

To: [Redacted]

Cc: Hazel Cameron; Andrew Pittam; [Redacted]

Subject: RE: FS Submission - Xinjiang Governor Visit to UK

Thanks [redacted],

That all sounds good.

And I am very keen to have a meeting with NGOs/activists in advance (on Teams is fine) – so good if that can be fixed.

Also, [redacted]

BTW, will we need interpretation in the meeting?

Thanks

Dan

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 07 February 2023 12:47

To: Dan Chugg

Cc: Hazel Cameron; Andrew Pittam; [Redacted]

Subject: FW: FS Submission - Xinjiang Governor Visit to UK

Dan,

You'll see that the FS has agreed to the meeting with the Governor of Xinjiang next week. I understand that Laura H will be on leave, but Hazel Cameron (Head of the Human Rights Department, copied) has kindly agreed to join. We're in touch with [redacted] to confirm a time.

I know you floated the idea of setting up a pre/post meeting with some relevant NGOs/activists. I'd be in favour – if time allows – both to show transparency and strengthen our own arguments (e.g. identifying specific cases to raise/gather first hand testimony).

I've suggested some potential names below, if you'd like to go ahead? If so we'll try to set it up for early next week - probably on Teams [redacted].

[Redacted]

We're also pulling together a brief, which we'll share before the weekend. We're aiming to make it punchy, e.g. including stats/specific cases/satellite imagery to back up our points.

Do let me know if you/Hazel have any further thoughts.

Many thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | China Department | Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office

Email: [redacted] | Office: [redacted] | Mobile: [redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 06 February 2023 14:23

To: PS Trevelyan Action (Sensitive) <PSTrevelyanAction@fcdo.gov.uk>; Special Advisers Office (Sensitive) <POSPADS@fcdo.gov.uk>; SOSFA Action (Sensitive) <Sosfa-Action@fcdo.gov.uk>; [Redacted]

Cc: PS Minister Ahmad - Action (Sensitive)

<PSMinisterAhmadAction@fcdo.gov.uk>; Jenny Bates; Dan Chugg; Andrew Pittam; Sarah Docherty; DL China Department; John Stevenson; DL China Communications; Caroline Wilson; Giles Montagnon; Laura Hickey; [Redacted]

Subject: RE: FS Submission - Xinjiang Governor Visit to UK

Hi [redacted]

FS is content with an official level meeting, he said we should press our position on human rights and call for change from China. [Redacted].

Many thanks,

[Redacted]

From: PS Trevelyan Action (Sensitive) <PSTrevelyanAction@fcdo.gov.uk>

Sent: 01 February 2023 17:33

To: Special Advisers Office (Sensitive) <POSPADS@fcdo.gov.uk>; PS Trevelyan Action (Sensitive) <PSTrevelyanAction@fcdo.gov.uk>; SOSFA Action (Sensitive) <Sosfa-Action@fcdo.gov.uk>; [Redacted]

Cc: PS Minister Ahmad - Action (Sensitive)

<PSMinisterAhmadAction@fcdo.gov.uk>; Jenny Bates; Dan Chugg; Andrew Pittam; Sarah Docherty; John Stevenson; Caroline Wilson; Giles Montagnon; Laura Hickey; DL China Department; DL China Communications; [Redacted]

Subject: RE: FS Submission - Xinjiang Governor Visit to UK

Hi [redacted]

Minister Trevelyan has reviewed the submission and the additional answers to questions posed in the chain below.

She thinks an official level meeting is a good idea, and the meeting with Tuniyaz should be frank. She agrees that a meeting should not be at ministerial level.

Best wishes,

[Redacted]

[Redacted] Minister of State (Indo-Pacific), Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP

[Redacted] | Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office | King Charles St | London | SW1A 2AH

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 01 February 2023 15:03

To: Special Advisers Office (Sensitive) <POSPADS@fcdo.gov.uk>; PS Trevelyan Action (Sensitive) <PSTrevelyanAction@fcdo.gov.uk>; SOSFA Action (Sensitive) <Sosfa-Action@fcdo.gov.uk>; [Redacted]

Cc: PS Minister Ahmad - Action (Sensitive) <PSMinisterAhmadAction@fcdo.gov.uk>; Jenny Bates; Dan Chugg; Andrew Pittam; Sarah Docherty; John Stevenson; Caroline Wilson; Giles Montagnon; Laura Hickey; DL China Department; DL China Communications; [Redacted]

Subject: RE: FS Submission - Xinjiang Governor Visit to UK

[Redacted]

The Minister was grateful for your quick answers and had no further questions.

