

**ALL PARTY PARLIAMENTARY GROUP ON
POPULATION, DEVELOPMENT AND
REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH**



**ANNUAL REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES
2012/2013**

All Party Parliamentary Group on Population, Development and Reproductive Health

Annual Review 2012/2013

CONTENTS

	Page
FOREWORD	5
COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND STAFF	7
NEW GROUP MEMBERS APRIL 2012 - MARCH 2013	10
APPG PD&RH AIMS AND OBJECTIVES	12
PARLIAMENTARY ACTIVITIES	13
APPG on PD&RH Committee Meetings	13
APPG on PD&RH Parliamentary Briefing Meetings	13
Non APPG on PD&RH Briefing Meetings	19
European Meetings	24
European Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development	
European Non Governmental Organisations for SRHR	
Study Tours	26
General Written Briefings	27
General Meetings, Correspondence and Consultations	37
Meetings	
Correspondence	
Consultations	
Press	43
Parliamentary Statements, Legislation, Debates, EDMs and PQs	45
House of Commons	45
Oral Ministerial Statements	
Written Ministerial Statements	
Legislation	
Debates	
Oral Questions	
Early Day Motions	
Written Questions	
House of Lords	68
Oral Ministerial Statements	
Written Ministerial Statements	
Debates	
Oral Questions	
Written Questions	

CONTENTS continued

UK GOVERNMENT MEETINGS, CORRESPONDENCE AND PUBLICATION	76
DFID meetings	
UK Government correspondence	
Publication	
INTERNATIONAL FUNDING TO FAMILY PLANNING/SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS AND HIV/AIDS	83
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES	86
International Parliamentarians Conference on ICPD, Istanbul, Turkey	
Family Planning Summit, London, UK	
UCL and Woman and Children First (UK) Workshop, London, UK	
Sex and Samfund MDG Meeting, Copenhagen, Denmark	
RCOG International Women's Day conference, London, UK	
G8 Global Parliamentary Conference, London, UK	
Family Planning Conference, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	
SUPPORT AND COLLABORATION WITH OTHER APPGs	90
APPG ON PD&RH HEARINGS	92
Child Marriage, "A Childhood Lost", 2012	
Maternal Morbidity, "Better off Dead?", 2009	
Return of the Population Growth Factor– Its impact on the MDGs, 2007/2009	
Linking Sexual and Reproductive Health and HIV/AIDS, "The Missing Link", 2004	
FGM, 2000	
APPG PD&RH PUBLICATIONS	101
Activity Reports	
Hearings/Surveys/Reports	
ACCOUNTS	102
ACRONYMS	103
APPENDIXES	106

FOREWORD



As chair of the UK All-Party Parliamentary Group on Population, Development and Reproductive Health (the Group) and now president of the European Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development, I am pleased to report that the Group has had yet another active and successful year, with increased UK political and financial support, especially to family planning (FP) but also to sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) more widely.

A particular highlight this year was the Department for International Development and Bill & Melinda Gates London FP2020 Summit, where global leaders united and pledged \$2.6 billion to provide 120 million women in the world's poorest countries with access to contraception by 2020. The UK Prime Minister David Cameron announced £500 million in aid.

Another highlight was the joint meeting between Jane Ellison MP, Chair of the APPG on Female Genital Mutilation (FGC), the Group and Keir Starmer, Director of Crown Prosecution, bringing a UK FGC prosecution closer. The UK Government also announced in March 2013 that £35 million will be set aside for programmes to help reduce FGC by 30% in 10 priority countries over the next five years.

In June 2012 the Group held a parliamentary hearing on child marriage and the subsequent report: 'A Childhood Lost', was launched in November 2012. Forced marriage is receiving increased national and international attention and UK legislation to criminalise forced marriage is expected this Autumn.

The Group has also built strong links with The Royal Society and the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists over the past years and as an Honorary fellow of the Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare I had the pleasure of attending the ceremony for the introduction of new fellows.

The Group continue to scrutinise, monitor and hold the UK Government accountable to its political and financial commitments via meetings, letter writing, parliamentary questions and debates, and media activities.

A meeting was held in November 2012 with the new Secretary of State for International Development (SS for ID), Justine Greening MP, introducing her to the Group and to discuss her priorities for International Development. The SS for ID confirmed that women and children will be at the forefront of her international development agenda.

Parliamentary communiqués, statements and reports highlighting the linkages between FP and SRHR - sustainable development and poverty eradication were sent to David Cameron and relevant cabinet ministers in the lead up to the Rio+20 conference and post 2015 Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) framework meetings.

Previous Group hearings on maternal morbidity, population growth and its impact upon the MDGs, linking SRHR and HIV/AIDS have also received attention.

Three new parliamentarians were recruited this year and the Group received coverage in The Independent, TrustLaw (Thomson Reuters), Postcode Gazette, Medsin and Huffington Post. An interview on FGC was broadcast on SkyNews.

The Group will continue to recruit new members this year and to hold the UK Government to account for the promises it's made.

The Group will particularly be focussing on ensuring a strong outcome for FP and SRHR in the post 2015 MDG framework. The G8 Parliamentary conference held in the UK Parliament in May 2013 organised by the Group and EPF was the beginning of this process.

We saw 57 parliamentarians from 34 countries from around the world agreeing powerful message to the policymakers who are planning the future framework for International Development.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Jenny Tonge' in a cursive style.

Baroness Jenny Tonge
Chair APPG on PD&RH

COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND STAFF

The UK All Party Parliamentary Group on Population, Development and Reproductive Health's (the Group) committee is active in planning and running the Group's business.

Chair

Baroness Jenny Tonge (LD)



Vice Chairs

Heather Wheeler MP (C) Richard Ottaway MP (C)



Secretary

Baroness Flather (XB)



Treasurer

Geoffrey Clifton-Brown MP (C)



Officers

Baroness Gould (L)



Lord Rea (L)



Baroness Massey (L)



Lyn Brown MP (L)



Baroness Jenkin (C)



Virendra Sharma MP (L)



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NEW GROUP MEMBERS APRIL 2012 - MARCH 2013

The Group continue to engage and recruit new parliamentarians via briefing meetings, report launches, receptions, conferences and study tours.

Catherine McKinnell MP was contacted after she attended the Group's World Vision Maternal Health briefing meeting in May 2012. Diane Abbott MP was contacted after she attended the Group's MSI Global Impact Report launch in June 2012. Tessa Jowell MP was contacted in October 2012 following her 'sure start' article co-authored with Sarah Brown.

Letters have also been sent to select parliamentarians showing an interest in Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) and family planning (FP) and international development, inviting them to join the Group including: Zac Goldsmith MP, Amber Rudd MP, Gordon Brown MP, Fiona O'Connell MP, Andrea Leadson MP, Richard Benyon MP, Baroness Mary Goudie, Sarah Teather MP, Laura Sandys and Baroness Meral Hussain-Ece.

Cathy Jamieson MP and Helen Grant MP attended the Group's Family Planning Summit dinner in July 2012.

Please find enclosed sample introductory letters sent as appendix 1

New Group Members

Baroness Meral Hussain-Ece (LD) Meral Hussain – Ece raised to the peerage in June 2010. She was a special advisor to Nick Clegg MP on community cohesion and minority ethnic communities 2006 – 2012 and was a member of the Lords HIV and AIDS in the UK committee 2010 – 2011. She has a political interest in local government, health, equality and diversity, women, youth, community cohesion, European and foreign affairs.

Cathy Jamieson MP (L)

Cathy Jamieson is MP for Kilmarnock and Loudoun and has been Shadow Economic Secretary since 2011. Her professional background is in social work and advocacy for young people in residential care. She has been a member of various select committees, including the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Select Committee from 2011-12 and her political interests include the voluntary sector, fighting poverty and children.

Helen Grant MP (C)

Helen Grant MP was elected MP for Maidstone and The Weald in Kent in 2010. She received her first government appointment in September 2012, when she received the dual roles of Under-Secretary of State for Justice and Under-Secretary

for Women and Equality. Helen Grant MP is a British solicitor.

APPG PD&RH 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

Objectives

- To raise the profile of population, and SRHR including FP in Parliament and internationally;
- To provide parliamentary backing to the Secretary of State for International Development (SS for ID) in their negotiations with the Treasury with a view to increasing the UK Official Development Assistance (ODA) to 0.7% of Gross National Income (GNI), with 10% allocated to the ICPD PoA;
- To keep under review population trends and SRHR programmes/policies/legislation nationally and internationally;
- In consultation with government departments, international agencies and non-governmental organisations (NGOs), to assess how the UK might respond to requests from outside for support and to press for action by Parliament and the 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 PD&RH Committee Meetings

The Group organised 6, but held 4, committee meetings between April 2012 and March 2013.

1st May 2012 – cancelled

12th June 2012

17th July 2012 (Annual General Meeting (AGM)) – cancelled as Parliament was prorogued

23rd October 2012 AGM and committee meeting

4th February 2013

25th March 2013

Please find agendas and committee meeting minutes enclosed as appendix 2

APPG on PD&RH Parliamentary Briefing Meetings

14 Parliamentary briefing meetings/receptions were co-organised by the Group this year, where members were briefed on topical population, reproductive and maternal health, FP and international development (ID) issues in support of their parliamentary advocacy.

Royal Society Report launch: ‘People and the Planet’, 26th April 2012, HoC, London

The Group launched the Royal Society ‘People and the Planet’ report in Parliament prior to the global Rio+20 conference. Key note speakers were: Sir John Sulston, Chair, Royal Society ‘People and the Planet’ report, Professor Sarah Harper, Director, Oxford Institute of Population Ageing, University of Oxford, Dr Eliya Zulu, Executive Director, African Institute for Development Policy and Professor Jules Pretty, Pro-Vice Chancellor and Professor of Environment & Society, University of Essex.

The report investigated the linkages between changes in population size, distribution and age structure, consumption and the implications for human wellbeing and sustainable development.

The event was well attended and a discussion followed the presentations.

It was agreed at the meeting that the Group and the Royal Society would send a joint letter with the report to David Cameron MP, Prime Minister, requesting a meeting to discuss the report and the Rio+20 Conference.

Please find enclosed invitation to event and communications as appendix 3

Surrey Policy ‘child protection team’ round table meeting, 30th April 2012, HoC, London.

Andrew Smith, a retired Surrey Police child protection officer, contacted The Group requesting a meeting to discuss FGC following Baroness Jenny Tonge’s speech in the HoL on the subject. A meeting was set up with his team and interested parliamentarians. The protection team consisted of Andrew Smith, Mr Les Holmes and Detective Sergeant Claire Loving. The team shared its work on FGC prevention, detection and follow up in Surrey.

Summary points:

- *FGC information, education and communication (IEC) and community work remains paramount for FGM prevention;*
- *School environment remains hostile to FGC IEC;*
- *Getting FGC survivors to give evidence against family members remain main obstacle to securing prosecutions;*
- *Need to gather evidence on actual FGC/cutter and focus potential prosecutions in this direction (shall be interesting/important to follow up info on cutters exposed in the UK press recently);*
- *UK need to learn from Swedish and France prosecution*
- *Surrey police team was advocating for a court order for FGC as there is for forced marriage to deter people (the Group will follow up with Home Office FGC contact re: what is the potential negative/positive impact of a court order for FGC);*
- *Health passports in Holland have been a good deterrent for FGC in the country – parliamentarians should advocate for this to be instated at UK borders.*

The Group requested a meeting with Keir Starmer, Director of the Crown Prosecution Services soon after above briefing to discuss prosecutions. A positive reply was received and a meeting was held in May 2012 where Jane Ellison MP, Chair of the APPG on FGM and other interested MPs/Peers were invited to join.

Please find communications included as appendix 4

World Vision Sudan Maternal Health report launch, 16th May 2012, HoC, London

The Group co-hosted with the APPG on Sudan the launch of World Vision's Sudan Maternal Health report. The event was titled: 'Beyond the health and governance gap: determinants of maternal, newborn and child health in South Sudan'.

Members and interested stakeholders were informed that South Sudan has some of the worst rate of maternal and child mortality in the world. In the study commissioned by World Vision, Dr Sebastian Taylor travelled to South Sudan to identify key features of the problem, and the practical means by which might be addressed. While the moral case for reducing maternal and child deaths hardly needed to be made, it was worth noticing that such reductions actively support better levels of economic growth – something South Sudan desperately needs - and can play a positive role in delivering the peace dividends.

Please find invitation enclosed as appendix 5

Dalai Lama event, 20th June 2012, HoC, London

A meeting was held in Parliament with the Dalai Lama hosted by UK APPGs working on International Development issues. This briefing meeting followed the July 2010 meeting

with Bill Gates entitled 'Parliamentarians Ending Poverty' and was attended by over 100 MPs and Peers.

The speaker of the house, John Bercow MP welcomed the Dalai Lama who presented his view on development and society. A question and answer session followed.

Please find enclosed invitation, list of APPGs hosting the event with attendance list as appendix 6

Marie Stopes International (MSI) Global Impact Report launch, 26th June 2012, HoC, London.

The Group hosted a reception in collaboration with MSI to launch their Global Impact report. The event was entitled: Delivering choice and rights for women: past, present and future. Andrew Mitchell MP, then SS for ID was the key note speaker.

The report highlighted MSI's contribution and impact, and how UK development aid is helping drive the global FP revolution. The report presented the life saving impact of FP in developing economies. More than 200 million women in developing countries who don't want to get pregnant still have no access to contraception.

The reception was well attended.

Please find enclosed invitation as appendix 7

'The Elders' event, 3rd July 2012, HoC, London

The global trusted leaders (The Elders) brought together by Nelson Mandela in 2007 to be drivers for change, presented their thoughts, at this briefing event on drivers for change: Building a more equitable world.

The three leaders present were Jimmy Carter, Mary Robinson and Archbishop Desmond Tutu. They also discussed the role of UK Parliamentarians in promoting a more just, sustainable and equitable world. No longer bound by the interests of any nation, government or institution, they were free to speak difficult truths.

Of particular interest were points made by Mary Robinson relating to child marriage, FP and sustainable development.

The meeting was attended by over 100 MPs and Peers and was the third briefing event in the series 'Parliamentarians Ending Poverty' hosted by the APPGs on International Development.

Please find enclosed invitation as appendix 8

APPG on PD&RH FP dinner, 11th July 2012, HoC, London

The Group hosted a FP dinner on 11th July in connection with World Population Day and the DFID and Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation FP Summit.

Please find invitation enclosed as appendix 9

The round table dinner discussion saw the following guests: Tewodros Melesse; Vicky Claeys, Dana Hovig; Gary Darmstadt, Director of Family Health, Gates Foundation; Richard Ottaway MP; Geoffrey Clifton-Brown MP; Heather Wheeler MP; Baroness

Jenny Tonge; Cathy Jamieson MP; Helen Grant MP; Pamela Nash MP, Prof. Malcolm Potts and Martha Campbell, Bixby Center, University of California and Ann Mette Kjaerby, advisor to the Group.

A round table introduction followed which lead to discussions on FP -funding, policies and positive case studies, as well as maternal health, child marriage, FGC and leaders speeches at the Summit including the UK Prime Minister's speech.

Members in attendance thanked Baroness Jenny Tonge and the Group for hosting the informative luncheon. Helen Grant MP and Cathy Jamieson MP were enthused about the subjects discussed and subsequently joined the Group.

The APPGs on International Development and Beyond 2015 roundtable event on Post-2015 Priorities: Perspectives from the Global South, 1st November 2012, HoC, London

The Beyond 2015 roundtable event on the post 2015 development priorities was opened by Mwangi Waituru from Global Climate Adaptation Partnership Kenya, co-chair of Beyond 2015. Civil society leaders in attendance included representatives from Nepal, Bangladesh; India; Sierra Leone, China, USA; Indonesia; Colombia and the Philippines.

This briefing was organised to update UK MPs on the Post 2015 MDG priorities on the same day as the UK Prime Minister, David Cameron MP, Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, and President of Indonesia Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono joined other members of the UN High Level Panel to discuss what should replace them.

Please find enclosed invitation as appendix 10

MSI Afghanistan briefing meeting: Opportunities, Challenges and Recommendations for Action, 7th November 2012, HoC, London

The Group co-organised an MSI event on Afghanistan: Opportunities, Challenges and Recommendations for Action. Dr Najia Tareq, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Public Health, Afghanistan and Ms Golalei Nur Safid, MP and Member of the Parliamentary Health Committee, Afghanistan were key note speakers at the event.

A lively discussion surrounding Afghanistan's reproductive health policies and programmes followed presentations.

Please find invitation enclosed as appendix 11

APPGs on Health dinner on the post 2015 International Development framework and Global Health, 21st November 2012, HoC

Heather Wheeler MP and Baroness Jenny Tonge attended the post 2015 International Development framework dinner: "Health in the Post-2015 Development framework: what next after the MDGs?" The dinner was jointly organised with the All-Party Parliamentary Groups on Africa; HIV/AIDS; Global Health; Malaria & Neglected Tropical Diseases; and Tuberculosis.

The event was organised to give parliamentarians an opportunity to reflect on the impacts of the MDGs and to initiate a dialogue about health in the post-MDG framework.

The following people were in attendance:

*Titola Banjoko
Richard Horton
Andy Haines
Alvaro Bermejo
Neil Squires
Lord Crisp
Baroness Tonge
Lord Judd
Cathy Jamieson MP
Pauline Latham MP*

*Pamela Nash MP
Heather Wheeler MP
Baroness Hayman
Baroness Jay
Oliver Johnson
Virendra Sharma MP
Andrew George MP
Baroness Nicholson
Graham Allen MP
Meg Hillier MP*

Please find invitation enclosed as appendix 12

UNFPA briefing meeting on: FP and SRHR in China Facts, Opportunities, Challenges and Recommendations for Action, 25th February 2013, HoC, London
The Group organised a round table briefing meeting for parliamentarians on China and its opportunities, challenges and recommendations for actions on FP and SRHR.

Arie Hoekan, UNFPA Representative to China provided a broad overview of China's current FP and SRHR policy.

The largest gap under the MDG for improving maternal health is in access to reproductive health and unmet need for FP and reproductive health information and services, particularly among unmarried people.

China faces a growing HIV/AIDS epidemic. The incidence of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) has dramatically increased in recent years, especially among young people aged 15 to 24. No specific law ensures and protects young people's SRHR. Of particular concern was the huge male youth bulge in China and migration.

