



Development Aid: Anti-corruption Measures QSD on 2 April 2019

This briefing identifies relevant reports and useful documents, including recent parliamentary materials and press articles, which may be of assistance to Members in preparing for the following debate:

Lord McInnes of Kilwinning to ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they take to ensure that anti-corruption measures are supported as part of (1) aid to developing countries, and countries recovering from natural disasters, and (2) the reconstruction of former conflict areas.

Copies of the materials are available for collection from the Library.

Key Information

- HM Government, [United Kingdom Anti-corruption Strategy 2017–2022](#), 2017, pp 6–10 and 58–63; and [United Kingdom Anti-corruption Strategy 2017–2022: Year 1 Update](#), 2018, pp 9–11 and 24–6

Executive summary of the strategy and section 3.6 “work with other countries to combat corruption”. The strategy committed the Government to: implement policies to enhance international transparency in areas such as money laundering, company ownership and public procurement contracts; reduce levels of corruption in partner countries; and address corruption in “fragile and conflict affected states”. Also included is the review of section 3.6 from the ‘Year 1 Update’, providing the Government’s view of progress made in these areas.

- House of Commons, [‘Written Question: Overseas Aid’](#), 4 December 2018, 196171

Question on the mechanisms the Department for International Development (DFID) has in place to prevent the corrupt use of aid spending. In response, the Department stated that its mechanisms included: “rigorous” risk assessments and due diligence; programme agreements and contracts to ensure the accountability of organisations receiving aid; fraud awareness training for staff; and regular internal and external audits.

- House of Commons International Development Committee, [Tackling Corruption Overseas](#), 19 October 2016, HC 111 of session 2016–17, pp 29–49; and [Government Response](#), 16 January 2017, HC 911 of session 2016–17.

Section from the committee report relating to the work of DFID, the report’s conclusions and recommendations, and the Government’s response. The committee recommended: that Brexit and other priorities should not prevent the Government from publishing updated country-specific anti-corruption strategies (last published in 2013); parliaments and legislatures should be involved in the formation of the new strategies; and that lessons should be learned between country programmes.

- Prime Minister's Office, [Anti-corruption Summit, London 2016—Communiqué](#), 12 May 2016

Communiqué of the summit organised to achieve the commitments of the United Nations' [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#) to “substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms”. The summit's participants agreed to improve the transparency and enforcement of anti-corruption policies by the providers of development assistance.

Parliamentary Debate, Statements and Questions

- House of Commons, '[Written Question: Uganda: Overseas Aid](#)', 19 March 2019, 230856
- [Debate on 'Future of DFID'](#), HC Hansard, 27 February 2019, cols 153–76WH
- House of Commons, '[Written Question: Overseas Aid: Fraud](#)', 28 June 2018, 155695
- House of Lords, '[Written Question: Developing Countries: Corruption](#)', 21 May 2018, HL7628

Press Articles and Comment

- Mark Raczkiewicz and Max Seddon, '[Ukraine's Highest Court Rules Against Anti-corruption Law](#)', *Financial Times* (£), 27 February 2019
- Ava Lee, '[Britain Was Just Given the World's Highest Score for its Efforts Against Corrupt Money—But Does It Really Deserve It?](#)', *Independent*, 9 December 2018
- BBC News, '[Zambia Aid: UK Suspends Funding Over Corruption Fears](#)', 18 September 2018
- Open Government Partnership, '[International Aid and Development Finance, Corruption Risks and the Need For More Transparency](#)', 21 October 2018

Further Information

- House of Commons Library, '[UK Aid: Frequently Asked Questions](#)', 21 December 2018
- Department for International Development, '[Anti-corruption Strategies by Country](#)', 31 January 2013

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