Thank you,

[Redacted]

Lord (Tariq) Ahmad of Wimbledon, Minister of State for MENA, AfPak, India, UN,
Prime Minister's Special Representative for Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict
Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office [Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 01 February 2023 13:50

To: Special Advisers Office (Sensitive) <POSPADS@fcdo.gov.uk>; PS Trevelyan Action (Sensitive) <PSTrevelyanAction@fcdo.gov.uk>; SOSFA Action (Sensitive) <Sosfa-Action@fcdo.gov.uk>; [Redacted]

Cc: PS Minister Ahmad - Action (Sensitive) <PSMinisterAhmadAction@fcdo.gov.uk>; Jenny Bates; Dan Chugg; Andrew Pittam; Sarah Docherty; John Stevenson; Caroline Wilson; Giles Montagnon; Laura Hickey; DL China Department; DL China Communications; [Redacted]

Subject: RE: FS Submission - Xinjiang Governor Visit to UK

[Redacted]

Many thanks for providing feedback from Lord Ahmad and Special Advisers. In response to their questions:

[Redacted]

3. Visa - We understand that he would travel on a diplomatic passport, and therefore would not require a visa (in line with our reciprocal agreement for diplomatic passport holders with China).

[Redacted]

Do let me know if Lord Ahmad/SpAds would like further details.

Many thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | China Department | Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office

Email: [Redacted] | Office: [Redacted] | Mobile: [Redacted]

From: Special Advisers Office (Sensitive) <POSPADS@fcdo.gov.uk>

Sent: 01 February 2023 10:49

To: PS Trevelyan Action (Sensitive) <PSTrevelyanAction@fcdo.gov.uk>; SOSFA Action (Sensitive) <Sosfa-Action@fcdo.gov.uk>; [Redacted]

Cc: PS Minister Ahmad - Action (Sensitive)

<PSMinisterAhmadAction@fcdo.gov.uk>; Jenny Bates; Dan Chugg; Andrew Pittam; Sarah Docherty; John Stevenson; Caroline Wilson; Giles Montagnon; Laura Hickey; DL China Department; DL China Communications; [Redacted]

Subject: RE: FS Submission - Xinjiang Governor Visit to UK

Thanks all, an additional question from SpAds: do we know why **Tuniyaz** is in the UK in the first place?

Best,

[Redacted]

Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office | King Charles St, London, SW1A 2AH | Tel: [Redacted] | Email: [redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 01 February 2023 10:44

To: PS Trevelyan Action (Sensitive) <PSTrevelyanAction@fcdo.gov.uk>; SOSFA Action (Sensitive) <Sosfa-Action@fcdo.gov.uk>; Special Advisers Office (Sensitive) <POSPADS@fcdo.gov.uk>; [Redacted]

Cc: PS Minister Ahmad - Action (Sensitive)

<PSMinisterAhmadAction@fcdo.gov.uk>; Jenny Bates; Dan Chugg; Andrew Pittam;

Sarah Docherty; John Stevenson; Caroline Wilson; Giles Montagnon; Laura Hickey; DL China Department; DL China Communications; [Redacted]

Subject: RE: FS Submission - Xinjiang Governor Visit to UK

Thanks [redacted]. Also interested in answers to these qus for when I put to FS – could you come back later today and we'll box for FS.

Adding [redacted].

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 01 February 2023 09:57

To: PS Trevelyan Action (Sensitive) <PSTrevelyanAction@fcdo.gov.uk>; SOSFA Action (Sensitive) <Sosfa-Action@fcdo.gov.uk>; Special Advisers Office (Sensitive) <POSPADS@fcdo.gov.uk>; [Redacted]

Cc: PS Minister Ahmad - Action (Sensitive)

<PSMinisterAhmadAction@fcdo.gov.uk>; Jenny Bates; Dan Chugg; Andrew Pittam; Sarah Docherty; John Stevenson; Caroline Wilson; Giles Montagnon; Laura Hickey; DL China Department; DL China Communications; [Redacted]

Subject: RE: FS Submission - Xinjiang Governor Visit to UK

[Redacted]

Lord Ahmad was grateful for this submission. [Redacted] Erkin Tuniyaz [redacted], and had a few questions:

[Redacted].

3) Why was a visa for his visit granted?