Please find invitation enclosed as appendix 13

IPPF, Population Council and London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) launch of research on linking SRHR and HIV/AIDS services, 20th March 2013, HoC, London

The Group in collaboration with the APPG on AIDS jointly launched the 'Integra Initiative' which was one of the flagship operations research projects supported by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The results addressed many of the key themes raised and commitments made at the London FP Summit in July 2012. Of particular interest were the following:

- *Value for money: The research evaluated the cost, benefits and savings of different models of service provision;*
- *Effective models for providing health services: The research evaluated different models of integrating sexual and reproductive health and HIV services, and found that integration can enhance specific health outcomes such as reducing unintended pregnancies and meeting the FP needs of women living with HIV;*
- *Targeting of development aid: To enable FP and the attainment of SRHR in Kenya, Malawi and Swaziland.*

A reception was held after the meeting, hosted by Pamela Nash MP in Parliament with Government representatives from Kenya, Malawi and Swaziland.

Please find invitation enclosed as appendix 14

The International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC) briefing meeting: Rape in war zones and abortion, 20th March 2013, HoC, London

An ICRC briefing meeting was organised in response to numerous parliamentary debates and questions on DFID funding and its policy on access to abortion for rape victims in war zones and ICRC policy and programme activities.

ICRC presented their position on abortion for victims of sexual violence in conflict. They also went through the activities and programmes the ICRC has in place in support of rape victims in countries across the world.

ICRC stand firm on the point that national abortion laws supersedes international law which according to Baroness Northover, HoL DFID spokesperson and the Global Justice Centre is not correct and remains a contentious debate.

ICRC reiterated that to date there had been no cases proving one way or the other re national vs. international law and access to abortion after rape in war zones. ICRC does not provide abortion services themselves but will refer victims of rape to abortion services if requested, available and legal in the country.

Baroness Northover said this year in a HoL debate:

“The denial of abortion in a situation that is life threatening or causing unbearable suffering to a victim of armed conflict may therefore contravene Common Article 3. Therefore, an abortion may be offered despite being in breach of national law by parties to the conflict or humanitarian organisations providing medical care and assistance. Clearly, this service provision very much depends on the facts of each situation but I state clearly that it is our view that there is no blanket ban on such medical help when covered by international humanitarian law even if national laws might be at variance with that”

Please find communication and ICRC briefings enclosed as appendix 15

BBC Media Action briefing meeting: can mobile phones save lives? 25th March 2013, HoC, London.

The Group organised a round table briefing meeting on BBC Media Action’s study: Can mobile phones save lives?

Caroline Sugg, Head of the Advisory & Policy team, and Sophia Wilkinson, Senior Health Advisor, BBC Media Action presented a pioneering approach to maternal and child health services using a case study from Bihar, northern India.

The services use low technology mobile phone handsets to deliver high impact, accessible training and potentially life-saving information to community health workers and the women that they support and advise.

Please find invitation enclosed as appendix 16

Non APPG on PD&RH Briefing Meetings

Group members and staff attended 18 external FP/SRHR briefing meetings this year.

APPG Pro-choice and Sexual Health UK meeting: Climate around abortion and its impact on women's care, 25th April 2012, HoC, London

This meeting was organised in collaboration with pro-choice organisations BPAS, Brook and Abortion Rights. Presentations from Simon Blake, chief executive, Brook; Ann Furedi, chief executive, British Pregnancy Advisory Service (BPAS) and Darinka Aleksic, co-ordinator, Abortion Rights.

The following points were discussed: Challenges women face in accessing sexual health services, including contraception and abortion; rise in on-the-ground activism targeting women and staff at clinics; pressure on healthcare professionals and forthcoming consultation on pregnancy options counselling and threat to formally involve anti-abortion organisations in delivering care.

Please find invitation enclosed as appendix 17

Royal Society press launch: People and the Planet, Royal Society, 26th April 2012

The Royal Society report on global population, consumption and the environment had an early morning press launch prior to the Group's parliamentary briefing event later that morning. The Chair of the Royal Society's international Working Group, Nobel Laureate Sir John Sulston, and three of the Working Group members presented the report's findings, described the challenges and the opportunities that such changes will present for people and the planet and discussed the prospects for genuinely sustainable development.

Opening remarks were from Sir Paul Nurse, President of the Royal Society and Andrew Mitchell MP, then SS for ID who offered his thoughts on the importance of including population in sustainable development discussions.

Please find invitation enclosed as appendix 18

Royal College of Midwives (RCM) and White Ribbon Alliance (WRA) meeting: Day of the Midwife celebration, 8th May 2012, London

The Group was represented at the RCM reception and presentation to celebrate the International Day of the Midwife. The theme on the reproductive rights of women touched on how midwives can enable access to care for women. Richard Horton, Editor of The Lancet was in the chair with the following presenters: Shami Chakrabarti, Director of Liberty UK; Nina Gora, Oxfam and Bridget McConville, White Ribbon Alliance.

Please find enclosed invitation as appendix 19

Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) programme for women MPs from Afghanistan and Pakistan, 14th – 18th May 2012, London

The CPA hosted MPs from Afghanistan and Pakistan and as part of the programme Baroness Jenny Tonge was requested to present the Group's preliminary child marriage findings under the title: Understanding the causes and consequences of forced and early marriage.

Leigh Daynes, Director of Advocacy, Campaigns & Communications, Plan UK; Marianna Brungs, Interim Coordinator, Girls Not Brides and Shabana Mahmood MP, Shadow Minister for Higher Education also spoke.

Please find CPA full programme, bios of MPs in attendance and speaking points enclosed as appendix 20

The Group received below communications in response to the presentation:

"Dear Lady Tonge

Thank you for meeting and speaking with the delegations from the Parliaments of Afghanistan and Pakistan.

As you raised the issue of aid effectiveness - I just wanted to add that the Members have expressed their dissatisfaction regarding the distribution, monitoring and transparency of aid (with reference to Afghanistan particularly) in almost every session of the programme this far. The comments have a reoccurring theme – that there is a lack of women's presence in the decision making process regarding aid at all levels and also that the Members have expressed considerable anxiety regarding the post-2014 landscape for women in Afghanistan, that the progress and achievements that have been made in the past 9 yrs will become obsolete – 'if they do not retreat back to the shadows they will die.'

CPA UK Lunchtime Lecture Series: 'Realising rights: The role of parliamentarians in tackling forced marriage,' 26nd June 2012, HoC, London

Baroness Jenny Tonge spoke at the CPA UK lunchtime lecture series: 'Realising Rights: The role of parliamentarians in tackling forced marriage'. Alongside her were Marie Staunton, Director, Plan UK and Amy Cumming, Joint Head, FMU, Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO).

The lecture was one in a series of lectures aimed to explore how parliamentarians can work together internationally to create cross-border and national legal frameworks to prevent early and forced marriage, and act as advocates for the millions of children whose fundamental rights are being violated.

Please find programme and briefing enclosed as appendix 21

The Group received below communications in response to her presentation:

"Dear Lady Tonge,

On behalf of CPA UK, thank you very much for addressing our lecture on forced marriage for parliamentarians, parliamentary staff and civil society representatives yesterday. We greatly appreciated your very insightful remarks on forced marriage and overview of the work of APPG on Population, Development and Reproductive Health."

Reproductive Health Matters 20th anniversary celebration, 7th June 2012, London

The Group was represented at Reproductive Health Matters' 20th Anniversary celebration, which was attended by the large SRHR and international development community.

Please find invitation enclosed as appendix 22

Jan Trust Forced Marriage Report launch – consent matter: towards effective prevention of forced marriage within the Pakistani community in the UK, 9th July 2012, HoC, London

Members and assistant attended Jan Trust Forced Marriage Report launch: 'Consent Matters: Towards effective prevention of forced marriages within the Pakistani community in the UK'. The report highlighted the issue of forced marriages within the Pakistani community in the UK and the effective ways of preventing this inhumane practice.

Please find invitation, agenda and report cover and contents pages enclosed as appendix 23

DFID FP reception: Science Museum, 10th July 2012, London

Members, advisor and assistant attended DFID's FP reception organised the evening prior to the FP Summit on 11th July. Melinda Gate and Andrew Mitchell MP, then SS for ID delivered the key note speeches at the reception.

Please find invitation enclosed as appendix 24

ActionAID briefing meeting on FP, Health and Women's Empowerment in Nigeria, 10th July 2012, HoC, London

Members attended Action Aids' briefing meeting on FP in Nigeria. Ipoade Omilaju, Director of Capacity Building and Programme Manager in charge of Health for ActionAid Nigeria was the key note speaker.

Please find invitation enclosed as appendix 25

The Iranian and Kurdish Women's Rights Organisation (IKWRO) 10 anniversary event, 3rd October 2012,

The Group was represented at the IKWRO's 10 year anniversary ceremony at Amnesty International.

Please find invitation enclosed as appendix 26

Global Justice Center briefing meeting on rape as a weapon of war in conflict, 24th October, HoC, London

Members attended the Global Justice Center (GJC) briefing meeting on rape as a weapon of war in conflict. The briefing was organised in response to GJC campaign on the issue and the numerous PQs and debates in both Houses.

Prof. Benshoof covered the issue of DFID funds being used in ways contrary to published policy; how implementing the Geneva Convention provides a higher degree of rights than national customary law and thus why the campaign seeks to use it; why abortion is often a medical necessity to preserve the life of rape survivors; how the redefinition of rape as an illegal weapon would assist survivors of rape in conflict zones, especially girls.

Please find invitation and GJC briefings enclosed as appendix 27

Health Poverty Action briefing on FP and maternal health in Sierra Leone, 8th November 2012, HoL

Baroness Tonge and advisor met with Health Poverty Action country director Regina Bash-Taqi and Head of Policy & Campaigns Sarah Edwards for a briefing on the organisation's FP and maternal health activities in Sierra Leone.

UNFPA State of the World Population report launch, 14th November 2012, Royal Society, London

Baroness Jenny Tonge and advisor attended the annual UNFPA State of the World Population report launch. This edition of its flagship report was entitled: By Choice, Not by Chance: FP, Human Rights and Development.

UNFPA Executive Director Dr Babatunde Osotimehin presented the report, which highlighted the evidence of the economic impact of FP on families, communities and countries. According to the report, access to FP, which is an essential human right, yields unprecedented rewards for economic development. The costs of ignoring that right include poverty, exclusion, poor health and gender inequality.

Please find invitation, front cover of report and contents pages enclosed as appendix 28

Press in attendance were informed about the Group's forthcoming child marriage report launch on 27th November 2012.

APPG on AIDS and UK Consortium of AIDS and International Development World AIDS Day meeting, 28nd November 2012, HoC, London

Members and assistant attended the APPG AIDS and UK Consortium of AIDS world AIDS Day event. Justine Greening MP, the new SS for ID was the key note speaker at the event. Winnie Ssreuma from Christian Aid opened the meeting by reminding the audience why it is important to mark World AIDS day and what it means to her as a woman who has been living with HIV for 25 years. Dr David Wilson, Global AIDS Program Director from the World Bank gave an overview on how much progress has been made and emphasised the centrality of human rights to tackling the epidemic. Dr Alvaro Bermejo Chief Executive of the International HIV and AIDS Alliance highlighted the role that community organisations have in responding to the AIDS epidemic and the challenges that lie ahead.

Earlier in the day, 53 MPs met with campaigners from the Stop AIDS campaign to pledge their commitment to fighting the HIV and AIDS epidemic and the "Why Stop Now?" Campaign.

Please find invitation enclosed as appendix 29

GJC briefing meeting on rape in war zones and access to abortion services, 15th January 2013, HoC, London

The GJC set up individual briefing meetings with MPs and Peers in response to the momentum of their campaign to ensure women raped in war zones have access to safe abortion services.

Please find communications enclosed as appendix 30

SafeHands photographic exhibition, 5th February 2013, London

Baroness Helena Kennedy, Lord Patel, Professor Ian Jacobs Patrons and founder Nancy Durell McKenna held a photographic exhibition on 5th February to recognise 10 years of SafeHands work to reduce maternal and neonatal mortality.

Please find invitation enclosed as appendix 31

Progress Educational Trust briefing meeting on: The donor-conceived perspective, 28th February 2012, London

Advisor attended Progress Educational Trust's briefing meeting which focused on the perspective of those who are conceived from donated sperm or eggs, and saw a panel of experts debate questions such as:

- *Are people entitled to know that they are donor-conceived? What impact does how and when somebody discovers that they are donor-conceived have upon them?*
- *To what extent do donor-conceived people constitute a coherent group with collective needs and interests? Who can legitimately claim to represent these interests?*

Presenters included: Dr Tabitha Freeman, Research Associate at the University of Cambridge's Center for Family Research; Christine Gunter, Coordinator of UK DonorLink; Kevin Moore, Donor-conceived person and Jess Pearce, Donor-conceived person.

Please find invitation enclosed as appendix 32

WRA International Women's Day celebration – stories of mothers, 8th March 2013, Royal Festival Hall, London

Members and assistant attended the WRA International Women's Day celebration at the Royal Festival Hall. Anna Chancellor, Helen Lederer, Gaby Roslin and friends joined the WRA to share their stories of Mothers at the WOW Festival for International Women's Day.

Please find invitation enclosed as appendix 33

European Meetings

European Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development (EPF)

Collaboration between the Group, EPF and its member organisations as well as other regional parliamentary networks continues to be strong.

Parliamentary advocacy activities have been shared on-line, discussed over the phone and at meetings.

Of particular interest this year has been the collaboration around the G8 Parliamentary conference co-hosted in May 2013 in London which had a round table planning meeting on 5th September, HoC, London. Helen Grant MP also participated in the EPF Philippine study tour in August 2012 and was soon after appointed the dual roles of Under-Secretary of State for Justice and Under-Secretary for Women and Equality.

Full information on the G8 Parliamentary conference will be in the Groups 2013-2014 annual activity report (please see study tour section for further information about the EPF study tour).

Baroness Jenny Tonge was elected treasurer of EPF in Turkey this year. She attended EPF meetings in Brussels on 9 February 2012 and on 5th November 2012.

Coordination and collaboration on EPF Council of Europe (CoE) activities continue. EPF organised luncheon briefing meetings with UK MPs Sandra Osborne MP, Mike Hancock MP and Amber Rudd MP in response to CoE reports including Mr Volonte's motion for resolution: "Combating Eugenics and discrimination against people with disabilities".

A protest was signed by 90 MPs 1/32 of the CoE Assembly to ensure that it did not go to committee for a report.

Please find CoE communications enclosed as appendix 34

Collaborative press activities also continue. Several Op-eds and press releases were disseminated by Baroness Jenny Tonge as the Chair of the UK APPG on PD&RH and Treasurer of the EPF, mainly in connection with UN celebratory days (please see press section for further details).

Please find new APPG on PD&RH flyer enclosed as appendix 35

In November the EPF lead a campaign against Tonio Borg becoming the European Union (EU) Commissioner for Health and Consumer Protection. Borg was the Deputy Prime Minister of Malta and had previously been Maltese minister of Foreign Affairs.

European APPGs on Population and Development sent letters to national EU representatives. Baroness Jenny Tonge also tabled written PQs in the HoL to raise her concern about Tonio Borg's possible appointment.

Baroness Tonge: *To ask HMG what assessment they have made of Mr Tonio Borg's candidacy as European Union Commissioner for Health and Consumers, and of his views on abortion; and whether they plan to support his appointment in the European Council.*

The Senior Minister of State, Department for Communities and Local Government & Foreign and Commonwealth Office (Baroness Warsi): *The Government welcome Mr Tonio Borg's nomination as Malta's European Commissioner. He is a well qualified candidate, having served in Malta as Deputy Prime Minister, Foreign Minister, Minister for Home Affairs and Minister for Justice. His views on abortion should not have any bearing on his nomination, as abortion laws are a matter for member states, and not the EU.*

Mr Borg was questioned fully in a joint hearing by the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety Committee; the Internal Market and Consumer Affairs Committee; and the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee of the European Parliament (EP) on 13 November, during which he stated that he would abide by the treaties and follow the principle of subsidiarity. Following this joint hearing, the European Parliament plenary voted on 21 November to support his candidacy.

In the vote by the European Parliament Tonio Borg obtained a clear majority, with 386 votes in his favour and only 281 against him.

Please find communications enclosed as appendix 36

The Group also responded in January 2013 to an EPF request for information on UK MPs/Peers and their support for the ICPD PoA.

Please find communications enclosed as appendix 37a

In February 2013 the Group collaborated with EPF and other European APPGs on the Inter-Parliamentary Union resolution on “Access to health as a basic right: The role of parliaments in addressing key challenges to securing the health of women and children”. Advisor met and briefed UK MPs attending the IPU 126th Assembly held in Kampala, Uganda 31st March – 5th April re SRHR amendments. Amendments were tabled and subsequently tabled and adapted.

Please find communications enclosed as appendix 37b

EPF conference for European APPG Secretariats, 13th – 14th December 2012, Florence, Italy

Advisor and assistant attended the annual parliamentary secretariat retreat organised by EPF in Florence, 13th – 14th December to discuss national, regional and global parliamentary advocacy activities. Once again the event was well attended by 26 All Party Parliamentary Groups on Population and Development (APPGs) secretariats, mainly from across Europe as well as representatives of UNFPA, IPPF and Action Canada on Population and Development. There were two very productive days of discussions and informal presentations where EPF’s members were able to share experiences in advancing the ICPD agenda with the parliamentarians in individual countries. Special attention was paid to the future of the international development agenda and the ways in which parliamentary advocacy can contribute to ensuring that the ICPD is protected and promoted in the future. Areas of focus included the activities that can be undertaken by APPGs, the way in which APPGs can function effectively and how outreach can be maximised.

Please find agenda with participant list enclosed as appendix 38

European Non Governmental Organisations

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

European Non Governmental Organisations (EuroNGOs) e-mail lists and website ensure that advisor, researcher and Group members are updated on new and relevant campaigns and advocacy, in support of UK parliamentary activities.

Information of particular interest to members has been circulated via e-mail or standard mail throughout the year (please see written briefing section for further information).

UK parliamentary activities of importance and interest to other APPGs have likewise been disseminated on the EuroNGOs email list. For example the launch of the Group’s child marriage hearing report was circulated on the list-serve in November 2012 as were UK PQs.

EuroNGOs had an external evaluation this year which involved a survey, which the Group completed. The review found that the convening nature of EuroNGOs is highly valued, but some aspects of the network need to be strengthened, particularly governance and ownership.

Please find communications and summary evaluation information enclosed as appendix 39

EuroNGOs AGM, 11th – 12th October 2012, University Foundation, Brussels, Belgium

Advisor attended the EuroNGOs 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.

This year's conference was titled: SRHR in the next global framework - promoting a critical dialogue". The event was attended by around 140 participants from EuroNGOs members, Southern partners, civil society organisations (CSO) partners from the broader SRHR community, CSOs from other constituencies, donors, UN agencies, experts, government representatives, European institutions and MEPs. The event was an opportunity to discuss how to better position SRHR in global development agendas, especially as the deadlines for achieving the MDGs and the ICPD PoA approaches.

