Dear Secretary General,

On behalf of the Government of the United Kingdom, I am honoured to make the following commitment to the Global Strategy for Women’s Children’s and Adolescents’ Health (2016-2030).

The UK commits both to the vision of the Global Strategy for Women’s Children’s & Adolescents’ Health and to work in partnership so the world achieves its ambitious goals. We back this with a long term commitment, enshrined in law, to spend 0.7% of Gross National Income every year on development assistance.

We commit to support the comprehensive evidence-based approaches, across the whole continuum of care that are needed to give girls and women voice, choice and control over having sex and having children, as well as to deliver the strategy and the SDGs. We will continue to provide girls with the education that gives them power over their futures. We commit to focus particularly on those the health-related MDGs left behind: women and girls, the poorest, adolescents, newborns, stillborns and those affected by conflict or emergencies.

In support of the goal of ending preventable maternal, newborn and child deaths, and helping girls and women thrive and transform their lives, we commit by 2020 to:

- save 1.4 million children’s lives, by immunising 76 million children.
- lead a major new global programme to accelerate the development of vaccines and drugs to eliminate the world’s deadliest infectious diseases, while investing to save lives from malaria and working to end preventable child and maternal deaths.
- improve the nutrition of at least 50 million people.
• help at least 11 million children in the poorest countries gain a decent education.

• continue to lead efforts to tackle violence against women and girls, end FGM and combat early and forced marriage.

• help at least 60 million people get access to clean water and sanitation.

The UK reiterates the commitments we have made on nutrition. We will contribute to reducing the number of stunted children by 20 million by 2020 and preventing 1.7 million deaths due to malnutrition. We will contribute to preventing hunger and malnutrition among 500 million people by 2030.

Voluntary, rights based Family Planning is a development best-buy. The UK commits to the goal of family planning for all who want it – towards which the FP2020 goal of 120 million more users is a stepping stone. We recommit to the financial commitment our PM made in 2012 to help achieve this – which will see 24 million additional users of family planning by 2020 from UK support. Within this goal we will focus on better addressing the unmet need of adolescents.

We also commit that in humanitarian crises, DFID calls for proposals will require the sexual and reproductive health and rights of women and girls to be considered.

Finally, underlining our commitment to the no-one left behind agenda, the UK will remain a voice for comprehensive programming, which includes sensitive issues that others find difficult but where action saves and transforms lives: safe abortion, comprehensive sexuality education, family planning for adolescents, FGM and HIV prevention for key populations.

Thank you for your continued leadership in global efforts to make a transformational difference for girls, women and adolescents. You will continue to find the UK an enthusiastic partner in this important work.

JUSTINE GREENING