Thank you,

[Redacted]

Lord (Tariq) Ahmad of Wimbledon, Minister of State for MENA, AfPak, India, UN, Prime Minister's Special Representative for Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office | [redacted]

From: PS Trevelyan Action (Sensitive) <PSTrevelyanAction@fcdo.gov.uk>

Sent: 31 January 2023 16:48

To: SOSFA Action (Sensitive) <Sosfa-Action@fcdo.gov.uk>; Special Advisers Office (Sensitive) <POSPADS@fcdo.gov.uk>; [Redacted]

Cc: PS Trevelyan Action (Sensitive) <PSTrevelyanAction@fcdo.gov.uk>; PS Minister Ahmad - Action (Sensitive) <PSMinisterAhmadAction@fcdo.gov.uk>; Jenny Bates; Dan Chugg; Andrew Pittam; Sarah Docherty; John Stevenson; Caroline Wilson; Giles Montagnon; Laura Hickey; DL China Department; DL China Communications; [Redacted]

Subject: RE: FS Submission - Xinjiang Governor Visit to UK

Hi [redacted]

Already in her box – let me know if you need for a specific time to get view from FS pre 6 Feb, will probs get a readout from AMT in next few days.

Best wishes,

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 31 January 2023 16:42

To: SOSFA Action (Sensitive) <Sosfa-Action@fcdo.gov.uk>; Special Advisers Office (Sensitive) <POSPADS@fcdo.gov.uk>; [Redacted]

Cc: PS Trevelyan Action (Sensitive) <PSTrevelyanAction@fcdo.gov.uk>; PS Minister Ahmad - Action (Sensitive) <PSMinisterAhmadAction@fcdo.gov.uk>; Jenny Bates; Dan Chugg; Andrew Pittam; Sarah Docherty; John Stevenson; Caroline Wilson; Giles Montagnon; Laura Hickey; DL China Department; DL China Communications; [Redacted]

Subject: RE: FS Submission - Xinjiang Governor Visit to UK

Thanks – please could I have a Min T view before putting to FS.

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 31 January 2023 15:21

To: SOSFA Action (Sensitive) <Sosfa-Action@fcdo.gov.uk>; Special Advisers Office (Sensitive) <POSPADS@fcdo.gov.uk>; [Redacted]

Cc: PS Trevelyan Action (Sensitive) <PSTrevelyanAction@fcdo.gov.uk>; PS Minister Ahmad - Action (Sensitive) <PSMinisterAhmadAction@fcdo.gov.uk>; Jenny Bates; Dan Chugg; Andrew Pittam; Sarah Docherty; John Stevenson; Caroline Wilson; Giles Montagnon; Laura Hickey; DL China Department; DL China Communications; [Redacted]

Subject: FS Submission - Xinjiang Governor Visit to UK

Dear [redacted]

Please find above a submission for the Foreign Secretary regarding a proposed visit by the Governor of Xinjiang to the UK. This has been cleared by Andy Pittam, Deputy Director China Department.

Grateful for a decision by Monday 6 February, if possible.

Many thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | China Department | Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office
Email: [redacted]

Document 8

From: [Redacted]

To: [Redacted]

Date: 6/2/23

Subject: FW: FS Submission - Xinjiang Governor Visit to UK

[Redacted]

You'll see the FS has said yes to the meeting.

As discussed this morning, Dan's interested in potentially meeting some NGOs/activists pre- and post-meeting. Initially to get recommendations on what to raise, and then to brief them on the content. We're planning to email Dan tomorrow with a few suggestions. Below are some [redacted] – any thoughts on top recommendations/potential additions?

[Redacted]

Also interested in any thoughts on preparing/handing over a list of missing individuals in XJ, or anything else along those lines that we could use the meeting for.

Many thanks,

[Redacted]

Document 9

From: [Redacted]

To: [Redacted]

Date: 7/2/23

Subject: Meeting with FCDO Director - Xinjiang

Dear [redacted]

I hope you're very well.

As you may have already heard, the Governor of Xinjiang (Erkin Tuniyaz) is planning to visit the UK next week, followed by other European countries. We've been told that he intends to meet a range of stakeholders in order to discuss the situation in

Xinjiang. We've agreed to meet him at senior official level, and intend to use the opportunity to press for a change in China's approach and to make requests on specific issues, including individual cases.

Ahead of the meeting, our Directors for Open Societies and North East Asia and China, who will meet the Governor, would welcome an opportunity to hear your thoughts on potential topics or requests to raise. We're really keen to make the most of this opportunity to push for tangible changes on the ground. We'd of course be happy to provide any feedback we receive following the meeting. [Redacted].

We'd like to offer 2-2:45pm on Monday, 13 February. [Redacted]. We'll circulate an invitation with further details once we've heard back from you.