The conference was designed as a one-day international dialogue with keynote presentations and panel discussions by high level speakers followed by several question and answer and interactive discussions between the panellists and the audience.

Please find EuroNGO AGM programme enclosed as appendix 40

Study Tours

EPF Philippines study tour, 26th – 31st August, 2012

Helen Grant MP attended EPF's study tour to the Philippines with 4 MPs from Sweden (Socialists), Portugal (Centre-right: PSD/EPP), European Parliament (Centre-right: EPP) and Lithuania (Social Democrats). The visit was hosted by the Philippines Legislators Committee on Population and Development (PLCPD) and took place in the crucial moment in the discussions regarding the draft Reproductive Health Bill in the Philippines. For the first time the Bill had the support of both the President and the Speaker of the Parliament and had entered the phase of amendments and eventually the vote. The Bill had been pending at the Parliament for over 14 years and had been re-opened for the discussion in the last 4 congresses: powerful Catholic Church had been successful in impeding the Bill in various legislative stages. In the meantime 70% of the predominantly Catholic population supported the Bill that would provide governmental funding for FP services information and supplies, ensure sexual education and treatments for post-abortion complications.

MPs met with community members, civil society organisations and youth activists, visited poorest communities in Navotas and Malabon (Manila) affected by the recent floods, that lack any access to basic healthcare including reproductive health service. They met with authors of the Bill at the Congress and Senate. The Delegation Members asserted that the Bill promotes access to maternal and reproductive health services, education, gender equality and the promotion of rights of all Filipinos, especially women.

Helen Grant MP emphasised that “*we need to ensure that people have children by choice and not by chance as it will make people healthier, wealthier and better educated*”.

The European Parliamentarians affirmed admiration of the drive of President Aquino, the Speaker of the House, and the legislators to realise the desire of 70% of the population and pass the reproductive health Bill. The Bill was finally passed and signed in December 2012. The link below is some of the media coverage supportive of reproductive health which the visit generated:

<http://www.gmanetwork.com/news/story/271867/news/nation/after-visiting-manila-slums-european-legislators-call-for-passage-of-rh-bill>

Please find concept note, invitation and programme enclosed as appendix 41

APPG on PD&RH Myanmar study tour, 17th – 25th July 2013

The Group contacted Myanmar SRHR stakeholders in the beginning of 2012 in preparation for forthcoming study tour to the country in July 2013. The UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) and DFID were contacted as well as SRHR NGO's to determine the safety, acceptability and the potential of new MPs finding Myanmar informative and interesting.

Positive feedback was received and the study tour was subsequently organised in collaboration with Marie Stopes International, 17th – 25th July 2013. Full study tour report will be in the Group's 2013 – 2014 annual activity report. Summary study tour report will be available on the Group's website later this year.

Please find study tour communications enclosed as appendix 42

General Written Briefings

96 written briefings were disseminated to members this year. The majority of the written briefings disseminated were sent to update members on new UK and international SRHR policies, funding, research or programme activities. Some briefings were sent in response to specific requests or response to HoC or HoL debates and PQs. Some briefings were sent in support of members other parliamentary advocacy activities.

Below is the full list of briefings disseminated to members:

19th April 2012: Select members received information about the Royal Society Report 'People and the Planet' launch.

Please find information enclosed as appendix 43

22nd April 2012: Baroness Jenny Tonge received information on FGC passports in Holland alongside other up to date FGC information in preparation for her FGM Radio Interview.

Please find information enclosed as appendix 44

24th April: Baroness Gould received information as requested on DFID's forthcoming FP Summit.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 45

25th April: All members received The Guardian article on the new set of development goals to be developed with a reference to David Cameron MP, UK Prime Minister being the chairman advising the UN secretary general on the future of the MDGs.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 46

27th April: All members received the DFID Select Committee report: EU development aid cash going to the wrong people and wrong countries.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 47

2nd May: All members receive the media release on the UN resolution on adolescents and youth from the 2012 UN Commission on Population and Development.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 48

9th May: Baroness Jenny Tonge received World Vision briefing for the international development debate on the Queen's Speech on 17th May, which reiterated the importance of UK Government legislating for the promised 0.7% GNI to International Development.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 49

15th May: All members received an article on the new study: Birth-defect risk seen in assisted conception – there is a 28 percent greater risk for birth defects in babies conceived with fertility treatment, including increased risks for heart, muscle, urogenital and gastrointestinal defects and for cerebral palsy.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 50

16th May: Committee members received a copy of Ivan Lewis MP's written PQ on the UN Conference on Sustainable Development from 16th April highlighting population growth as follows:

Ivan Lewis MP: To ask the SS for ID (1) whether he plans to attend the Rio+20 conference on sustainable development in June 2012; (2) what his Department's objectives are for the Rio+20 conference on sustainable development in June 2012.

Andrew Mitchell MP: The UK is actively engaged in preparations for Rio+20. The Deputy Prime Minister will attend. As the lead Department for the conference, the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, my right hon. Friend the Member for Meriden (Caroline Spelman MP), will be attending the conference. The UK is supportive of a strong outcome at Rio+20 and dedicated to being world leaders in international sustainable development and poverty alleviation. The UK priorities for Rio +20 as laid out by the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs include:

1. High-level political affirmation on the centrality of green economy for sustainable development;
2. Better valuation of our natural resources, including through Governments looking beyond GDP as the sole unit of national accounting;
3. Action on food security in the context of rapid population growth;
4. The need for private sector involvement to facilitate green growth at Rio, and beyond—and the potential for more sustainable business practices, including through corporate sustainability reporting.

Rio+20 is a very timely opportunity for the international community to bring the environment and development agendas together in a way that has never been done before and the UK is working to achieve the best outcome possible.

16th May: Baroness Jenny Tonge received a briefing in support of the Queen's Speech International Development debate.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 51

16th May 2012: All members received a briefing on the latest new global maternal mortality trends 1990 – 2010.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 52

28th May: All members received a summary of the Turkey IPCI ICPD PoA Statement of Commitment.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 53

28th May: Baroness Jenny Tonge received information on Aung San Suu Kyi arrival to the UK Parliament on 21st June.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 54

28th May: Baroness Jenny Tonge received information on UNFPA's plans for FP.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 55

13th June: Geoffrey Clifton-Brown MP received a briefing on UK bilateral funding to priority countries as requested. In 2008/09 DFID supported 140 countries with bilateral aid - but now it focuses on 27 countries only.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 56

23rd June: All members received information on the Rio+20 outcome document.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 57

25th June: All members received IPPF's press statement condemning Rio's alarming disregard for reproductive rights.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 58

26th June: Richard Ottaway MP received list of International Development News presenters as requested.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 59

26th June: All members received information on DFID's new Logo with the Union Jack.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 60

26th June: All members received a summary and link to DFID's Annual Report 2011 – 2012.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 61

27th June: All members received a summary and link to Save the Children and Action Aid's FP reports/briefings

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 62

9th July: Heather Wheeler MP received a topical briefing in support of her forthcoming speech at the 'conservative women forum'.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 63

12th July: All members received UNFPA's press release on World Population Day.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 64

13th July: Committee members received Reproductive Health Matters' response to the UK London FP Summit.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 65

16th July 2012: All members received briefing on NHS abortion consent forms.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 66

18th July 2012: All members received briefing on the UK Government FP Summit.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 67

19th July: Select members received an article from The Independent making reference to HIV cure via bone marrow transplant for cancer.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 68

23rd July: Committee members received a copy of Baroness Jenny Tonge's article published in the Huffington Post on the London FP Summit

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 69

23rd July: Baroness Jenny Tonge and Jane Ellison MP received information on FGM news-night.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 70

25th July: Baroness Jenny Tonge received comparison data on mortality due to AIDS vs. mortality due to pregnancy and childbirth for women in the reproductive age group.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 71

25th July: All members received a copy of DFID's website with info on the FP Summit.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 72

2nd August: All members received a briefing on Ban Ki-moon's panel to lead the global development agenda post-2015.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 73

28th August: Baroness Jenny Tonge received information on child marriage press coverage.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 74

28th August: Committee members received a briefing on EU ODA showing increased support to Reproductive Health and Population Programmes in 2011.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 75

29th August: Baroness Jenny Tonge received a Guardian article on misoprostol.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 76

29th August: Richard Ottaway MP received information on NGO side events at the Conservative party conference as requested.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 77

30th August: Committee members received two position papers on Population/SRHR and Health in support of forthcoming HoC and HoL post 2015 MDG debates.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 78

4th September: Baroness Jenny Tonge received information on the new SS for ID, Justine Greening MP.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 79

6th September: Select members received information on the re-shuffle and new Ministers support for women's rights in the UK.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 80

11th September: Select members received an article by Kathleen Spencer Chapman, Head of UK government relations, Oxfam - on what does the reshuffle mean for developing countries.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 81

13th September: Select members received information about the cross party inquiry looking into the issue of unwanted pregnancy in the UK chaired by Amber Rudd MP supported by 2020health.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 82

13th September: Select members received information on Tony Blair's Faith Foundation and DFID's work with Faith Foundations.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 83

19th September: Baroness Jenny Tonge received a briefing on UN convention on the Right of the Child.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 84

27th September: All members received a briefing on DFID's partnership with Bayer HealthCare AG contraceptives for 27 Million women and girls.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 85

26th September: Geoffrey Clifton-Brown MP received a copy of the UK Prime Ministers speech at the London FP Summit as requested along with other key note speeches at the conference. He also received a copy of Guttmacher's and UNFPA's publication: Adding it up, Myanmar and Morocco FP/SRHR indicators and assorted articles as requested.

Please find briefings enclosed as appendix 86

2nd October: Committee members received an article on Jeremy Hunt MP's voting record on abortion rights.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 87

2nd October: Baroness Jenny Tonge received an article on Tessa Jowell MP and Sarah Brown, Patron of WRA 'sure start' initiative in the developing world.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 88

3th October: Select members received an article on Maria Miller MP and her statement on abortion.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 89

4th October: Select members received an article on FGC and the CPS meeting.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 90

12th October: All members received The Independent article on the science of abortion.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 91

16th October: Baroness Jenny Tonge received The Lancet research on Palestine and contraceptive uptake.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 92

22nd October: Baroness Jenny Tonge and Baroness Jenkin received an analysis and briefing on the Economic Affairs Committee report: The Economic Impact and Effectiveness of Development Aid.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 93

22nd October: All HoC members received a briefing on FP/SRHR – MDG 2015 in support of Mark Lazaroqicz MP's debate in Westminster Hall on 23rd October.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 94

31st October: Baroness Jenny Tonge received information on US Aid and abortion.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 95

1st November: All members received The Guardian article: Abortion counselling review cancelled by Government.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 96

3rd November: Baroness Jenny Tonge received a briefing on US funding, rape as a weapon of war and abortion.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 97

12th November: Baroness Jenny Tonge received information on Tonio Borg and the potential of him being the new EU Commissioner for Health.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 98

12th November: Baroness Jenny Tonge received information on Population Matter's briefing sent to select peers in support of the forthcoming HoL post 2015 MDG ballet debate on 22nd November.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 99

14th November: All members received a copy of UNFPA's The State of World Population 2012 report entitled: By Choice, Not by Chance: FP, Human Rights and Development.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 100

15th November: Viscount Craigavon received briefings in support of the HoL post 2015 MDG ballet debate on 22nd November:..

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 101

20th November: Baroness Jenny Tonge received a briefing in support of the HoL post 2015 MDG ballet debate 22nd November.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 102

21st November: Baroness Jenny Tonge received a briefing on Population momentum and child marriage as requested.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 103

22nd November: Ann Clwyd MP received information on the FGM round table meeting with Keir Starmer as requested.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 104

23rd November: Baroness Jenny Tonge received an EPF analysis of votes for Mr Borg as the new EU Commissioner for Health

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 105

23rd November: Select members received reminder information of UNFPA State of the World Population report.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 106

26th November: Select members received a copy of the Royal Society event: Valuing nature: An audience with the Natural Capital Committee.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 107

26th November: Committee members were sent invitations to the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) High Level Meeting Side Event: Europe Aid and Beyond'. The event was held in collaboration with the Africa APPG. Keynote speeches were from OECD Secretary General Angel Gurría, Christian Friis Bach, the Danish Minister for Development Cooperation and Erik Solheim, the Chair-elect of the DAC.

Please find invitation enclosed as appendix 108

4th December: Heather Wheeler MP received information on child marriage in support of a follow up oral DFID PQ, as requested.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 109

6th December: All members received The Guardian article: UK aid budget takes hit in chancellor's autumn statement; George Osborne admits that weaker than expected economic growth will mean less money for international development.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 110

19th December: All members received a copy and summary of President Vladimir Putin annual address to the Federal Assembly of the State – 15 minutes of the 1.5 hr address was devoted to the demographic situation.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 111

2nd January: All HoL members received GJC and MSI briefings in support of the HoL 9th January 2013 debate on UK funding abortion care in armed conflict for rape victims.

Please find communications enclosed as appendix 112

9th January: Richard Ottaway MP received information in support of his Population Institute Media award presentation as requested.

16th January: All members received a copy of the EuroMapping 2012 booklet on DAC Official Development Assistance (ODA).

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 113

21st January: Richard Ottaway MP received a briefing on Mali's and Sahel's population as requested.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 114

23rd January: All member received The Guardian article: David Cameron's golden thread and the post 2013 MDG framework.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 115

31st January: All members received MSI's press release on Bill Gates annual letter and its reference to FP.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 116

31st January: All members received summary information and the RCM 2012 State of Maternity Services in the UK with an e-mail link to the full report.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 117

31st January: Baroness Jenny Tonge received two articles on Ethiopian Jews and coerced depo injections.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 118

7th February: Baroness Jenny Tonge received information on DFID opposition team's thoughts on the new post 2015 MDG framework.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 119

8th February: Committee members received a copy of the New York Times article on India vs. China vs. Egypt.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 120

12th February: Heather Wheeler MP received two briefings in support of the HoC debates on 14th February on sexual violence in conflict states and child marriage.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 121

20th February: Select members were sent National Health Service (NHS) briefings in response to regulations opening up in England's NHS to competition.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 122

22nd February: Baroness Jenny Tonge received the article: David Cameron's 'aid for military' comments slammed by a range of NGOs.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 123

1st March: Baroness Jenny Tonge received an article on Israeli Ethiopian birth control to be examined.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 124

5th March: Select members received NGO MDG post 2015 briefing in support of 14th March HoL population debate.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 125

6th March: Select HoC members received IPPF, MSI and EFP briefings for IWD debates in HoC and HoL chambers.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 126

6th March: All HoL members received information for the HoL IWD debate.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 127

7th March: Baroness Jenny Tonge received facts and statistics on FGM and Child Marriage in support of HoL debates.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 128

8th March: All members received Justine Greening MP, SS for ID IWD statement.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 129

12th March: Baroness Jenny Tonge received information on the World Health Organization (WHO) Europe health report – noting cancer overtaken cardiovascular disease regarding mortality in Europe.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 130

14th March. Committee members received info on MSI chief executive officer Dana Hovig leaving MSI and Michael Holscher serving as interim Chief Executive Officer (CEO) from 1st May 2013.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 131

14th March: Baroness Jenny Tonge received briefing for Lord Crisp's debate on Health Workers on 25th March.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 132

19th March: All members received information about UK's new sexual health improvement framework.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 133

22nd March: Baroness Flather received a briefing in support of the HoL debate on the APPG on Global Health report: '*All the Talents*'.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 134

22nd March: Baroness Jenny Tonge received a briefing from They Foundation on forced hysterectomies in India as requested.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 135

22nd March: Baroness Jenny Tonge received information on the updated DFID shadow team.

Please find briefing enclosed as appendix 136

Throughout the year topical oral PQs were disseminated to MPs for tabling in HoC and HoL. (full list of oral and written PQs can be found on the Group's website and under the parliamentary section in this report).

General Collaboration, Meetings and Correspondence

The Group continue to campaign and advocate for the full implementation of the ICPD PoA, with an increased focus on FP and population dynamics.

Enquiries to and about the Group and its parliamentary activities have been dealt with daily via e-mails and the phone. Many have been directed to the Group's website.

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

UNFPA; IPPF; MSI; Women and Children First UK, UK SRHR Network, Population Sustainability Network, Plan UK, WRA, FORWARD, Girls not Brides, Karma Nirvana and IKWRO, Result UK, Royal Society, Save the Children, Population Action International, International Medical Corps, Surrey Police child protection team, Director of Public Prosecution, Womankind, Myriad, Coca Cola, Unilever, Development Media International, ACCM (UK), Womankind, They Foundation, India; UK professional associations and colleges, academic institutions, national, regional and international APPGs on population and development; APPGs in the UK, US Trusts and Foundations and individuals working on SRHR issues.

Meetings

UNFPA

Members met and spoke formally and informally with Dr Osotimehin Babatunde UNFPA Executive Director including at the May 2012 IPCI ICPD PoA in Turkey and at the DFID's FP Summit in June 2012.

Throughout the year the Group has been in regular contact with UNFPA head office in New York as well as Northern office in Copenhagen. Main correspondence has related to the Rio+20 conference, the post 2015 MDG framework and the Groups child marriage hearings.

Please find sample communications enclosed as appendix 137

The Group responded to UNFPA's Nordic office enquiry on Child Marriage.

Please find communications enclosed as appendix 138

IPPF

Members met and spoke formally and informally with Tewodros Melesse, IPPF Executive including at the May 2012 IPCI ICPD PoA in Turkey, at DFID's FP Summit in June 2012 and the Group's world population day dinner on 11th June 2012.

Throughout the year the Group has been in regular contact with IPPF head office in London. Main correspondence related to the post 2015 MDG Framework, the Groups child marriage hearings and DFID's FP Summit. IPPF has also sent briefings to the Group for specific parliamentary debates and questions.

Please find sample communications enclosed as appendix 139

MSI

Members met and spoke formally and informally with Dana Hovig, then MSI Chief Executive including at DFID's FP Summit in June 2012 and the Group's dinner in the evening.

Throughout the year the Group has been in regular contact with MSI head office in London and in contact with the MSI Myanmar office in relation to the Myanmar July 2013 study tour. Several briefing papers pertinent to HoC and HoL debates were received with short notice. Joint parliamentary briefing events were also organised (please see Group parliamentary briefing meeting section for further information).

The Group also communicated with MSI in response to Lynne Featherstone MP's visit to MSI's Uganda programme, the Group's child marriage hearings, the May 2013 G8 Parliamentary Conference, the establishment of an Afghanistan APPG on PD and briefing meetings on abortion services in conflict zones.