Many thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | China Department | Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office

Email: [Redacted] | Office: [Redacted] | Mobile: [Redacted]

Document 10

From: [Redacted]

To: [Redacted]

Date: 8/2/23

Subject: RE: Meeting with FCDO Director - Xinjiang

Dear [redacted]

Many thanks for getting back - [redacted].

To be clear, the reason we have agreed to the meeting is to underline the depth of our concern about China's actions, impress the need change course, and make specific demands around e.g. individual cases. It will not be a courtesy/business as usual meeting in any way, which we will make very clear.

[Redacted]

Best wishes,

[Redacted]

On Tue, 7 Feb 2023 at 17:18, [redacted] wrote:

Dear [redacted]

As you may have already heard, the Governor of Xinjiang (Erkin Tuniyaz) is planning to visit the UK next week, followed by other European countries. We've been told that he intends to meet a range of stakeholders in order to discuss the situation in Xinjiang. We've agreed to meet him at senior official level, and intend to use the opportunity to press for a change in China's approach and to make requests on specific issues, including individual cases.

Ahead of the meeting, our Directors for Open Societies and North East Asia and China, who will meet the Governor, would welcome an opportunity to hear your thoughts on potential topics or requests to raise. We're really keen to make the most of this opportunity to push for tangible changes on the ground. We'd of course be happy to provide any feedback we receive following the meeting. [Redacted].

We'd like to offer 2-2:45pm on Monday, 13 February. [Redacted]. We'll circulate an invitation with further details once we've heard back from you.

Many thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | China Department | Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office

Email: [redacted] | Office: [redacted] | Mobile: [redacted]

Follow us online: www.gov.uk/fcdo

This email is intended for the addressee(s) only: All messages sent and received by the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office may be monitored in line with relevant [UK legislation](#)

[Redacted]

Document 11

From: [Redacted]

To: [Redacted]

Date: 8/2/23

Subject: RE: Meeting with FCDO Director - Xinjiang

Great, many thanks [redacted].

Yes that's right, it's still at 2pm UK time (I think outlook does tend to convert to the local time zone). That would be wonderful if you can make it, but of course fully understand if it proves tricky.

[Redacted]

Best wishes,

[Redacted]

On 8 Feb 2023, at 14:08, [redacted] wrote:

Hi [redacted],

Many thanks for getting back so quickly.

I've tried to move it back but unfortunately it's not going to be possible, as our Director (Dan Chugg) has other engagements afterwards. I know that he'd hugely value your input if you were able to join for a bit though – and if not then yes please do feel free to make a written submission.

I'll send you a Teams link for now, just so that you have it, and perhaps we can confirm a bit nearer the time whether you'll be able to make it work.

Many thanks,

[Redacted]

On 7 Feb 2023, at 17:20, [redacted] wrote:

Dear [redacted]

I hope you're very well.

As you may have already heard, the Governor of Xinjiang (Erkin Tuniyaz) is planning to visit the UK next week, followed by other European countries. We've been told that he intends to meet a range of stakeholders in order to discuss the situation in Xinjiang. We've agreed to meet him at senior official level, and intend to use the opportunity to press for a change in China's approach and to make requests on specific issues, including individual cases.

Ahead of the meeting, our Directors for Open Societies and North East Asia and China, who will meet the Governor, would welcome an opportunity to hear your thoughts on potential topics or requests to raise. We're really keen to make the most of this opportunity to push for tangible changes on the ground. We'd of course be happy to provide any feedback we receive following the meeting. [Redacted].

We'd like to offer 2-2:45pm on Monday, 13 February. [Redacted]. We'll circulate an invitation with further details once we've heard back from you.

Many thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | China Department | Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office

Email: [redacted] | Office: [redacted] | Mobile: [redacted]

Document 12

From: [Redacted]

To: [Redacted]

Date: 10/2/23

Subject: RE: Meeting with FCDO Director - Xinjiang

Dear [redacted]

Many thanks for the update. Yes of course, I'll send you a text if plans change, but for now we look forward to speaking on Monday.

[Redacted]

Many thanks,

[Redacted]

FOI2023/10197

Document 1 – Exchange between BE Beijing and China Department

From: <REDACT>

Sent: 15 January 2023 11:50 PM

To: <REDACT>

Cc: <REDACT>

<REDACT>, allREDACT>

Thanks for sharing. I've reached out quickly to close partners here to see if any others are expecting a visit from Tuniyaz and will update when we know more. (<REDACT>).