Please find sample communications enclosed as appendix 140

SRHR Network

The Group has been in contact and communicated with the UK SRHR Network during the year. Of particular interest are the networks activities surrounding the Rio+20 conference and post 2015 MDG framework. The Network also received information about Justine Greening MP, the newly appointed SS for ID.

Please find sample communications enclosed as appendix 141

Women and Children First (UK)

The Group has been in contact with WCF (UK) this year mainly in connection with parliamentary briefing meetings.

The Royal Society

The Group communicated and met with the Royal Society team several times this year to discuss collaboration surrounding their 'People and Planet' publication and launch in April 2012. A parliamentary briefing meeting was organised to launch their Paper in Parliament (please see the Group's parliamentary briefing meeting section for further information).

Please find sample communications enclosed as appendix 142

Rio+20 SRHR NGOs

The Group was a member of the Rio+20 SRHR list serve and received briefings in support of parliamentary debates and questions.

Please find sample communications enclosed as appendix 143

International Medical Corps

Advisor met with the International Medical Corps in April 2012 for a briefing on its International humanitarian activities on reproductive health. Funding for reproductive health and safe abortion services for survivors of sexual violence in fragile states were discussed.

Please find sample communications enclosed as appendix 144

PLAN UK, WRA, FORWARD, ACCM (UK) Girls not Brides, Karma Nirvana and IKWRO

The Group met regularly throughout the year with representatives of the Group's child marriage hearing steering committee, including Plan UK, WRA, FORWARD, ACCM (UK), Girls not Brides, Karma Nirvana and IKWRO. (For further information, please see child marriage under the Hearings section).

Surrey Police child protection team

Baroness Jenny Tonge and advisor met with the Surrey Police child protection team in April 2012 to discuss their work prior to a meeting organised with Keir Starmer, Director of the CPS (please see FGM under the Hearings section for further information).

Please find sample communications enclosed as appendix 145

Director of Public Prosecution

Baroness Tonge wrote and requested a meeting with Keir Starmer, Director of CPS following the HoL debate in April 2012. Other interested MPs/Peer were invited to the meeting including, Jane Ellison MP the new chair of the APPG on FGM (please see FGM under the Hearings section for further information).

Please find communications enclosed as appendix 146

Result UK

Advisor met with Result UK in May 2012 for a briefing on their activities and a discussion surrounding a possible joint meeting on Tuberculosis (TB) and Maternal Health.

International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC)

Baroness Jenny Tonge and advisor met with the ICRC in March 2013, a substantial recipient of UK ODA, to discuss access to abortion services in conflict and fragile states (please see the Group Parliamentary briefing meetings section for further information).

Baroness Jenny Tonge also tabled below PQs:

Baroness Tonge To ask HMG what humanitarian aid funding they allocated to the ICRC in (1) 2009, (2) 2010, (3) 2011, and (4) 2012.

Baroness Northover: Humanitarian aid funding to the ICRC has been allocated as follows: (1) 2009-£53.25 million, (2) 2010-£49.7 million, (3) 2011-£99.9 million, and (4) 2012-£59.2 million.

Deeyah – film producer

Baroness Jenny Tonge and advisor met with Deeyah, a film producer in March 2013 to discuss child marriage. Deeyah recently made a film Banaz screened on ITV in 2012 about the honour killing of a young British Kurdish woman Kanaz Mahmod.

Film available here: <http://fuuse-films.com/>

Background information available here: <http://deeyah.com/about-deeyah/>

She requested the meeting in response to the Group's hearings on the subject and her research into a new film on child marriage.

Please find sample communications enclosed as appendix 147

Stuart Basten

The Group met on several occasions with Stuart Basten, an independent population expert in connection with his parliamentary population publication and his application for the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), the future research leaders' grant.

Please find communications enclosed as appendix 148

They Foundation, India

Baroness Jenny Tonge met with Ishita Chaudhry of the They Foundation in November 2012 at an RCOG event, where she was introduced to the issue of forced hysterectomies in India. A briefing was received and followed up with a written PQs as follows:

Baroness Tonge: To ask HMG whether they have taken steps to ensure that DFID -supported programmes in India do not support forced hysterectomies.

Baroness Northover: There is some evidence that poor women in India are misled to undergo hysterectomy by doctors in the largely unregulated private sector. UK aid supported health programmes are helping state Governments to regulate private healthcare providers and give health advice to poor women so that coercion in health services is less likely to happen.

Please find communication and research enclosed as appendix 149

Interact Worldwide

The Group met with Interact Worldwide representatives this year in connection with the G8 Parliamentary conference in May 2013 and ODA, which resulted in the following PQs:

Baroness Tonge: To ask HMG what was the DFID project-specific and earmarked funding for UNFPA in (1) 2008–09, (2) 2009–10, (3) 2010–11, and (4) 2011–12.

Baroness Northover: DFID made project-specific and earmarked funding to the UNFPA in the period 2008 to 2012 as follows:

2008-09—£10,257,440;
2009-10—£22,641,471;
2010-11—£44,224,007; and
2011-12—£85,370,935.

Part of this funding is specifically earmarked to support the Global Programme to Enhance Reproductive Health Commodity Security (GPRHCS). A breakdown of funding for this is shown below:

2008-09—£5,000,000;
2009-10—£20,000,000;
2010-11—£25,000,000; and
2011-12—£65,000,000.

Baroness Tonge: To ask HMG what was the DFID's bilateral spending on reproductive health and FP in (1) 2008–09, (2) 2009–10, (3) 2010–11, and (4) 2011–12.

Baroness Northover: DFID's bilateral spending on reproductive health and FP in (1) 2008-09, (2) 2009-10 and (3) 2010-11 is detailed below.

	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Reproductive Health Care (£k)	36,466	43,196	47,962
Family Planning (£k)	8,075	15,252	31,082

Baroness Tonge: To ask HMG which five countries received the most bilateral funding for reproductive health and FP from the DFID in (1) 2008–09, (2) 2009–10, (3) 2010–11, and (4) 2011–12; and what amount each of these countries received.

Baroness Northover: The five countries which received the most bilateral funding for reproductive health and FP from the DFID in (1) 2008-09, (2) 2009-10 and (3) 2010-11 are listed below together with the amounts disbursed.

Year	Country	Sector	Amount (£k)
2010-11	India	Reproductive Health Care	10,089
2010-11	Sierra Leone	Reproductive Health Care	2,804
2010-11	Kenya	Reproductive Health Care	2,274
2010-11	Zimbabwe	Reproductive Health Care	1,660
2010-11	Ethiopia	Reproductive Health Care	1,561

Year	Country	Sector	Amount (£k)
2010-11	India	Family Planning, Health	9,987
2010-11	Tanzania	Family Planning, Health	6,508
2010-11	Uganda	Family Planning, Health	5,695
2010-11	Ethiopia	Family Planning, Health	4,541
2010-11	Malawi	Family Planning, Health	2,054
2009-10	India	Reproductive Health Care	11,308
2009-10	Zimbabwe	Reproductive Health Care	2,473
2009-10	Kenya	Reproductive Health Care	2,193
2009-10	Sierra Leone	Reproductive Health Care	1,805
2009-10	Ethiopia	Reproductive Health Care	686
2009-10	India	Family Planning, Health	11,365
2009-10	Sierra Leone	Family Planning, Health	1,805
2009-10	Ethiopia	Family Planning, Health	1,278
2009-10	Malawi	Family Planning, Health	400
2009-10	Cambodia	Family Planning, Health	175
2008-09	India	Reproductive Health Care	16,054
2008-09	Nigeria	Reproductive Health Care	3,108
2008-09	Kenya	Reproductive Health Care	2,131
2008-09	Zimbabwe	Reproductive Health Care	2,111
2008-09	Pakistan	Reproductive Health Care	1,753
2008-09	Pakistan	Family Planning, Health	1,871
2008-09	Ethiopia	Family Planning, Health	754
2008-09	Sierra Leone	Family Planning, Health	413
2008-09	Uganda	Family Planning, Health	412
2008-09	Cambodia	Family Planning, Health	201

Population Matters

The Group met with Population Matters this year at various briefing meetings and corresponded with press activities and web links.

Life for African Mothers

Baroness Jenny Tonge met with Angela Groman, Chief Executive Officer of Life for African Mothers at the RCOG child marriage event on 8th March 2012. Obstetric emergency drugs and funding opportunities for small UK NGOs were discussed.

Correspondence

Derek Bodell

The Group provided advised to Derek Bodell, an independent consultant, with regards to various conferences he was involved in.

Development Media International (DMI)

The Group communicated with Cathryn Wood, Public Engagement & Innovation Manager, from DMI. DMI uses radio and television to change behaviours and save lives in developing countries.

Please find communications enclosed as appendix 150

Womankind

Baroness Jenny Tonge received communication from Womankind in response to her HoL speech on survivors of rape in conflict in January 2013.

Please find communications enclosed as appendix 151

Population Action International (PAI)

The Group completed PAI's David and Lucile Packard Foundation 'landscape assessment' survey on FP and reproductive health as requested.

Please find survey enclosed as appendix 152

International Museum of Motherhood

The Group continued its collaboration with the International Museum on Motherhood – MAMA's exhibition information was added to the Group's website.

Coca Cola, Myriad (Durex) and Unilever

The Group sent several letters to Coca Cola, Myriad and Unilever this year inviting representatives for tea in the HoL to discuss FP and corporate responsibility. After numerous unsuccessful contacts the Group successfully made contact with Coca Cola and Myriad representatives via the APPG on corporate responsibility. A meeting was set up with Reckitt Benckiser now representing Durex in July 2013, However Coca Cola representatives were still unwilling to meet.

Unilever sent a letter to the Group noting that their corporate responsibility does not relate to FP.

Please find communications enclosed as appendix 153

Christine McCafferty

The Group remains in contact with Christine McCafferty, previous Chair of the Group. A briefing was sent in June 2012 in support of her presentation in Athens at the European Society of Contraception on 'Self-determination of women vs. paternalistic attitudes'.

Please find communications enclosed as appendix 154

Garvin Horwich, Manchester University student

The Group was contacted by Garvin Horwich, a student, requesting population information in support of his dissertation, which was provided.

Please find communications enclosed as appendix 155

Royal Wotton Bassett Academy

The Group was contacted by the Royal Wotton Bassett Academy in February 2013 requesting Baroness Jenny Tonge's support for their Burma project which was granted.

Please find communications enclosed as appendix 156

Consultations

DFID Select Committee consultation on the post 2015 Development Goals, September 2012

The Group submitted written evidence to DFID Select Committee consultation into the post 2015 Development Goals to raise awareness of the importance of the inclusion of FP and SRHR.

Please find correspondence and submission enclosed as appendix 157

EU consultation on the post 2015 Development Goals, September 2012

The Group submitted written evidence to the EU consultation into the post 2015 Development Goals to raise awareness of the importance of the inclusion of FP and SRHR.

Please find correspondence enclosed as appendix 158

WHO consultation on the World We Want – Health in the Post-2015 Development Agenda, October 2012

The Group submitted written evidence to the WHO consultation on Health in the post 2015 development agenda to raise awareness of the importance of the inclusion of FP and SRHR.

Please find correspondence enclosed as appendix 159

DFID Select Committee inquiry into food security, November 2012

The Group submitted written evidence to DFID Select Committee consultation on food security to highlight the importance of meeting the unmet need for FP to ensure population stabilisation and food security.

Please find enclosed correspondence and submission as appendix 160

DFID shadow team consultation on the post 2015 MDG Framework, 22nd January 2013.

The Group submitted written evidence to the DFID shadow team consultation on the post 2015 MDG framework to raise awareness of the importance of inclusion of FP and SRHR.

Please find correspondence enclosed as appendix 161

DFID Select Committee inquiry into violence against women and girls, February 2013.

The Group submitted written evidence to the DFID Select Committee inquiry on violence against girls to raise awareness of child marriage.

Please find correspondence and submission enclosed as appendix 162

UK Labour Party Policy Commission post 2015, February 2013

The Group submitted written evidence to the UK Labour Party Policy Commission to its inquiry on the 2015 agenda and raised the importance of including FP and SRHR as part of the agenda.

Please find correspondence enclosed as appendix 163

Press

On 30th May 2012 advisor and assistant attended a one day media training course on press releases and related press activities.

Please find training course certificate enclosed as appendix 164

The Group continued its press activities to help engage new members and inform the press of Group activities.

The Group trawls through daily SRHR/population press articles and responds when relevant via letters or comments.

Press releases continue to be disseminated at special parliamentary events and report releases. Interviews have been set up with editors when relevant and possible.

A full list of press activities can be found below:

22nd April 2012: Baroness Jenny Tonge was interviewed as part of a news broadcast on Skynews on FGM.

Please find FGM briefings enclosed as appendix 165

21st June 2012: Baroness Jenny Tonge and advisor met with Maria Polachowska, BBC Newsnight to discuss child marriage.

Please find sample communications enclosed as appendix 166

22nd June 2012: Baroness Jenny Tonge held a telephone interview with Maria Caspani, Production editor, AlertNet, TrustLaw Women, Thomson Reuters Foundation regarding child marriage, which resulted in a publication on 27th June.

Please find communications and article enclosed as appendix 167

26th June: The Group contacted Sarah Boseley in response to her Guardian article on HIV/AIDs, highlighting the linkage between child marriage and HIV/AIDs.

Please find sample communications enclosed as appendix 168

28th June: The Group contacted David Blair, congratulating him on his 28th June Telegraph article: "One million teenage girls 'suffer death or injury from pregnancy'. The Group's child marriage hearings and other activities were highlighted.

Please find communications enclosed as appendix 169

4th July: The Group was contacted by Jaz Cummins, Community Coordinator – Global Development, The Guardian with regards to their new two week project which will map views on barriers to contraception access.

Please find communications enclosed as appendix 170

10th July: The Group in collaboration with EPF published and disseminated a press release and an Op-ed in connection with the London FP Summit. The Op-ed was published in the Huffington Post on 23rd July.

Please find article enclosed as appendix 171

25th September: The Group disseminated a press release in connection with World Contraception Day.

Please find press release enclosed as appendix 172

5th October: The Group in collaboration with EPF disseminated an Op-ed in connection with the International Day of the Girl.

Please find Op-ed enclosed as appendix 173

At the Group's committee meeting in October 2013 Baroness Jenkin suggested the Group start a twitter account, in order to reach a bigger audience. This was seconded by all members present.

27th November: Numerous press activities took place in connection with the Group's Child Marriage Hearing Report launch (please see child marriage under Hearings section for further information).

15th January: Richard Ottaway MP received the Population Institute Media award at its annual ceremony in Washington, USA on 15th January 2013. The Award was given in recognition of his work on advocacy for population issues via his paper: Sex, Ideology and Religion – 10 Myths about population growth. He presented the paper and gave the key note speech at the ceremony to members, guests and funders of The Institute.

Please find draft speech enclosed as appendix 174

23rd January: Baroness Jenny Tonge sent a letter to The Guardian in response to the article: "Meaning of David Cameron's golden thread must be untangled, MPs say".

Please find letter sent enclosed as appendix 175

13th February: The Group in collaboration with EPF released a press release in connection to Valentine's Day. Messages were also tweeted.

Please find press release enclosed as appendix 176

7th March: The Group released a press release on survivors of sexual violence in conflict and the provision of safe abortion services in connection with International Women's Day.

Please find press release enclosed as appendix 177

11th March: Baroness Jenny Tonge and advisor met with Deeyah, an independent film produced to discuss child marriages (please see general collaboration, meetings and correspondence section for further information).

Parliamentary Statements, Legislation, Debates, Early Day Motions (EDMs) and Questions

The UK Coalition Government remains explicit in its support for international FP and SRHR and the Group has held the Government accountable to its promises via debates, EDMs and PQs. Below you will find relevant statements, debates, EDMs and PQs including from the opposition (please see the Group's website for further information).

House of Commons (HoC)

Oral Ministerial Statements

Equal Marriage Consultation, 11th December 2012

Maria Miller MP, Minister for Women and Equalities, made a statement about the Government's proposals to allow same-sex couples to marry and to announce the publication of the consultation report.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 178

Written Ministerial Statements

Tackling Sexual Violence in Conflict, 12th June 2012

The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, William Hague MP, announced the Government's new initiative on tackling sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations. He said that the Government believes that tackling sexual violence is central to conflict prevention and peace-building and stated that the Government is committed to tackling such violence and building on the work of Security Council Resolutions and the work of NGOs and charities to end a culture of impunity for sexual violence and instead establish a culture of deterrence.