For a hint as to the positions Tuniyaz might take on a visit to the UK, it might be useful to look at some [remarks](#) he made at the Human Rights Council in February 2021, while still vice governor of Xinjiang. A few excerpts:

- **On "re-education" camps:** *"the centers educated and rehabilitated people influence by religious extremism and guilty with minor crimes, in order to prevent them from falling into victims to terrorism and extremism, and maximize effort to protect the citizens' basic human rights from infringement. By October, 2019, all trainees of these facilities had graduated."*
- **On labour practices:** *"Xinjiang's labor and employment security policies and practices are fully in line with the Chinese Constitution and laws, the international labor and human rights standards"*
- **On religion:** *"Xinjiang protects its people's freedom of religious belief, fully meet the faithful's needs for their normal religious activities. Islamic classics and popular books have been translated and published, infrastructure conditions for religious venues markedly improved and the public service level continuously upgraded."*

Plenty still to be unpicked around the rationale for this visit. <REDACT>

Press scrutiny of his programme will mean predictable risks for any official meetings.

<REDACT>. At the same time, this could be our most significant engagement with senior leadership in Xinjiang for a long time (<REDACT> might know exactly how long) so there's an opportunity here for substantive engagement on our human rights concerns. Note: Governors of autonomous regions are now as a rule drawn from the dominant ethnic minority group in the region. This is not to say the Governor is purely a figurehead, but their selection of course serves a significant presentational / propaganda role. Tuniyaz is subordinate to Party Secretary MA Xingrui, who calls the shots.

Best,

<REDACT>

Document 2 – Exchange between BE Beijing and China Department

From: <REDACT>

Sent: 01 February 2023 10:55

To: <REDACT>

Cc: <REDACT>

Subject: FW: [HMA to clear] Letter to <REDACT> (+ <REDACT> meeting readout)

<REDACT>

Flagging the below for two reasons. **1)** I expect HMA will want to meet < REDACTED INDIVIDUAL – NOT TUNIYAZ >, so we may need some support coordinating that, and **2)** <REDACT> This is a good opportunity regardless of HMA's interest. You could consider including <REDACTED INDIVIDUAL – NOT TUNIYAZ > in any meetings around the time of the Tuniyaz visit. Likewise, <REDACT>. Happy to share contact details.

Best,

<REDACT>

Document 3 – Internal FCDO Emails

(Email 3)

From: PS Trevelyan <REDACT>

Sent: 01 February 2023 17:33

To: <REDACT> SOSFA; Special Advisers Office; PS Trevelyan

Cc: PS Minister Ahmad <REDACT> Jenny Bates <REDACT> Dan Chugg <REDACT> Andrew Pittam <REDACT> Sarah Docherty <REDACT> Caroline Wilson <REDACT> Giles Montagnon <REDACT> Laura Hickey <REDACT>

Subject: RE: FS Submission - Xinjiang Governor Visit to UK

Hi <REDACT>

Minister Trevelyan has reviewed the submission and the additional answers to questions posed in the chain below.

She thinks an official level meeting is a good idea, and the meeting with Tuniyaz should be frank. She agrees that a meeting should not be at ministerial level.

Best wishes,

<REDACT>

<REDACT> | Assistant Private Secretary | Minister of State (Indo-Pacific), Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP

<REDACT> | Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office | King Charles St | London | SW1A 2AH

<REDACT> | ECHO: <REDACT>

<REDACT>

(Email 2)

From: Special Advisers Office <REDACT>

Sent: 01 February 2023 10:49

To: <REDACT> PS Trevelyan; SOSFA

Cc: PS Minister Ahmad <REDACT> Jenny Bates <REDACT> Dan Chugg <REDACT> Andrew Pittam <REDACT> Sarah Docherty<REDACT> Caroline Wilson<REDACT> Giles Montagnon <REDACT> Laura Hickey <REDACT>

Subject: RE: FS Submission - Xinjiang Governor Visit to UK

Thanks all, an additional question from SpAds: do we know why Tuniyaz is in the UK in the first place?

Best,

<REDACT>

<REDACT> | Private Secretary to the Special Advisers

Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office | King Charles St, London, SW1A 2AH | Tel:

<REDACT> | Echo: <REDACT> | Email: <REDACT>

All SpAd correspondence to <REDACT>

(Email 1)

From: <REDACT>

Sent: 01 February 2023 09:57

To: PS Trevelyan <REDACT> SOSFA; Special Advisers Office

Cc: PS Minister Ahmad <REDACT> Jenny Bates <REDACT> Dan Chugg <REDACT> Andrew Pittam <REDACT> Sarah Docherty<REDACT> Caroline Wilson <REDACT> Giles Montagnon<REDACT> Laura Hickey <REDACT>

Subject: RE: FS Submission - Xinjiang Governor Visit to UK

<REDACT> ,

Lord Ahmad was grateful for this submission. <REDACT> Erkin Tuniyaz <REDACT>

<REDACT>

Thank you,

<REDACT>

<REDACT> | Assistant Private Secretary

Lord (Tariq) Ahmad of Wimbledon, Minister of State for MENA, AfPak, India, UN, Prime Minister's Special Representative for Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office | <REDACT>

Working with Lord Ahmad

Document 4 – FCDO Update Paragraph to Foreign Secretary

From: <REDACT>

Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2023 7:10 pm

To: <REDACT> SOSFA

Cc: <REDACT> Dan Chugg <REDACT> Hazel Cameron <REDACT> Laura Hickey <REDACT> Dan Chugg <REDACT> Jenny Bates <REDACT> PS Minister Ahmad; PS Minister Docherty; PS Trevelyan; PUS

Subject: China: Private prosecution of Governor of Xinjiang

<REDACT> ,

Please see update paragraph below, cleared by <REDACT> and Andrew Pittam.

China: Private prosecution of Governor of Xinjiang

The Attorney General has received a request to consent to a private prosecution against the Governor of Xinjiang, Erkin Tuniyaz, for offences of torture. Media is reporting that the application has been made by the barrister Michael Polak on behalf of Erbakit Otarbay, a Kazakh national and former detainee of a detention camp in Xinjiang, who is now living in the UK. Tuniyaz is currently scheduled to arrive in the UK on or around 13 February (we have not seen confirmation of flight details) for a short visit. This will involve a meeting with an FCDO official, which was the subject of an Urgent Question by Iain Duncan Smith MP earlier today. Protocol Directorate have confirmed to the Attorney General's Office, at their request, that no special mission status certificate (which would confer privileges and immunities) has yet been requested by the Chinese for this visit. Travelling on a diplomatic passport would not provide Tuniyaz with immunity. We understand that the Attorney General's Office will give due consideration to any application for prosecution. Given that news of the request for a private prosecution is now in the public domain, it is possible but by no means certain that China will decide to cancel the visit. Nevertheless, it is important that we do not provide any comment that could prejudice any potential prosecution. We recommend instead directing any press queries to the Attorney General's Office.

<REDACT>

<REDACT> | Deputy Head, China Department | North East Asia and China Directorate | Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office | King Charles Street, London SW1A 2AH | Tel: <REDACT> | Mob: <REDACT> Email: <REDACT> | www.gov.uk/fco



Foreign, Commonwealth
& Development Office

Lord (Tariq) Ahmad of Wimbledon
Minister of State for South and
Central Asia, North Africa, UN and
The Commonwealth
Prime Minister's Special
Representative on Preventing Sexual
Violence in Conflict

King Charles Street
London
SW1A 2AH
Tel: 0207 008 5000

Email:
fcdo.correspondence@fcdo.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/fcdo

Richard Graham MP
Chairman
Westminster Foundation for Democracy
Clive House
70 Petty France
London
SW1H 9EX

29 July 2022

Dear Richard,

Thank you for your letter of 20 June 2022 recommending the ex-officio appointment of Femi Otukoya to the Westminster Foundation for Democracy Board of Governors.

I was encouraged by your positive assessment of Ms Otukoya and believe she will be a welcome addition to the Board, continuing her work with Westminster Foundation for Democracy in accordance with the Framework Agreement and the Seven Principles of Public Life.

I am therefore pleased to confirm Ms Otukoya's appointment and will write accordingly.

Yours sincerely,

LORD (TARIQ) AHMAD OF WIMBLEDON

Minister of State for South and Central Asia, North Africa, UN and The Commonwealth
Prime Minister's Special Representative on Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict



WFD



Foreign, Commonwealth
& Development Office

8 September 2022

Rt Hon James Cleverly MP

Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs

Dear James,

WESTMINSTER FOUNDATION FOR DEMOCRACY (WFD) 30TH ANNIVERSARY EVENT, 19 OCTOBER – INVITATION TO MAKE OPENING REMARKS

Firstly, congratulations on your appointment as Foreign Secretary.