He announced that the Government would establish a team of UK experts devoted to combating and preventing sexual violence in conflict who can be deployed overseas at short notice to gather evidence and support investigations and prosecutions. This team will also support the UN and other international missions in training and mentoring national authorities to develop appropriate laws and capabilities to deal with these issues.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 179

International Development – Departmental Annual Report and Accounts, 25th June 2012

The then SS for ID, Andrew Mitchell MP, announced the publication of the annual report and accounts for 2011-12 for DFID. He noted that the Department had been able to report clear and quantifiable results due to established systems to measure and track progress in UK aid. He also announced the new logo of the Department, which was designed in-house at no extra cost to the taxpayer.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 180

Abortion Providers (Inspections), 12th July 2012

Andrew Lansley MP, SS for Health, announced that the Care Quality Commission (CQC) undertook a series of unannounced inspections of abortion clinics following reports of potential breaches in the Abortion Act 1967. The CQC has published its findings on their website and that they found evidence of issues with consistency and completeness of HSA1 forms in the investigation. Investigation of these issues by the police, General Medical Council and Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) are on-going. Meanwhile, the Government will work with the CQC and professional bodies to address the findings of the investigations.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 181

NMC Grant, 16th October 2012

Daniel Poulter MP, PUSS for Health, announced that the Government have offered a one-off grant of £20 million to the NMC to support it to improve its performance in dealing with fitness to practice cases.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 182

India (Aid), 9th November 2012

The SS for ID, Justine Greening MP, announced that the UK's programme of aid to India will end by 2015. This reflects India's rapid growth and development progress in the last decade and its own growing ability to finance development programmes. She said that the continuing relationship between the two countries would be based on trade rather than aid.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 183

Birth Environment (Improvements), 12th November 2012

Daniel Poulter MP, PUSS for Health, announced a £25 million in capital funding in 2012-13 for the NHS to improve birthing environments in maternity units where it is needed the most. He said it was important for all women to be able to give birth in a safe, high quality environment best suited to them.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 184

Rwanda, 30th November 2012

The SS for ID, Justine Greening MP, announced that she would not be releasing £21 million in aid to Rwanda that was due to be paid in December. The decision was based on evidence that the Rwandan government had supported the M23 rebel group in eastern DRC, which constitutes a breach of DFID's partnership principles. She said DFID would remain engaged with President Kabila's government and that they urged him to work with the UK to find long-term solutions.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 185

Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (HFEA) and Human Tissue Authority, 25th January 2013

Anna Soubry MP, PUSS for Health, announced the publication of the Department of Health's (DoH) response on the 'Consultation on Proposals to Transfer Functions from the HFEA and the Human Tissue Authority'. She noted that they have decided based on the consultation not to transfer functions and commissioned an independent review on the functions of each authority, which will report in April 2013.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 186

Rwanda, 1st March 2013

The SS for ID, Justine Greening MP, said that further to the announcement of suspension of general budget support to Rwanda and following work to look at reprogramming funds to support the poorest groups in Rwanda, she has agreed to the reprogramming of £16 million to projects that will directly reach the poorest Rwandans.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 187

Violence against Women and Girls Action Plan 2013, 7th March 2013

Theresa May MP, SS for the Home Department, announced the publication of the Government's updated action plan on violence against women and girls on International Women's Day. She said that the action plan confirms the Government's on-going commitment to stop the violence and abuse which blights the lives of too many women and girls.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 188

Review of Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE), 21st March 2013

Elizabeth Truss MP, PUSS for Education, announced that the Department for Education was publishing outcomes of its internal review of PSHE education. She said that while the Government believes all schools should teach PSHE, it remains a non-statutory subject.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 189

Independent Commission for Aid (ICA) Impact, 21st March 2013

The SS for ID, Justine Greening MP, announced that DFID would shortly commence its triennial review of its oversight arrangements for the ICA Impact.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 190

Legislation

Surrogate Parents (Leave, Pay and Allowance Arrangements), 17th April 2012

John Healey MP brought forward a motion for a Bill to make provision to introduce leave, pay and allowance arrangements for parents of children born through surrogacy.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 191

Relationship, Drug and Alcohol Education (Curriculum), 17th October 2012

Diana Johnson MP brought forward a motion for a Bill to require the SS to make provisions for the inclusion of relationship, drug and alcohol education within the National Curriculum. She argued that these topics should be made compulsory in schools to ensure that PSHE teachers are adequately trained and to ensure children have access to good quality, age-appropriate education on relationships, drugs and alcohol. Reference was made to the National Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) research which showed that one in three young women have suffered from an abusive relationship and she argued that better education on relationships would help tackle this.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 192

Family Perinatal Support and Adoption, 7th November 2012

Andrea Leadsom MP brought forward a motion for a Bill to require the SS to provide appropriate perinatal support to any family expecting a child who will be born on the child protection register and for whom an adoption plan has not been made at the moment the child is entered onto the register and to require that a decision be made no later than one year after the child's birth as to whether or not such a child will be adopted.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 193

Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Bill, 5th February 2013

Maria Miller MP, Minister for Women and Equalities, begged to move that the Bill be read a second time. She said that this Bill would enable society to recognise the commitment between same-sex couples. She also noted differences in opinion on equal marriage amongst religious communities.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 194

Debates

Rio+20 Summit, 26th June 2012

The Deputy Prime Minister, Nick Clegg MP, led a debate on the Rio+20 Summit, where 196 nations met twenty years on from the original Earth Summit. He noted that while

important progress had been made on reducing poverty and protecting the environment, the ambitions of the original summit had not been met.

He reported that while the Summit was not an unqualified success on all fronts, the Government had made progress on the key areas that the UK sees as the priority for sustainable development and green growth. He said that at the summit, the UK Government had played a crucial role in leading on four important shifts. First, this is the first time that a multilateral document expressing such strong support for the green economy has been agreed. That in itself is a major achievement recognising that, in the long term, greening our economies should not conflict with growing them. Secondly, Rio+20 recognised that we need to develop broader measures of progress to complement GDP in order to take account of the natural assets that will contribute to future prosperity—so-called GDP-plus. Thirdly, it was agreed to set up the sustainable development goals. The UK has been pushing hard to secure agreement ever since, and achieving it, even at this high outline level, was no mean feat. The UN Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon, said that the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) should draw on the success of the MDGs and should be an integral part of the post-2015 development framework. Fourthly and finally, at Rio national Governments recognised the importance of working alongside businesses. Thanks in no small part to the leadership of UK firms, Rio recognised the role of corporate sustainability reporting to their shareholders and to prospective investors—something that would have been inconceivable even a year ago.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 195

MDGs, 3rd July 2012

Virendra Sharma MP noted that around 24 million children worldwide grow up without parental care. He said that the failure to provide care and protection for children is hindering progress in achieving many of the MDGs and that future development goals must recognise and eradicate previous mistakes. He said that child protection systems are crucial to ensuring the protection of children without parental care and these need to be addressed in any new development goals. He noted the importance of preventing HIV/AIDS and child marriage in protecting the health of children and infants and stated that early and forced sexual activity amongst children often meant a lack of control and contraceptive use.

Alan Duncan MP, Minister of State for International Development said that the Government is actively working to ensure improvements in the lives of the poorest and most vulnerable people in the world including children without parental care. He also outlined DFID's orphans and vulnerable children programme, which is reaching more than 55,000 households.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 196

FGM, 5th July 2012

Jane Ellison MP led a debate on FGM following a Sunday Times undercover investigation into the procurement of FGM in the UK. She asked why it was only through a newspaper investigation, rather than through police or professional bodies, that the resultant prosecutions came about. She also noted the need for updated data on prevalence of FGM and cited figures that suggest a rise in prevalence in this county. She asked for ministers to join her in encouraging MPs with at-risk girls in their constituencies to ask questions about this issue, especially when visiting schools. She also asked for an update on progress on ensuring UK border staff is familiar with FGM safeguarding guidelines.

Lynne Featherstone MP, Minister for Equalities, agreed that FGM is an unacceptable form of abuse against girls and women. She said that preventing FGM is at the heart of the Government's agenda and that this summer, leaflets have been distributed to children's centres in London to raise awareness and that police are receiving refresher trainings on the issue. She also recommended that MPs push their schools to be more proactive on the issue. She also noted that the DoH is working to ensure health professionals are prepared to deal with FGM appropriately and that a short film on FGM will be launched on the NHS Choices website.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 197

Development Aid (Legislation), 11th July 2012

Stephen Timms MP led a debate on progress to enshrine in law the commitment to spend 0.7% of GNI on international development assistance.

Andrew Mitchell MP, SS for ID, reiterated that the Bill is ready and will be introduced when parliamentary time allows. Stephen Timms MP noted that the Bill had not been mentioned in the Queen's Speech, to which Andrew Mitchell MP replied again that as soon as the business managers say there is a slot for the Bill, it will be introduced. Andrew Mitchell MP also made reference to the FP Summit and noted the intention to halve the number of women in developing countries who have an unmet need for contraception.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 198

Immigration, 6th September 2012

Nicholas Soames MP called on the Government to take all necessary steps to reduce immigration to a level that will stabilise the UK's population to its current level, or less than 70 million. The debate was introduced in response to a petition published by Migration Watch UK, which he said indicated the grave public concern about the scale of immigration to the UK. He said that if net migration continues at current levels the UK population will hit 70 million in fifteen years' time.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 199

Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), 22nd October 2012

Pauline Latham MP led a debate on the situation in the DRC. She noted the lives lost through conflict, the intense poverty, low life expectancy and high infant mortality rate in the country. The fact that aid to Rwanda has been reinstated, despite suggestions that Rwanda is aiding rebels in eastern Congo was discussed.

Hugo Swire MP, Minister of State for the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), noted that the UK is one of the largest contributors of development aid to the DRC with the specific aim of reaching the poorest and most vulnerable. Reference was also made to the Government's strategy on combating and preventing sexual violence on conflict.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 200

Post-2015 Development Agenda, 22nd October 2012

Mark Lazarowicz MP, led a debate on what will happen in 2015 following the deadline for the MDGs. He asked whether entirely new goals should be agreed, whether the MDGs should inform the new goals and what the relationship would be to the SDG discussed at Rio+20.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 201

Induced Abortion, 31st October 2012

David Crausby MP chaired a Westminster Hall debate on induced abortion introduced by Nadine Dorries MP. She argued that it was time to debate the original Act, including the time limit on when abortion is available.

Reference was made to the unannounced inspections of abortion clinics made earlier in the year by the CQC, to discussions about lowering the time limit on abortion and the opening of a MSI clinic in Northern Ireland.

Anna Soubry MP, PUSS for Health, said that the best way to achieve the common goal of reducing numbers of abortions in the UK was through better contraception and empowering young people to make choices in their sexual relationships. She also noted that a study by EPICure found that survival rates of babies born at 21 weeks were 0%, 1% at 22 weeks, 11% at 23 weeks and that of the two born at 22 weeks' gestation who survived, one had a severe disability and the other a minor disability.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 202

Stillbirth Certification, 31st October 2012

Chris Heaton-Harris MP led a Westminster Hall debate on stillbirth certification. He noted that the UK comes 33rd out of 35 high-income nations for stillbirth rates and noted the need for better data on stillbirth and its causes. He argued that having the flexibility for parents to be able to choose to have a birth and death certificate for babies born after 24 weeks of pregnancy would help them with their grief.

Daniel Poulter MP, PUSS for Health, agreed that there is a need for more research on stillbirth and added that the Government must continue to do more to support affected families. He noted that research is taking place, but that it is important to ensure information is shared with parents and health professionals.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 203

Overseas Aid (UK-Based Consultants), 20th November 2012

Diane Abbott MP led a Westminster Hall debate on the growing phenomenon of UK-based management consultancies 'creaming off millions of pounds from the aid budget'. She said that she supported the Government's commitment to spend 0.7% of GNI on development aid, but was concerned about how aid is spent.

Lynne Featherstone MP, PUSS for ID, said that the important point was value for money in aid spending. She pointed out that DFID have extensive means of assessing value for money and constantly review the programmes they fund.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 204

Sexual Health Data, 13th December 2012

Ann Coffey MP led a debate on the use of sexual health data in identifying warning signs of the sexual exploitation and abuse of children. She noted that pregnancies, repeated STIs and terminations could all be signs of child sexual exploitation.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 205

HIV (Developing Countries), 19th December 2012

Pauline Latham MP led a Westminster Hall debate on the rights, risks to and health of people with HIV in developing countries.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 206

FGM, 8th January 2013

Karl Turner MP led a Westminster Hall debate on FGM, noting that the Government has estimated that 20,000 girls under 15 in England and Wales are at risk of FGM. He asked why there has still not been a prosecution for the practice despite having been a specific criminal offence since 1985.

Jane Ellison MP made reference to a recent expose on the practice and explained that prosecution was not possible in this particular case. She suggested that going after aiders and abettors of FGM was a promising route in securing convictions. Heather Wheeler MP spoke about ensuring that medical professionals are compelled to report cases of FGM. A lack of accurate data on the practice was also discussed.

Helen Grant MP, PUS for Justice, said that the Government roundly condemns the practice of FGM and described it as a gross violation of human rights. She said that removing barriers to prosecution had been discussed by the DPP and the Home Office and Ministry of Justice and that the matter would be kept under review. She also welcomed the recent action plan published by the DPP and noted the importance of a joined-up approach across the Government to FGM.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 207

Neonatal Care, 6th February 2013

Chris Heaton-Harris MP led a Westminster Hall debate on neonatal care. He noted that one in nine babies born in the UK is born premature or sick and that we therefore need to have a service that is fit for purpose and provides the best possible care to premature and sick babies and their families.

The PUS for Health, Daniel Poulter MP, said that the Government is already focusing on and improving neonatal care within the health service. He noted the importance of midwifery-led units and facilitating patient choice in maternity care. He said he will soon be working on the setting up of the Health Education England mandate, which will be responsible for training health care professionals and that he will look into ensuring neonatal care is prioritised on that mandate.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 208

Violence against Women and Girls, 14th February 2013

Fiona McTaggart MP begged to move that the House notes the One Billion Rising campaign and called on the Government to support this by introducing statutory provisions to make PSHEE, including a zero tolerance approach to violence and abuse in relationships, a requirement in schools.

Heather Wheeler MP spoke in this debate about protecting girls and women from the violence of forced marriage, noting that UNFPA figures suggest that by 2020, if child marriage prevalence trends continue, 142 million girls will be married before they are adults. She said that in many places laws are in place to protect against child marriage, yet governments fail to implement them. She noted that as well as legislation, governments need to revise policies and laws on inheritance, property and divorce, as well as making provision for safe places and professional support for survivors of child marriage.

Reference was also made during the debate to FGM, sexualisation of children and One Billion Rising.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 209

Sexual Violence in Conflict, 14th February 2013

Nicola Blackwood MP begged to move that the House consider the matter of preventing sexual violence in conflict.

The SS for Foreign Affairs, William Hague MP, noted that the Government intends to use its presidency of the G8 to ensure this issue is prioritised and that more perpetrators of sexual violence in conflict are brought to justice. He also noted that the Foreign Office works with DFID to tackle violence against women and girls overseas and that they have recently created a specialist team who can be deployed to conflict areas to address sexual violence.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 210

UK's Development Work (Girls and Women), 7th March 2013

Justine Greening MP, SS for ID, spoke about DFID's work to support girls and women and discussed the UK's role at the UN Commission on the Status of Women, which is focused this year on eliminating violence against women and girls. Reference was made to DFID's work to eradicate FGM, increased funding to improve access to family planning and programmes to prevent unintended pregnancies.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 211

Fetal Anti-Convulsant Syndrome, 26th March 2013

Anas Sarwar MP led a Westminster Hall debate on the dangers of anti-convulsant medication to pregnant women and their unborn children.

The PUSS for Health, Anna Soubry MP, said that she will pursue the matter further with the Minister of State for Health.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 212

Oral Parliamentary Questions

Forced Marriage (Prosecutions), 22nd May 2012

Stephen Hepburn MP asked what recent assessment has been made of the effectiveness of prosecutions for forced marriage.

The Solicitor-General, Sir Edward Garnier MP, noted the Prime Minister's announcement that the UK Government would sign the CoE's convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence, which requires criminalising forced marriage. He added that although penalties for forcing marriage have yet to be established, they will be 'quite severe'.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 213

ODA, 23rd May 2012

Gregg McClymont MP asked whether the Government plan to spend 0.7% of the GNI on ODA by 2013.

Andrew Mitchell MP, then SS for ID, said that they would. He said that this is the first Government ever to set out this commitment and that the Bill to legislate for this commitment had been drafted and would proceed when there was enough parliamentary time.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 214

Women's Health (Egypt), 23rd May 2012

Helen Goodman MP asked what programmes DFID had put into place to improve women's health in Egypt.

Stephen O'Brien MP, PUSS ID, replied that the Department is focused on economic and political transition in Egypt through the Arab Partnership. While there is not currently a health programme in Egypt, he said that DFID is committed to improving women's health across the world, with particular emphasis on the poorest countries and most vulnerable women.

Helen Goodman MP went on to ask about what will happen to legal restrictions on FGM in Egypt with a change in constitution. Stephen O'Brien MP responded that FGM is at the top of DFID's agenda.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 215

Post-MDG Framework (Women and Girls), 23rd May 2012

Sharon Hodgson MP asked what steps had been taken to ensure that women and girls are central to any consultation on a post-MDG framework.

Stephen O'Brien MP, then PUSS for ID, noted that the Prime Minister has been asked to co-chair the high-level panel on the post-MDG framework and said the he was confident that the voices of women and girls will be heard.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 216

Sex Education, 18th June 2012

Philip Davies MP asked what assessment the education minister has made of the effectiveness of sex education in schools and whether he would make a statement.

Nick Gibb MP, Minister of State for Education, responded that in 2010, Ofsted reported that the overall effectiveness of PSHE was good or outstanding in three quarters of schools it visited. He said that the Government's review of PSHE has looked at the evidence, enabling them to consider how to improve the quality and effectiveness of sex education. He agreed that sex education materials should be age-appropriate and that schools should consult with parents about the materials they use to teach sex education. He also noted parents' right to withdraw their children from sex education and that the Department for Culture, Media and Sport is considering whether sex education materials should be subject to age-rating by the British Board of Film Classification.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 217

Forced Marriage, 28th June 2012

Jackie Doyle-Price MP asked what steps the Minister for Women and Equalities has taken to ensure that the criminalisation of forced marriage does not discourage victims from bringing complaints forward.

Theresa May MP, SS for the Home Department and Minister for Women and Equalities, said that criminalising this abhorrent act will give victims the option of seeking the highest form of justice. She said that, to ensure victims are not discouraged from coming forward, civil remedies will remain available to them and that the Government will provide a package of support to ensure that victims know what help is available to them.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 218

Democratic Republic of Congo, 31st October 2012

Ian Lucas MP asked what recent assessment DFID has made of the humanitarian implications of Rwanda's support for militia activity in eastern DRC.

Justine Greening MP, SS for ID, replied that the UN group of experts would report in November and that she will critically assess the situation when she makes the next decision on budget support in December.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 219

UK Aid (Uganda and Rwanda), 19th November 2012

Ivan Lewis MP asked the SS for ID if she will make a statement on UK aid to Uganda and Rwanda in light of renewed conflict by M23 rebels in Goma, eastern DRC and the announcement that she has suspended aid to Uganda as a result of serious allegations of corruption.

The SS for ID, Justine Greening MP, said that she and the Foreign Secretary are deeply concerned about the rapidly deteriorating security and humanitarian situation in eastern DRC caused by the military activities of the M23. She reiterated that she would be reviewing the evidence on aid to Rwanda and Uganda. Reference was also made to sexual violence in the Kivus.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 220

Development Spending Target, 12th December 2012

Ian Murray MP and Chris Ruane MP both asked how DFID plans to reach the Government's target to spend 0.7% of GNI on development aid by 2015.

The Minister of State for International Development, Alan Duncan MP, said that the Government was committed to the spending target and that the budget was sufficient to reach said target after the 2012 autumn statement adjustment.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 221

Sustainable Development Goals, 12th December 2012

Simon Wright MP asked what progress DFID has made on developing SDGs.

The PUSS for ID, Lynne Featherstone MP, said that the Government was working internationally to secure a single set of development goals for the period after 2015, incorporating the sustainable development priorities that were agreed at Rio+20 into the next set of development goals.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 222

Global Fund, 12th December 2012

Gareth Thomas MP asked what DFID's strategy is on tackling HIV and supporting the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

The PUSS for ID, Lynne Featherstone MP, referred to the Government's position paper, 'Towards Zero Infections' and said the Government would continue to support the Fund as it implements key reforms and that this is key to achieving the MDGs.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 223

Departmental Value for Money, 12th December 2012

Karl McCartney MP asked what steps DFID is taking to ensure value for money in the Department.