You and the Prime Minister have consistently stressed the importance of fighting for freedom and democracy around the world and it is clear that this will be one of the government's priorities as we address the threats to our security posed by Russia and China. The reception to mark WFD's 30th anniversary, to be hosted by Speaker Hoyle, is an opportunity to reaffirm this and launch a new phase in WFD's relationship with FCDO.

"United with our allies, we will stand up for freedom and democracy around the world - recognising that we can't have security at home without having security abroad."


Prime Minister Truss, 6 September 2022

The UK established WFD in 1992 as a response to the greatest geopolitical event since WW2 – the collapse of the Soviet Union. WFD was founded on British values of democracy, rights, inclusion and tolerance but it did not simply rest on its values. WFD was never just a symbol but instead was conceived in order to take action to support those struggling to live up to the promise of the tectonic shifts that were making freedom possible in Europe and across the world.

It was obvious then that democratic freedoms – our values – were not an optional extra but were in fact the defining feature of the geopolitical divide that we had been living with for a generation. Over time, we and others lost our focus on that geopolitical reality. A globalised

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 www.wfd.org

 @WestminsterFoundation

 @WFD_Democracy



WFD



Foreign, Commonwealth
& Development Office

economy masked the importance of those differences in values and gave us the impression that global democracy would inevitably align with global prosperity.

But we were wrong. Geopolitics matters now as much as it did 30, 40 and 50 years ago. It matters because it shapes our understanding of the threats to our national security, as well as of the opportunities for global prosperity. Our democratic values are again, as they always have been, central to our understanding of those threats and opportunities.

By the time of the 19 October event, WFD's new strategy should have been launched, including our commitment to establish a new Centre of Expertise on Elections and Democratic Governance. It would be an honour for us if you would use the reception to speak about the relevance of British values to the struggle for democracy around the world and your ambitions for WFD for the next 30 years.

The format of the event will be a reception from 6.00-8.00pm in the Speaker's apartments for parliamentarians and a small number of others that have been associated with WFD's work. There will be a brief welcome by Mr Speaker and some recorded contributions from WFD's partners, including in Ukraine and Taiwan. Your remarks could be for, say, ten minutes and we could record them and work with the FCDO Communications team to use the remarks in an appropriate way.

I do hope that you will agree to do this as part of the increasingly close and effective working relationship that we enjoy with our FCDO sponsors and colleagues. I am copying this to Anthony Smith, WFD's CEO.

*Many congratulations on your appointment
however, Richard.*

RICHARD GRAHAM

Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WFD)

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www.wfd.org

@WestminsterFoundation

@WFD_Democracy



Foreign, Commonwealth
& Development Office

Lord (Tariq) Ahmad of Wimbledon
Minister of State for South and
Central Asia, North Africa, UN and
the Commonwealth
Prime Minister's Special
Representative on Preventing Sexual
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Email:
fcdo.correspondence@fcdo.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/fcdo

Richard Graham MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Our ref: MC2022/18811

2 August 2022

Dear Richard,

Thank you for your letter of 30 June to the Foreign Secretary about Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WFD). I am replying as the Minister of State responsible for democracy.

Thank you for updating on your plans to hold an event focused on Ukraine's democratic transition. The UK remains fully committed to supporting Ukraine's reform trajectory, including strengthening its democratic institutions and anti-corruption architecture, to ensure it can build back better following Russia's illegal invasion. This forms the core of the UK's offer of support to Ukraine's recovery, as the Foreign Secretary announced at the Ukraine Recovery Conference in Lugano on 4-5 July. However, as the Foreign Secretary set out in her letter of 29 June, we remain unconvinced that now is the right time for such an event. Do please continue to engage with my officials on other areas of potential cooperation on democracy and governance issues in Ukraine.

Thank you for inviting the Foreign Secretary to WFD's 30th anniversary celebration in the Speaker's apartments. I hope that we will be in a position to confirm who will attend shortly after recess. I also look forward to reviewing WFD's new strategy before it is published.