The SS for ID, Justine Greening MP, said that she is determined to spend aid effectively and that the Department is looking at how to spend the money better. She also talked about pushing the EU on oversight over their budget.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 224

Midwives, 15th January 2013

Rehman Chishti MP asked what steps the DoH is taking to support the training and recruitment of midwives.

The PUSS for Health, Daniel Poulter MP, said that the Government is committed to ensuring that the number of midwives in training matches the needs generated by the birth rate. He added that there are 800 more midwives working in the NHS since May 2010 and a further 5000 in training.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 225

Sexual Health Policy, 15th January 2013

Nick Smith MP asked when the DoH would publish its new sexual health policy document.

Minister of State for Health, Norman Lamb MP, said that the document would be published shortly. The ability of Primary Care Trusts to deliver effective sexual health services with a delay in publishing the document and the changes in commission was discussed.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 226

Women's Health and Education (Afghanistan and Pakistan), 22nd January 2013

David Hanson MP and others asked what assistance is being provided to ensure access to education and healthcare for women in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Alistair Burt MP, PUSS for Foreign Affairs, said that access to health and education for women and girls in Afghanistan and Pakistan was a key priority for the Government. He said that real progress had been made with 57% of women now having access to healthcare within a one hour radius of their home as opposed to just 9% in 2002. Reference was made to violence against women in situations of conflict and post-conflict. Rehman Chishti MP also made reference to population growth and lack of access to FP in Pakistan, noting that 80% of maternal deaths there were preventable.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 227

Safety of Women (India), 22nd January 2013

Stella Creasy MP asked what representations had been made to the Government of India on the safety of women and the rule of law.

Hugo Swire MP, Minister of State for the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, said that these issues were regularly discussed with India and that women's rights were on the agenda for the next EU/India human rights dialogue. He said that the Government will stop at nothing to try to stamp out violence against women of any sort and noted that the Government will use its presidency of the G8 in 2013 to run a year-long campaign, led by the Foreign Secretary, on preventing sexual violence in armed conflicts.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 228

Aid Target, 30th January 2013

Fiona O'Donnell MP asked how DFID plans to reach its target of spending 0.7% of GNI.

Alan Duncan MP, Minister of State for International Development, replied that the Government is committed to spending 0.7% of GNI on ODA from 2013 and that with the 2012 autumn budget adjustment they are on track to meet this commitment.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 229

International Aid Targets, 30th January 2013

David Mowat MP asked what assessment the SS has made of the proportion of GDP spent on overseas aid by the UK compared to the equivalent spending by France and Germany.

Alan Duncan MP, Minister of State for ID, replied that in 2011, the UK spent 0.56% of GNI on ODA, while France spent 0.46% and Germany 0.39%. All three countries have committed to reach the 0.7% target by 2015.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 230

FGM, 6th February 2013

In Prime Minister's Questions, Jane Ellison MP asked, on the International Day of Zero Tolerance to FGM, whether the Prime Minister agreed that Britain should be doing everything it can to combat this dreadful abuse of women and girls here in the UK and overseas.

The Prime Minister said he completely agreed and that Government has made progress by chairing a forum on FGM including looking at what can be done through our aid programmes and what the CPS can do to ensure proper prosecution of perpetrators.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 231

FGM, 11th February 2013

Jane Ellison MP asked what recent steps had been taken to tackle FGM and whether there were plans to carry out an updated prevalence study of FGM.

Theresa May MP, SS for the Home Department, said that FGM is an abhorrent form of child abuse which the Government is committed to eradicating. She said that actions taken by the Government include piloting the declaration against FGM, issuing guidelines to frontline practitioners and providing funding to communities to tackle FGM themselves. She said that the Home Office and NSPCC have recently hosted a round-table and were considering various ways to collect updated data.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 232

FGM (Conviction Rates), 12th February 2013

Kerry McCarthy MP asked what recent discussions the Solicitor-General had had with the DPP on increasing the CPS' conviction rate for FGM.

Oliver Heald MP, Solicitor-General, replied that the DPP regularly briefs the Attorney-General and Solicitor-General on prosecutions for FGM and on the CPS' recent action plan on FGM.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 233

Violence against Women and Girls, 14th February 2013

Caroline Lucas MP asked what recent discussions the Home Office has had with the Department of Education on measures to end violence against women and girls.

Jeremy Browne MP, Minister of State for the Home Department, said that there had been a number of recent discussions on this issue including a round-table with police and crime commissioners and the Local Government Association on local commissioning as well as a recent round-table on FGM.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 234

Sexual Health Policy, 26th February 2013

Russell Brown MP asked what the reason is for the time taken to produce the Government's sexual health policy document and when it is expected to be published.

Anna Soubry MP, PUSS for Health, said that it would be published next month. She said that the delay in publishing the document was not preventing rightful commissioning at the local level.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 235

Alcohol Consumption (Pregnancy), 26th February 2013

Kelvin Hopkins MP asked what assessment the DoH has made of harm caused to babies by alcohol consumed during pregnancy and if the minister would make a statement.

Anna Soubry MP, PUSS for Health, said that foetal alcohol syndrome is a severe lifelong condition and foetal alcohol spectrum disorder is usually less severe but more widespread. She said the Government advice is that women who are pregnant or trying to become pregnant should not drink alcohol. She said that over-consumption of alcohol by pregnant women greatly concerns the Government and it is one of the reasons why they want to introduce minimum pricing for alcohol.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 236

Women's Rights in India and Pakistan, 6th March 2013

At Prime Minister's Questions, Mark Pritchard MP asked if, on International Women's Day, the Prime Minister would call upon the Indian and Pakistani governments to do more to uphold the rights of women and to advance the gender agenda.

The Prime Minister responded that the Government would work to do more to tackle FGM and forced marriages.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 237

FGM, 6th March 2013

Valerie Vaz MP asked the SS for Health what guidance the DoH gives on FGM to midwives and other health professionals.

Anna Soubry MP, PUSS for Health, replied that guidance for health professionals is contained in the Multi-Agency Practice Guidelines on FGM, published in 2011. She also noted that they have received assurance of support in implementing the guidance from the Royal Colleges and NHS agencies.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 238

Human Papilloma Virus, 6th March 2013

Nicholas Soames MP asked the SS for Health what discussions he has had with the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) on HPV genotyping and innovative technology in the NHS.

Anna Soubry MP, PUSS for Health, said that the SS for Health has not had those discussions with the SS for BIS.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 239

Overseas Aid (Private Sector Contracts), 11th March 2013

Ivan Lewis MP asked the SS for ID to make a statement on her department's policy on tied aid and the criteria applied to private sector contracts in light of briefings over the weekend and her recent speech to business leaders at the London Stock Exchange.

The SS for ID, Justine Greening MP, replied that there is no change in the Government's policy on tied aid and that DFID contracts are awarded in line with EU procurement regulations. The evaluation process for large contracts includes an assessment of technical and commercial criteria, which are published at the outset of the tender.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 240

Departmental Responsibilities (International Development), 13th March 2013

Kelvin Hopkins MP asked whether the SS for ID would make a statement on her departmental responsibilities.

The SS for ID, Justine Greening MP, outlined recent parliamentary activities including DFID's work on women and girls and attending the High-Level Panel on the post-2015 development goals in Monrovia. She also said they were investing in research on FGM to build an evidence base on the best way to eradicate the practice.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 241

Post-2015 Development Goals, 13th March 2013

David Blunkett MP asked at Prime Minister's Questions what progress has been made by the high level panel (HLP) on developing priorities for the post-2015 development goals.

The Prime Minister said he thought they should put the strongest emphasis on banishing extreme poverty and look for the golden thread of issues that help people and countries out of poverty.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 242

Post-2015 Development Agenda, 21st March 2013

Hugh Bayley MP led a Westminster Hall debate on the post-2015 development agenda as the High Level Panel has its last meeting in Indonesia before publishing its report. He also noted the Government's commitment to spend 0.7% of GNI on ODA. He stated his concern that this would mean a substantial increase within one year.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 243

Early Day Motions

EDM 62 – Group B Streptococcus, 15th May 2012

Mark Durkan MP

46 signatures

'That this House is concerned that the reported incidence of Group B streptococcus (GBS) infection in newborn babies in England, Wales and Northern Ireland increased by 32 per cent between 2003 and 2010; recognises that GBS is the most common cause of life-threatening infection in newborn babies in the UK; notes that without preventative action one in 1,000 newborn babies per year will develop GBS infection, of whom approximately 75 will die and 40 will survive with long-term problems; welcomes the current review of the benefits of a national screening programme being undertaken by the UK National Screening Committee; and further notes that where screening programmes have been introduced, including in the United States, Spain, Australia and France, reported cases of GBS infection in newborn babies have fallen by 86 per cent, 86 per cent, 82 per cent and 71 per cent respectively.'

Please find list of MPs signing EDM enclosed as appendix 244

EDM 64 – Group B Streptococcus (No. 2), 15th May 2012

Mike Hancock MP

39 signatures

'That this House notes that Group B streptococcus (GBS) is the most common cause of life-threatening infection in newborn babies in the UK and Ireland, affecting one in 2000 babies born every year; congratulates Group B Strep Support, the UK's only charity focused on GBS infection in newborn babies, on its continued work to raise awareness of the infection, testing and prevention; recognises that a small but growing number of NHS trusts have introduced ECM testing which is twice as effective as traditional HVS testing; is concerned that prevalence of deaths relating to GBS has been steadily rising since 2003; urges the DoH to ensure ECM testing is available urgently; and further supports both the efficacy of screening and the need for a vaccine made available on the NHS.'

Please find list of MPs signing EDM enclosed as appendix 245

EDM 74 – Supporting Mothers at Risk of Perinatal Depression, 16th May 2012

Annette Brooke MP

32 signatures

'That this House notes that currently there is an urgent gap in true early intervention services for new and expectant mothers suffering from mild to moderate mental health problems; further notes that ante natal and post natal depression effect on mothers' ability to relate to their baby and existing children and impacts on children's outcomes; further notes that the risk of domestic violence escalates during pregnancy which can cause and exacerbate existing mental health problems; further notes that the financial burden of a new baby on families can compound perinatal depression; congratulates the Government on the fact that the Family Nurse Partnership and the Health Visitor Programme make important contributions to meeting the needs of at risk mothers while recognising that they cannot respond to all those at risk; further notes that there should be a focus on investment in early intervention services and financial support in the perinatal period to improve children's outcomes which are disproportionately determined in babyhood; and further notes that the role of the Big Society and third sector services provided by Family Action, the Northamptonshire Parent Infant Project and the NCT can add value to the work of the statutory services by reaching out to more at risk new mothers, their babies and children.'

Please find list of MPs signing EDM enclosed as appendix 246

EDM 106 – FGM, 22nd May 2012

Valerie Vaz MP

54 signatures

'That this House notes that an estimated 80,000 women and girls in the UK are at risk of FGM (FGM), 24,000 of whom are girls under the age of 15 years; further notes that these procedures have no health benefits and are recognised internationally as a violation of human rights; acknowledges FGM as an important public interest issue, as it physically and mentally damages young women; further acknowledges there can be serious complications with pregnancy and childbirth if a woman has undergone FGM; welcomes the work of the FGM National Clinical Group; commends its encouragement of healthcare professionals including midwives, obstetricians, nurses, public health professionals, community workers, policy makers, police and others to work together to identify women and girls who are at risk, to support those who have already suffered and to prevent the practice of FGM; further welcomes the new legal guidance issued by the Crown Prosecution Service; looks forward to an increase from zero in the number of prosecutions brought for offences relating to FGM; and calls for politicians, professionals and communities to continue to work in partnership to bring an end to the practice of FGM.'

Please find list of MPs signing EDM enclosed as appendix 247

EDM 178 – NHS Maternity Services in England, 12th June 2012

Mark Field MP

33 signatures

'That this House welcomes the Government's pledge to improve NHS maternity services in England; notes the commitments that women will have one named midwife who will oversee their care during pregnancy and after they have had their baby, that every woman will have one-to-one midwife care during labour and birth and that parents-to-be will get the best choice about where and how to give birth; further notes that women who have postnatal depression or who suffer a miscarriage, stillbirth or the death of a baby will get more support from the NHS; and calls on the Government to ensure enough midwives are working in the NHS in England to honour these very positive commitments whilst continuing to cope with the ongoing baby boom.'

Please find list of MPs signing EDM enclosed as appendix 248

EDM 200 – Cervical Screening Awareness Week, 13th June 2012

Annette Brooke MP

58 signatures

'That this House notes that the UK is fortunate to have a cervical screening programme that is estimated to save 5,000 lives a year; further notes that despite cervical cancer being a largely preventable disease, 20 per cent of invited women do not attend cervical screening and there are worries that screening uptake is at a 10-year low; congratulates the work of Jo's Cervical Cancer Trust; and supports its call during Cervical Screening Awareness Week 2012 that everything possible should be done to ensure and encourage women to attend cervical screening when offered the opportunity to do so, including investment in targeted education and awareness campaigns, encouraging companies to allow employees to attend screening during working hours and for GP surgeries to provide flexible and innovative opportunities for women to be screened.'

Please find list of MPs signing EDM enclosed as appendix 249

EDM 250 – Hormone Pregnancy Test Drugs, 21st June 2012

Yasmin Qureshi MP

42 signatures

'That this House notes that children were born with serious deformities due to hormone pregnancy test drugs taken by expectant mothers between 1953 and 1975; further notes with concern that as the surviving victims enter their forties and fifties many of them face a host of new problems as their bodies continue to suffer; further notes that no official warnings were issued about these drugs until eight years after the first reports indicated possible dangers;

further notes that some doctors continued to prescribe the drugs for pregnant women after official warnings from the Committee on Safety of Medicines; further notes that the DoH in the past has continuously rejected requests for an inquiry into these matters; and calls on the Secretary of State for Health to set up an independent public inquiry.'

Please find list of MPs signing EDM enclosed as appendix 250

EDM 426 – HIV Self-Testing, 3rd September 2012

Caroline Lucas MP

34 signatures

'That this House notes that around one in four people living with HIV in the UK is undiagnosed, making them unable to benefit from treatment and statistically far more likely to pass on the virus; believes that increasing testing options would help to reduce undiagnosed HIV; further notes that early diagnosis of HIV saves the NHS money; welcomes the Food and Drug Administration's approval in July 2012 of the first HIV self-testing kit in the US; recognises that people in the UK are already buying illegal self-testing kits over the Internet from overseas, which are often of poor quality and lack important advice and information on pre- and post-test support; further recognises evidence from research by the Terrence Higgins Trust of demand for HIV self-testing kits amongst people at risk of HIV; and calls on the Secretary of State for Health to legalise HIV self-testing kits so that they can be properly regulated and those people who want to test themselves can do so safely with full and proper advice and information.'

Please find list of MPs signing EDM enclosed as appendix 251

EDM 496 – Day of the Girl, 11th September 2012

Graeme Morrice MP

35 signatures

'That this House celebrates the Day of the Girl on 11 October 2012 which was the result of extensive campaigning by Plan, the global children's charity committed to helping children from the world's poorest countries build a better future; recognises the link between girls' education and poverty; acknowledges that 70 per cent of those in poverty worldwide are female; notes that one in three girls around the world is denied an education as a result of poverty, conflict or discrimination; and supports Plan's Because I Am A Girl campaign which aims to help girls reach their full potential.'

Please find list of MPs signing EDM enclosed as appendix 252

EDM 543 – The Birth I Want Campaign, 18th September 2012

Dan Rogerson MP

18 signatures

'That this House welcomes the launch of the campaign by mothers, for mothers entitled The Birth I Want, which brings mothers and mothers-to-be to the forefront of the midwifery debate, ensuring that their personal experiences and knowledge of maternity and midwifery services are heard in the case for greatly improved maternity services tailored to the needs of each woman, supporting her through pregnancy and childbirth and beyond to achieve the best outcomes; notes that woman-centred care, led by the wants and needs of the woman is widely evidenced as the most effective way to deliver the best maternity services in terms of outcomes for the mother and child and in minimising unnecessary medical and surgical interventions and the associated costs to the NHS; further notes that successive governments have promised to deliver women-centred maternity care since the Changing Childbirth report recommendations in 1993, most recently in the statement by the Secretary of State for Health on 15 May 2012; but also notes that as yet no government has delivered on these promises; and calls on the Secretary of State to urgently publish clear, costed and timetabled plans to implement the approach as pledged.'

Please find list of MPs signing EDM enclosed as appendix 253

EDM 615 – Group B Streptococcus Infection, 22nd October 2012

Mike Hancock MP

38 signatures

'That this House notes that since the introduction of the Royal College of Obstetricians' and Gynaecologists' current risk factor-based strategy in 2003, the number of Group B Streptococcus (GBS) infections reported to the Health Protection Agency (HPA) in England, Wales and Northern Ireland has increased by almost a third, representing a 32 per cent increase over nine years; further notes that GBS now affects one in every 1,000 newborn babies, killing 75 and permanently disabling 40 more each year; recognises that GBS is the most common cause of life-threatening infection in newborn babies in the UK and Ireland; welcomes the UK National Screening Committee's (NSC) public consultation and the fact that this is the first time in 12 years their review of GBS screening has been opened for comment from the public; conveys its continued disappointment at the lack of awareness surrounding this condition that one in four women carry; urges the DoH to introduce routine Enriched Culture Medium (ECM) screening at 35-37 weeks of pregnancy for all women in the UK; further recognises that although the ECM test is the HPA's gold standard of testing for GBS, it is currently only used in 1 per cent of NHS trusts and only available privately otherwise at a cost of £35; expresses its continued concern that the current direct plating method of testing available for GBS is only 50 per cent reliable and produces false negatives and, while direct plate testing is offered at booking in pregnancy, this is proven not to be the optimum time to test for GBS carriage; further notes that screening is routinely offered in the USA, France, Spain and Australia, who have seen a huge reduction in infection rates by 86, 71, 86 and 82 per cent respectively; and is alarmed at the NSC's extremely selective collection of statistics, which do not include figures relating to miscarriages, stillbirths or late onset of GBS and which includes only statistics for England and Wales.'

Please find list of MPs signing EDM enclosed as appendix 254

EDM 738 – Aid to India, 19th November 2012

Barry Gardiner MP

12 signatures

'That this House recognises that India still accounts for a third of the world's people who live on less than 80 pence per day; further recognises that despite being one of the fastest growing economies in the world, India contains a greater number of people living under the poverty line than the 26 poorest African states; expresses concern that a cut in aid will make it more difficult for the UK to meet its obligations with regards to the MDGs; notes that aid has lifted over two million people out of rural poverty since 2005; further notes that the DFID's aid programme in India has contributed to a range of humanitarian goals such as eradicating polio, reducing malnutrition and increasing child literacy; and urges the Government to reconsider its decision to cut aid to India after 2015.'

Please find list of MPs signing EDM enclosed as appendix 255

EDM 744 – Death of Savita Halappanavar, 20th November 2012

Virendra Sharma MP

10 signatures

'That this House supports the widespread condemnation of the Irish authorities over the tragic death of Savita Halappanavar; proposes that, regarding a patient where, there is complication or risk of death, religious views do not take precedence over medical need; believes that an independent inquiry should be commissioned into the medical negligence that caused the premature demise of a young, healthy woman; and implores hon. Members and the

Government to put pressure on the Irish government to make changes to current legislation concerning abortion to allow abortion in circumstances where the mother's life is at risk.'

Please find list of MPs signing EDM enclosed as appendix 256

EDM 781 – BLISS – Premature Babies Health Charity, 27th November 2012

Alan Meale MP

27 signatures

'That this House is aware of the recently held Prematurity Day, part of the international campaign to raise awareness of the 15 million babies born too soon each year across the globe; recalls that 70,000 babies in England are admitted to specialist hospital care every year because they are born premature or sick; pays tribute to the organisation Bliss for its supportive work in this sector; notes especially its SOS Report, which found that one in three hospitals caring for premature and sick babies are having to make cuts amongst their nursing workforce; and calls on the Government to guarantee that sufficient finances will be granted to ensure such vital care is continued.'

Please find list of MPs signing EDM enclosed as appendix 257

EDM 875 – Screening of Group B Streptococcus, 20th December 2012

Grahame M Morris MP

40 signatures

'That this House is concerned by the UK National Screening Committee's (NSC) decision not to introduce routine screening of pregnant women for group B streptococcus; notes that every year hundreds of newborn babies suffer death and disability due to group B streptococcus infection and the numbers of reported cases in the UK has continued to rise by 23 per cent between 2003 and 2011; further notes the decline in group B streptococcus infection in babies where countries routinely screen; acknowledges the widespread support for screening during the NSC consultation with over 95 per cent of respondents in favour; recognises that at the Royal College of Midwives conference 75 per cent of midwives agreed that a routine offer of screening should be introduced; and calls on the UK National Screening Committee to reconsider this decision and follow the example of countries such as the US, Argentina, France, Kenya and Slovenia who support screening of group B streptococcus.'

Please find list of MPs signing EDM enclosed as appendix 258

EDM 936 – Abortions of Baby Girls, 16th January 2013

Fiona Bruce MP

53 signatures

'That this House, in acknowledging that there is a wide range of different but sincerely held views on the issue of abortion law, nevertheless unites in registering its profound shock at recent confirmation by the DoH that there are discrepancies in the balance between the number of boys and girls born to groups of women from some overseas countries to an extent that 'falls outside the range considered possible without intervention'; is appalled that there now appears to be evidence of significant numbers of baby girls being aborted illegally in the UK simply because of their gender; reminds the police and Crown Prosecution Service that abortion on the grounds of gender is illegal; and, in demanding immediate and effective enforcement of the law in this area, calls on the DoH to put in place procedures to record in future the gender of babies aborted under the provisions of the Abortion Act 1967 so that statistical evidence of crime cannot be hidden.'

Please find list of MPs signing EDM enclosed as appendix 259

EDM 1021 – Fetal Valproate Syndrome, 5th February 2013

David Anderson MP
33 signatures

'That this House notes with concern the withdrawal of public funding from the Fetal Anti-Convulsant Litigation in November 2010; further notes that the taxpayer is now covering the additional health, education and welfare costs incurred by families affected by fetal valproate syndrome; believes the DoH and the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency could have avoided the large numbers of people affected, since the drug sodium valproate came onto the market in the late 1970s, by informing patients treated with anti-convulsant medications and women of child-bearing age; and calls for an independent inquiry into why information has been withheld from the public concerning the disastrous way in which sodium valproate has affected pregnant women and their children.'

Please find list of MPs signing EDM enclosed as appendix 260

EDM 1050 – Reporting of Reasons for Abortion, 6th February 2013

Jim Dobbin MP
12 signatures

'That this House, in acknowledging that there is a wide range of different but sincerely held views on the issue of abortion law, nevertheless unites in registering its profound shock at the recent research by Eurocat which has found substantial misreporting by doctors and licensed abortion clinics of the real reasons why abortions are being performed; notes the conclusion of the research that between 2006 and 2010, based upon evidence from foetal medicine specialists, ultrasonographers and genetic testing, that 157 babies had been aborted in England and Wales for cleft lip and palate, but that official records count only 14 such abortions; further notes that Eurocat found that over the same period there were 205 abortions for club foot but that the DoH records show only five in 2002, the latest year for which figures are available; further notes that in 2010 there were in fact 886 abortions of Down's Syndrome babies, only 482 of which are recorded by the Department; believes that regardless of the ethics of abortion itself all right hon. And hon. Members will be profoundly concerned to receive yet further evidence of widespread criminal misreporting of the grounds for abortion; and calls on the Secretary of State, licensing authorities, the General Medical Council and, where appropriate, the police and Crown Prosecution Service to take immediate action to ensure that the law is upheld and that those who break it are prosecuted.'

Please find list of MPs signing EDM enclosed as appendix 261

EDM 1087 – UK's Role in Fighting Global Poverty, 13th February 2013

Fiona Bruce MP
58 signatures

'That this House welcomes the UK Government's leadership in international development and is proud of Britain's historic record; recognises the importance of the UK in keeping its promise to spend 0.7 per cent of gross national income on overseas aid from 2013; further welcomes the impact that UK aid has had on reducing and tackling the causes of poverty in the world's poorest places, reaching six million people with emergency food assistance since March 2011 and sending 5.3 million children to school; notes that in 2013 the UK will chair the G8 for the first time since Gleneagles in 2005 when important development commitments to Africa were made; further notes that in part thanks to those commitments there has been dramatic progress in sub-Saharan Africa with 423,000 fewer child deaths in 2011 than in 2005 and 21 million more children in school compared with 2005; supports the Prime Minister in putting international development issues high on the G8 agenda in June 2013 and leading global efforts to tackle hunger; and further recognises that effectively and efficiently reaching 0.7 per cent this year will save and change the lives of millions of people who are looking to lift themselves out of poverty in the world's poorest countries.'

Please find list of MPs signing EDM enclosed as appendix 262

Written Parliamentary Questions

MPs tabled a wide variety of SRHR/FP/population written PQs this year on the following subjects, which are all available on the Group's website:

- Abortion
- Abortion (Clinic Inspections)
- Abortion: Counselling
- Abortion: Health Education
- Abortion: HSA4 Forms
- Afghanistan (Violence against Women and Girls)
- Afghanistan (Women and Minorities)
- Africa (FGM)
- Armed Conflict (Sexual Offences)
- Asylum: Pregnant Women
- Babies: Drugs
- Babies: Screening
- Burma
- Caesarean Sections
- Childbirth
- Children's Rights (International Development)
- Circumcision
- Climate Change
- Contraceptives
- Contraceptives: Advisory Services
- Crimes of Violence: Females
- Death of Savita Halappanavar
- Democratic Republic of Congo
- Developing Countries: Abortion
- Developing Countries (Children)
- Developing Countries: Economic Situation
- Developing Countries: Equality
- Developing Countries: Family Planning
- Developing Countries: Females
- Developing Countries: Health Services
- Developing Countries: HIV Infection
- Developing Countries: Maternity Services
- Developing Countries: Medical Services
- Developing Countries: Sustainable Development
- Development Aid
- Development Spending Target
- Erectile Dysfunction: Drugs
- EU Aid
- Family Planning
- FGM
- Fertility
- Fertility (Medical Treatments)
- Flexible Parenting Leave
- Foetal Alcohol Syndrome
- Foetal Anticonvulsant Syndrome
- Forced Marriage

- G8
- Genito-Urinary Medicine
- Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria
- Global Hunger
- Health Education: Sex
- HFEA and HTA
- HIV Infection
- HIV Infection Rates
- Home Abortions
- Hospitals: Babies
- Human Embryos
- Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority
- Human Papillomavirus
- Human Papillomavirus: Vaccination
- Human Rights: Sexual Violence in Conflict
- India
- India (Bilateral Aid)
- India (Development Aid)
- Infant Mortality
- International Assistance
- International Assistance: Post-MDG Review
- International Development (ODA Target) Bill
- In Vitro Fertilisation
- Kenya
- Low Birthweight Babies
- Marie Stopes International
- Marriage
- Maternity Services
- Maternity Services: Asylum
- Maternity Services Liaison Committee
- Midwife-Based Maternity Services
- Midwives
- MDGs
- National Income (International Development)
- Nigeria: Early and Forced Marriage
- Nike Girl Hub
- Official Development Assistance
- Overseas Aid
- Overseas Aid: Audit
- Overseas Aid: Corruption
- Parenting Education Programmes
- Perinatal Mortality
- Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education
- Philippines
- Polygamy
- Population (UK)
- Post-2015 Development Agenda
- Post-MDG Framework (Women and Girls)
- Postnatal Care
- Postnatal Depression
- Repeat Abortion

- Rio +20 Summit
- Rwanda
- Sex Education
- Sexual Health Data
- Sexual Health Policy
- Sexual Offences
- Sexually Transmitted Infections
- Somalia
- South Asia
- South Sudan
- Southern Sudan
- Streptococcus
- Streptococcus: Babies
- Streptococcus: Pregnancy
- Swaziland
- Syria: Sexual and Gender-Based Violence
- Tackling Sexual Violence in Conflict
- Teenage Pregnancy
- Thalidomide
- Uganda
- UN Aid Target
- UN Conference on Sustainable Development
- UN Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict
- Viagra: Side Effects
- Violence against Women
- Violence against Women and Girls Ministerial Group
- Violence against Women and Sexual Violence
- Women's Health (Egypt)
- Young People: Sexual Offence

House of Lords (HoL)

Oral Ministerial Statements

Equal Marriage Consultation, 11th December 2012

Baroness Stowell of Beeston read the Minister for Women and Equalities' statement on the Government's proposals to enable same-sex couples to marry. She said that the proposals strike the right balance by protecting religious freedoms while ensuring that same-sex couples have the same freedom to marry as heterosexual couples.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 263

Written Ministerial Statements

Abortion, 12th June 2012

Earl Howe announced that the SS for Health, Andrew Lansley MP, has commissioned the CQC to undertake a series of unannounced inspections of abortion providers, following reports of potential breaches of the Abortion Act 1967. on the inspections focused on pre-signing of HSA1 forms by doctors before women entered the clinics. The CQC published reports of its investigation on their website and identified pre-signing in 14 cases. They have requested compliance actions to be taken by these providers to ensure they meet the standards set by law.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 264

Embryology, 28th June 2012

Earl Howe announced that The PUSS for Health, Anne Milton MP, has announced the publication of the Consultation on Proposals to Transfer Functions from the HFEA and the Human Tissue Authority.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 265

Rwanda, 24th September 2012

Baroness Northover reported that the SS for ID had delayed the disbursement of general budget support to Rwanda because of concerns about the impact of conflict on civilians in the region and reports of Rwandan involvement in the M23 mutiny.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 266

Women: Peace and Security, 31st October 2012

Baroness Warsi, Senior Minister of State for Communities and Local Government and the FCO, informed the House about the publication of the second annual review of the UK Government National Action Plan on United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 Women, Peace and Security. She said that the National Action Plan is intended to strengthen the Government's ability to reduce the impact of conflict on women and girls and to promote their inclusion in conflict resolution.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 267

Health: Maternity Services, 12th November 2012

Earl Howe, PUSS for Quality, said that the PUSS for Health, Daniel Poulter MP, had announced £25 million capital funding in 2012-13 for the NHS to improve the birthing environment in the most deprived maternity units.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 268

Rwanda, 30th November 2012

Baroness Northover announced that the SS for ID, Justine Greening MP, has decided not to release £21 million of aid support to Rwanda which was due to be paid in December. This decision was based on her assessment that the evidence implicating the government of Rwanda in providing support to the M23 rebel group in the DRC was credible and compelling.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 269

Violence against Women and Girls, 7th March 2013

Lord Taylor of Holbeach, PUSS for the Home Office, announced that Theresa May MP, SS for the Home Department, has said that on IWD, the Government will publish an updated action plan on violence against women and girls.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 270

DFID: Tied Aid, 11th March 2013

Baroness Northover repeated the SS for ID's answer to an urgent question in the HoC in which she said that there was no change in the Government's policy on tied aid. She said that DFID contracts are awarded in line with EU procurement regulations and the vast majority are subject to competitive tender.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 271

Debates

Queens Speech (6th Day), 9th May 2012

During this debate, various relevant topics were discussed including discrimination and violence against women, aid and development monitoring and the target of spending 0.7% of GNI on international aid. Baroness Jenny Tonge made reference to the Group, FP, population growth and the MDGs.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 272

Economic Affairs Committee (EAC) Report: Development Aid, 22nd October 2012

Lord MacGregor of Pulham Market asked that the House takes note of the EAC report, 'The Economic Impact and Effectiveness of Development Aid'. He discussed the findings and recommendations of the report including most importantly their recommendation that the Government rethink its commitment to spend 0.7% of GNI on ODA. He quoted from the report, which argues that the target prioritises the amount spent over the results and effectiveness of programmes. Various members disputed this and discussed various successes of the UK Government's aid policy.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 273

Treatment of Homosexual Men and Women in the Developing World, 25th October 2012

Lord Lexden questioned what assessment the Government has made of the treatment of homosexual men and women in the developing world. Lord Rea raised the question of how social and legal condemnation of homosexual people affects their health and highlighted that being homosexual and HIV positive increases barriers to access to treatment. Lord Fowler and others also noted that 42 of the 54 Commonwealth countries criminalise homosexuality.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 274

MDGs, 22nd November 2012

Baroness Nicholson of Winterbourne put forward a motion to take note of progress towards the successor framework to the MDGs. During the debate, Baroness Kinnock noted the need for the Government to continue its leadership and partnership on issues including maternal and child health and gender rights. Lord Chidget also noted the effect of conflict on neonatal mortality rates and said that more than a third of a million women have died in pregnancy or labour in the past year. Lord Sheikh noted that MDG 5, to improve maternal health, is the goal which has achieved least progress to date and said that it is far from reaching the 2015 target. Baroness Tonge outlined three principles in the debate, sustainability, the ability of developing countries to set their own agenda and population growth. She noted that population was not taken into account in the MDGs but that it is nonetheless an important issue and challenge to development. She noted the Government's commitment to promoting FP and improving access to the 222 million around the world with an unmet need for contraception.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 275

Violence against Women, 29th November 2012

Baroness Jenkins of Kennington asked HMG what action they are taking to prevent violence against women. During the debate she raised issues including child marriage

and made reference to the Group's report on that topic. Reference was also made to FGM, sexual assault and domestic violence.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 276

Embryology, 24th January 2013

Earl Howe, PUSS for Quality, announced that Anna Soubry MP, PUSS for Health, had announced the publication of the Consultation on Proposals to Transfer Functions from the HFEA and the Human Tissue Authority.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 277

Rwanda, 4th March 2013

Baroness Northover announced that the SS for ID has agreed to re-programme £16 million of aid to Rwanda to support the poorest groups after the suspension of general budget support.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 278

International Women's Day, 7th March 2013

Baroness Stowell of Beeston led a motion to take note of IWD. During the debate Baroness Brinton made reference to maternal health and how poverty and conflict can have a direct impact on women and children's mortality.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 279

HIV/AIDS: Commonwealth Countries, 13th March 2013

Lord Black of Brentwood asked what HMG's assessment was of the impact of discrimination against gay men and women in Commonwealth countries on global efforts to halt the spread of HIV/AIDS and what steps they were taking to tackle such discrimination.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 280

Education: Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHEE), 21st March 2013

Lord Nash, PUSS for Schools, said that the PUSS for Education has announced the publication of the department's internal review of PSHE education. She had said that the Government believes all schools should treat PSHE, drawing on good practice and that they have outlined this expectation in the introduction to the new curriculum.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 281

Independent Commission for Aid Impact, 21st March 2013

Baroness Northover announced that the SS for ID had announced that DFID will shortly commence the triennial review of its oversight arrangements for the Independent Commission for Aid Impact. The strategic aim is to provide independent scrutiny of UK aid spending, to promote the delivery of value for money for British taxpayers and to maximise the impact of aid.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 282

Oral Questions

Overseas Aid, 24th September 2012

Lord Chidgey asked which EU member states are not on track to meet, or have ceased to be committed to meeting, the target of increasing ODA to 0.7% of GNI or to commit 50% of all increases in ODA to African countries by 2015.

Baroness Northover replied that the UK is firmly on track to reach 0.7% ODA/GNI by 2013. She said that according to the 2010 Annual Report to the European Council on EU Aid Targets, France, Germany, Portugal, Spain, Austria, Italy and Greece did not meet the interim target of 0.51% ODA/GNI but that all member states had reaffirmed their commitment to meet the 0.7% ODA/GNI target at this year's June European Council meeting.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 283

Health: Babies, 24th September 2012

Lord Averbury asked what information HMG collect about the numbers and percentages of babies conceived over last ten years (1) without medical intervention and (2) through in vitro fertilisation which resulted in a baby with (a) abnormalities of the heart and (b) other significant abnormalities.

Earl Howe replied that the data collected by the British Isles Network of Congenital Abnormality Registers does not give information about whether babies were conceived without medical intervention or with IVF. He said that HFEA-licensed centres report congenital abnormalities to the HFEA at time of birth, but this is not mandatory.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 284

Health: Cervical Cancer, 24th September 2012

Lord Avebury asked how many deaths from cervical cancer were recorded in England and Wales in 2011 and, given the link between HPV and cervical cancer, what steps they are taking to promote awareness amongst adolescent girls of the protection provided by the HPV vaccination.

Earl Howe reported that the number of deaths from cervical cancer in England in 2011 was 781 and said that the DoH does various work to promote awareness about HPV vaccination. He said that the HPV vaccination programme is one of the most successful in the world and now embedded in the national routine immunisation schedule.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 285

Health: Circumcision, 24th September 2012

Lord Avebury asked what assessment HMG have made of researchers at Johns Hopkins University's finding that male circumcision confers health benefits and what steps they will take to ensure that parents have access to information on the subject.

Earl Howe said that the DoH had not made any assessment of the research and had no plans to provide guidance on circumcision.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 286

Population Growth, 24th September 2012

Lord King of West Bromwich asked what assessment HMG have made of the effects of population growth on (1) housing, (2) education and (3) social services and what steps they have taken to plan for further growth.