Yours sincerely,

LORD (TARIQ) AHMAD OF WIMBLEDON

Minister of State for South and Central Asia, North Africa, UN and the Commonwealth
Prime Minister's Special Representative on Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict



30 June 2022

Rt Hon Liz Truss MP

Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs

Liz

WESTMINSTER FOUNDATION FOR DEMOCRACY

Many congratulations on the outcomes of the G7 and NATO Summits. Their statements make clear the urgency of fighting back against autocratic aggression and reinforcing democracy around the world. They also reinforce our determination to raise WFD's ambition for the period of our next strategy, which we will launch in October. With that in mind, I wanted to flag three things to you:

1. I want to press the suggestion made in my previous letter, namely that we should build on your Mansion House speech by incorporating references to democracy support. There are two reasons for this:
 - First, the evidence is clear that the improved security alliances, economic partnerships and investment agreements that we want to offer to wavering countries will be fragile unless we address the quality of their democracies. Those countries need accountability, transparency, the rule of law and independent media to protect their freedoms and our interests. None of those come automatically and we need to help local reformers to tackle the weaknesses.
 - Second, if we don't, Russia and China will step into the vacuum – they are already providing very significant funding and technical advice to sympathetic political parties, parliaments and media organisations across Africa, the Pacific, the Middle East and elsewhere. There are many parliaments, parties and electoral bodies that want to work with the UK, but we need to provide practical support. We have invited Harriet Mathews to attend the WFD Board meeting on 21 July and could discuss this with her then.
2. On Ukraine, we are discussing with the FCDO team a possible discreet meeting of Ukrainian MPs with WFD and other organisations that have been supporting the democratic transition there (WFD has been working with the Ukrainian parliament since 2009 and is the only international body that they give office space to). Wilton Park are keen to work with us on this, even if it proves best to meet inside Ukraine. The aim is to start planning how to ensure Ukraine's democracy emerges stronger after the war, tackling the long-standing corruption and other challenges that we and others have been working on for years.

Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WFD)

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3. We will celebrate WFD's 30th anniversary on 19 October at an event in the Speaker's apartments, having launched our new strategy shortly before that. We would be very grateful if you would say a few words at the event. We will aim to have guests from WFD's past and from among our current partners. If you agree, we would be happy to speak to your office about this.

I am copying this to Lord Ahmad, Harriet Mathews and Anthony Smith.

Yours ever,
Richard

Richard Graham MP
Chair, Board of Governors

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Digest FOI2023/15359

Request:

I would like to request a further freedom of information request to ask for details regarding the topic of discussions for meetings with FCDO officials and representatives from the AIIB, which took place in the last year?

Information In Scope:

2nd November 2022

Minister Mitchell

Sir Danny Alexander, VP Policy and Programmes at AIIB, leads the Bank's strategic direction and investment and geographic priorities

Focus of Discussion:

The strategic direction of the AIIB and wider UK priorities.

4th November 2022

Rachel Turner

Rodrigo Salvado

Focus of Discussion:

Capital Adequacy Review framework.

Tuesday 13th December 2022

Ludger Schuknecht, Vice President and Corporate Secretary, AIIB

Dashiell Caldwell, Minister Counsellor

[Redacted], Development Counsellor

Focus of Discussion:

Catch up with AIIB to discuss plans for quarterly board meetings, ways of working and knowledge sharing opportunities on key infrastructure topics.

Thursday 12 January 2023 (12:30-14:00)

Working lunch with AIIB hosted at the British Residence

Dame Caroline Wilson DCMG, The British Ambassador to China

Dashiell Caldwell, Counsellor Economic Trade, British Embassy Beijing

[Redacted], Development Counsellor, British Embassy Beijing

Sir Danny Alexander, VP Policy and Programmes at AIIB, leads the Bank's strategic direction and investment and geographic priorities

[Redacted], Senior Executive Officer, Office of the President, AIIB

Focus of Discussion:

Priorities for AIIB and AIIB strategies for the upcoming quarterly meetings

28th February 2023

Minister Mitchell

Sir Danny Alexander, VP Policy and Programmes at AIIB, leads the Bank's strategic direction and investment and geographic priorities

Focus of Discussion:

The strategic direction of the AIIB and wider UK priorities.

[Redacted], Development Counsellor at BE Beijing attended meetings at AIIB HQ as follows:

Monday 20 March

09:00-09:30 Meeting with Social Infrastructure Department

09:45-10:30 Meeting with Climate Team

10:30-11:15 Meeting with Environmental and Social standards team

11:15-12:00 Meeting with Gender team

Focus of Discussions:

AIIB work and future plans on climate and gender mainstreaming, environmental and social safeguards.

20th April 2023

Rachel Turner

Rodrigo Salvado

Focus of Discussion:

Capital Adequacy Review framework.

Wednesday 14 June

14:00-15:00 Meeting with Project teams: Microfinance in Cambodia

15:00-16:00 Meeting with Project teams: Gas Power in Bangladesh

16:00-17:00 Meeting with Gender working group

Focus of Discussions:

AIIB work in Cambodia, AIIB ongoing work on climate and gender mainstreaming strategies and approaches, environmental and social safeguards.