Lord Wallace of Saltaire said that there are many factors influencing population change across the UK and that it was up to departments to consider the implications of population change on their policy areas.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 287

Abortion, 11th October 2012

Baroness Thornton asked whether HMG intended to legislate to reduce the time limit for abortions.

Earl Howe replied that the Government had no plans to review the Abortion Act 1967. The review of abortion service providers conducted by the CQC was also discussed, as well as viability of foetuses at different lengths of gestation.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 288

Health: HIV, 29th November 2012

Lord Collins of Highbury asked whether HMG intended to endorse the standards of care for people living with HIV published by the British HIV Association on 29th November.

Earl Howe, PUSS for Quality, commended and welcomed the standards. He said they would provide a useful resource and would inform the commissioning of comprehensive HIV care services.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 289

Abortion, 4th December 2012

Baroness Knight of Collingtree asked HMG what steps they will take to prevent illegal abortion operations.

Earl Howe, PUSS, said that abortions could only take place on grounds under the 1967 Abortion Act. He said that it was for the CPS to decide whether to prosecute individuals and for the courts to determine if the law has been breached. The recent inspections of abortion providers and investigation into pre-signing of HSA1 forms were discussed. Lord Alton also mentioned abortions on the basis of gender. Lord Steel asked about repeat abortion and Earl Howe replied that visits to contraceptive clinics have increased and abortion rates amongst teenagers are falling, although abortion rate in the 20-29 age group have increased. He said that the most important focus for the public health effort was ensuring that all women have access to contraceptive advice.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 290

Homosexuality in Nigeria and Uganda, 9th January 2013

Lord Lexden asked what representations HMG have made to the governments of Nigeria and Uganda about legislation regarding the treatment of homosexuals in those countries.

Baroness Warsi, Senior Minister of State for Communities and Local Government and the FCO, said that the British Government was committed to strongly upholding LGBTI rights bilaterally and with international partners. She said that these issues had been raised at very senior levels and made clear their objection to the Nigerian same-sex marriage prohibition Bill at all levels of government through the High Commission in Abuja and through the EU Working Group on Human Rights.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 291

Health: HIV Strategy for England, 15th January 2013

Lord Collins of Highbury asked what plans HMG have to publish a cross-departmental HIV strategy for England in line with the Political Declaration made at the UN General Assembly in 2011.

Earl Howe, PUSS, said that the Government believes that the way forward is to develop a framework that covers both HIV and broader sexual health issues and that they plan to publish a policy document on sexual health and HIV shortly.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 292

Health: Midwives, 25th February 2013

Baroness Cumberlege asked, in the light of a continuing increase in births, what HMG's response was to the RCM recent report which states that there is a shortage of around 5000 midwives.

Earl Howe, PUSS, said that there are 1381 more midwives in the NHS since May 2010 and 5000 more in training and that the Government is committed to ensuring the number of midwives matches the needs of the birth rate.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 293

Crime: Sexual Violence, 6th March 2013

The Lord Bishop of Wakefield asked HMG what steps they are taking to address the level of violence in conflict and post-conflict situations.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 294

UK: Ageing Population, 19th March 2013

Lord Filkin asked whether HMG would publish their assessment of the implications of ageing of the UK population and their response to those implications.

Earl Howe, PUSS, said that he welcomed the committee's report on the ageing population and that the Government would consider its recommendations carefully and respond in due course. He said that reform of public services was critical to meet the needs of an ageing population and ensure long-term sustainability.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 295

Global Health, 25th March 2013

Lord Crisp asked HMG what action they will take to promote skills mix and task sharing in low- and middle-income countries in order to improve quality, access and cost in health services in line with the APPG on Global Health report, 'All the Talents'. During the short debate, Baroness Flather made reference to maternal morbidity and the Group's report 'Better off Dead?' on that topic.

Baroness Northover said that the Government has promised to save the lives of at least 50,000 women during pregnancy and childbirth and the lives of 250,000 babies by 2015 in developing countries.

Please find full text enclosed as appendix 296

Written Parliamentary Questions

Peers tabled a wide variety of SRHR/FP/population written PQs this year on the following subjects, which are all available on the Group's website:

- Abortion
- Abortion Act 1967
- Abortion (Rape in Conflict)
- Armed Conflict: Rape
- Births: Under 18s
- Civil Partnerships
- Contraception
- Education: Sex Education
- Education: Sex and Relationship Education
- Embryology
- Embryology: NHS IVF Treatment
- Environment: Global Change
- EU: Birth Rates
- FP: London Summit
- FGM
- Forced Marriage
- Health: Birth Defects
- Health: Contraception
- Health: HIV/AIDS
- Health: Human Papilloma Virus Vaccination
- Health: Miscarriage
- Health: Ovarian Failure
- Health: Pre-Natal Diagnostic Tests
- Health: SRH
- Health Services: Contraception
- Health: Sexual Health
- Homosexuality
- Homosexual Men and Women
- HPV
- India
- International Development
- Marriage: Same-Sex Civil Marriage
- Maternal Mortality
- Middle East and North Africa: Discrimination against Women
- MDGs
- Multiple Abortions
- NGOs
- Overseas Aid
- Overseas Aid (Criminalisation of Homosexuality)
- Overseas Conflict: Sexual Violence
- Population
- Population Growth
- Post-2015 Development Aid
- Post-2015 MDGs
- Rape
- Rwanda
- Somalia
- South Sudan (Health and Education)

- South Sudan (Maternal Health and Family Planning)
- Uganda
- Uganda (Anti-Homosexuality Bill)
- UN: Commission on the Status of Women
- UN: International Day of the Child
- UN: Rio +20
- Violence against Women

APPG ON PD&RH – UK GOVERNMENT MEETINGS, CORRESPONDENCE AND PUBLICATION.

The highlight this year was the UK Government and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation FP Summit in July during which \$ 2.6billion was pledged to provide access to voluntary FP services to 120 million women and girls in the developing world by 2020 (please see conference section for further information).

As well as holding the UK accountable to the above promises via debates and PQs, the Group met and spoke both formally and informally with DFID Ministers and civil servants at meetings, receptions and conferences.

DFID team

DFID ministerial team changed in November 2012:



Justine Greening MP followed Andrew Mitchell MP as the new SS for ID.



Lynn Featherstone MP followed Stephen O'Brien MP as the new PUSS for ID.



Alan Duncan MP remained Minister for ID



Baroness Northover remained the HoL spokesperson for ID.



Mark Lowcock remained the Permanent Secretary

DFID's AIDS and Reproductive Health Team, Human Development Group continue to be the Group's focal point within DFID. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The Group wrote to Justine Greening MP on 6th September 2012 congratulating her in her new appointment as SS for ID.

Please find letter sent enclosed as appendix 297

DFID Meetings

DFID and APPG on PD&RH Annual Meeting, 19th November, 2012, DFID, London

A meeting was requested with Justine Greening MP the new SS for ID immediately after her appointment to introduce her to the Group and to discuss the SS for ID vision for FP and SRHR.

A meeting was planned for 12th November but held on 19th November 2012 at DFID offices.

In attendance were:

Justine Greening MP, SS for ID

Jane Edmondson (Head of Human Development Department)

Nel Druce (Senior Health Adviser)

Jerry Ash (Deputy Team leader, Human Development Department)

Guy Levin and Victoria Crawford (Special Advisers)

Sian Dixon, Assistant Private Secretary

Baroness Jenny Tonge

Geoffrey Clifton-Brown MP

Heather Wheeler MP
Baroness Flather
Baroness Uddin
Lord Rea
Mette Kjaerby (Adviser)
Katharine Dow (Assistant)

Agenda items were:

- *DFID's commitment to the 0.7% ODA/GNI target;*
- *The Group's continuing support for DFID's position on maternal health and FP;*
- *The difference of policy position between the UK and the US Government over the availability of abortion services for women raped in conflict situations; and*
- *The SS for ID personal priorities for DFID.*

Summary meeting points were:

- *Women and girls remain at the heart of DFID policies.*
- *DFID signed agreement with Beyer to make hormonal implants cheaper which would enable many millions more women to exercise their own choices.*
- *DFID will continue to take a lead on choices for women and championing women's rights.*
- *DFID is on track to reach 0.7% from 2013 and legislation will be proposed as soon as the parliamentary time table allow time.*
- *The US position has no bearing on UK policies. Reference was made to the Foreign Secretary's Preventing Sexual Violence Initiative.*
- *Other discussion points related to future Group hearings and the topic possibly being Women in Conflict Situations, the fact that MDG5b being the most off track MDG.*

Please find meeting correspondence enclosed as appendix 298

DFID FP Summit - Stakeholder Group meeting, 28th September 2012, DFID, London

The Group was represented at the 28th September stakeholder group meeting at DFID. It was a video conference with representatives from select countries providing feedback on their follow up activities to the London FP Summit Stakeholders present were given the opportunity to ask questions and discussions followed relating to the FP2020 steering committee and sub-committees.

Please find invitation enclosed as appendix 299

DFID Panel Discussion on Women's Rights in Afghanistan, 11th December, HoC, London

Justine Greening MP, SS for ID invited interested parliamentarians to a panel discussion on women's right in Afghanistan. Some members were in attendance.

Please find invitation enclosed as appendix 300

DFID FP Summit – Stakeholder Group meeting, 8th February 2013, DFID, London

The Group was again represented at the 8th February stakeholder group meeting which was a follow up meeting to the 28th September meeting.

Please find invitation enclosed as appendix 301

UK Government Correspondence

Rio+20 and FP

The Group sent a letter to Caroline Spelman MP, then SS for Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) in February 2012 requesting a meeting with her and her team to discuss the forthcoming Rio+20 conference and the importance of addressing population dynamics.

Numerous written PQs were tabled prior to the Rio+20 Conference as follow:

Baroness Tonge: *To ask HMG what input the DEFRA has had to the preparation of the outcome document of the Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in June 2012.*

The PUSS for DEFRA (Lord Taylor of Holbeach): *The zero draft outcome document for Rio+20 was prepared by the UN Secretariat for the conference. It reflects submissions from nation states, political groups, businesses, NGOs and others. The UK submitted its input to the UN both as part of the EU's submissions and individually. As the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs is leading the UK Government's preparations for Rio+20, this process was led by DEFRA, working closely with other government departments.*

Negotiations on the zero draft have begun and will continue until the conference in June. UK officials, including those from DEFRA, will continue to be active in discussions.

Baroness Tonge: *To ask HMG whether the DEFRA will focus on the link between population dynamics and sustainable development in the lead up to the Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in June 2012.*

Baroness Tonge: *To ask HMG whether they will use the Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in June 2012 to promote the connection between sustainable development and FP.*

Lord Taylor of Holbeach: *Rio+20 is an opportunity to agree ambitious action to enable us to meet the challenge of global population growth and rising income levels, while ensuring that natural resources and ecosystems are used sustainably for our long-term prosperity. The UN Secretary General's recent High-level Panel report on global sustainability highlighted the challenge of sustainably providing for almost 9 billion people by 2040, combined with an estimated 3 billion increase in the number of middle-class consumers over the next 20 years.*

The Government will call for Rio+20 to promote access to effective contraceptive methods; universal access to reproductive health and family planning advice; empowerment of women; and investment in education, particularly of disadvantaged children and youth, girls and young women.

Beyond Rio+20, the Government, through the DFID, have committed to ensuring that at least 10 million more women in developing countries have access to modern methods of family planning by 2015.

Please find correspondence enclosed as appendix 302

In April 2012 the Group in collaboration with the Royal Society sent another letter to the Prime Minister copying the Deputy Prime Minister and DFID ministers requesting a meeting to discuss Rio+20 and the newly published Royal Society report: "People and the Planet." A thank you letter was received but no meeting was scheduled.

Please find correspondence enclosed as appendix 303

IPCI ICPD PoA, Turkey Declaration of commitment

In May 2012 DFID Ministers were sent a copy of the IPCI ICPD Istanbul Declaration of Commitment to highlight the linkages between FP and SRHR and sustainable development prior to the Rio+20 Conference. Under the theme, *Keeping Promises — Measuring Results*, over 100 parliamentarians agreed to advocate for increased national and external funding for the entire implementation of the ICPD agenda in order

to achieve access to sexual and reproductive health, including family planning. They also re-committed to ensure the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product (GNP) for official development is met.

DFID ministers further pledged to support policies that give special attention to the specific concerns and needs of young people by promoting and protecting their right to “access good quality education at all levels, health, sexual and reproductive services, including comprehensive sexuality education”, and to adopt measures to prevent all types of exploitation and abuse against them (please see conference section for further information).

Please find communications and declaration of commitment enclosed as appendix 304

Post 2015 MDG framework

In September 2012 the Group in collaboration with other UK Health APPGs sent a letter to the Prime Minister highlighting the importance of Health within the post 2015 framework. Members also highlighted, via the PQs and debate the importance SRHR within the new post 2015 framework.

Below are sample PQs and debates (please see parliamentary statements, legislation, debates, EDMs and questions section for further information)

:

Baroness Tonge: *To ask HMG whether they will seek to protect SRHR, including FP, within the MDG 2015 Development Framework.*

Baroness Northover: *DFID is committed to putting women and girls at the heart of the UK's development assistance. The recent FP summit organised by DFID in partnership with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and other partners is testament to how deeply committed DFID is. The summit emphasised freedom of access, without coercion or discrimination, to a range of contraceptives for married and unmarried women, marginalised communities and adolescents.*

The UK Government are keen to ensure that girls and women are at the forefront of building strong economies, open societies and inclusive political systems. A post 2015 framework must seek to build on the strengths, and address the weaknesses of millennium development goal 3 to promote greater gender equality, so that women's empowerment and rights are protected and strengthened.

Baroness Tonge: *To ask HMG whether they will promote the issue of population growth within the MDG 2015 Development Framework.*

Baroness Northover: *The processes to agree a new development agenda after 2015 are underway and the UK Government are playing an active role in setting the agenda. The high-level panel, co-chaired by the Prime Minister, will certainly want to address women's empowerment, FP and other investments in support of women and girls which could contribute to slowing population growth.*

Violence Against Women and Girls HoL debate, 22nd November 2012 extract:

Baroness Tonge: *In declaring an interest as chair of the APPG on PD&RH, what is important is that we should bear in mind, when setting up the new frameworks, three overarching principles.....The third overarching consideration is population growth—I call it the elephant in the room. It is no good setting targets when the world population is still increasing by 80 million a year. That is the equivalent of adding another United States of America to the world every four years. The MDGs ignored population growth completely; it was not taken into consideration, although it is a huge challenge. A report published by our group three years ago, *The Return of the Population Growth Factor*, pointed out that in countries with high population growth, the number of school age children doubles every 20 years. Assuming a class size of 40, which is modest, this means that worldwide an extra 2 million school teachers are needed every year just to stand still, let alone to make any progress. The same problem affects other goals, of course. Population growth prevents progress. That is why I applaud the Government—yes, me, applauding the coalition Government—for prioritising maternal health and recognising at last that family planning is a human right. Our Government have recognised the fact that currently 222 million women around the world want to avoid pregnancy and need contraception. Coercion is not necessary, and religion and culture need not be a problem. Some countries have already*

achieved a reduction in fertility rates and falls in family size. Bangladesh has made great progress, as have Rwanda, Tunisia and countries in East Asia. What is surprising to many is that Iran runs an extremely good and successful programme for reproductive health and family planning for its women. We need to build family planning into the new post-MDG framework so that other countries can follow their success. Let us remember that if women are allowed to control family size and have the number of children they and their husbands want, there will be lower maternal mortality from unsafe abortion and unassisted childbirth, and all the complications that arise there from. Chronic ill-health in mothers who are too young or too weak to have large families can be prevented. Giving women access to FP ultimately means fewer mouths to feed, less hunger and better food security—and that means less conflict. It means more girls and women in education and more women who are able to join the workforce. It cannot be repeated often enough that having educated women who can contribute to the economy means achieving the holy grail of economic growth.

Rape as a weapon of war and access to safe abortion services

Baroness Jenny Tonge sent a letter to Lord Lester of Herne Hill's following the 9th January HoL debate on the government's strategy for ensuring access to abortion services for women raped in war zones. The letter was sent to clarify the UK government's position as remained unclear following the debate. A letter was later sent to William Hague MP also to clarify the Government's position.

Please find sample communications enclosed as appendix 305

Heather Wheeler MP also spoke on the subject in the 14th February 2013 HoC debate as follows:

Heather Wheeler MP: *"I appreciate that time is short, so I will get straight to the point. There are two major areas in which girls and women who are raped in situations of armed conflict are repeatedly discriminated against. The first is the routine denial of safe abortion services to those victims of war, in violation of their right to non-discriminatory medical care under international human law, and the second is the failure to treat rape and the deliberate transmission of HIV as prohibited weapons or methods of war.*

The denial of abortions to girls and women raped in armed conflict was recently the focus of debate in the HoL, and it has been the subject of many parliamentary questions. The Government responded by acknowledging that they considered girls and women raped in armed conflict to be the "wounded and sick", and that they are entitled to non-discriminatory medical care, including abortions. They have also acknowledged that international humanitarian law, not national law, is the legal framework that must be obeyed in the provision of humanitarian aid. However, those acknowledgments are insufficient without concrete action to ensure that that right is granted to the wounded women who need it.

What concrete action could the Government take? To begin with, they could recognise that the right to abortion for girls and women raped in armed conflict is protected under humanitarian law and is not subject to national laws on abortion. That should be explicitly included in all relevant Government policy guidance, including the DFID's "Safe and unsafe abortion" practice paper.

Rape and the deliberate transmission of HIV are acknowledged as being used as weapons of war, but neither is treated as a prohibited weapon or method of warfare. Despite global recognition that they are used as weapons of war, they are invisible in weapons regulation. They none the less violate core principles of humanity in international humanitarian law, and as such they should be treated as prohibited weapons of war. The failure to treat war rape like other illegal weapons prevents victims from being entitled to reparations for their injuries. Victims should be entitled to have the perpetrators held accountable for their crimes. For that reason, the failure to treat rape as part of the international framework that regulates the means and methods of warfare is particularly confounding. We regulate starvation under that framework, so why not rape and sexual violence?

In April, the Government will work to secure a clear political statement from the G8 of its determination to make real, tangible progress on combating the use of sexual violence in conflict. However, if we are truly to lead, we must speak up for those who do not have a voice and bring awareness to issues that are often neglected or left out of the conversation. Acknowledging the issue is not enough, and talk is not enough. The UK must take concrete steps to ensure the provision of abortion services for women raped in war and to bring rape into the prohibited weapons or methods of war framework."

The following PQs were also tabled:

Baroness Tonge: To ask HMG, further to the Written Answer by Baroness Northover on 28 January (WA 261), whether there are any circumstances in which their agencies would not seek to ensure that women raped during armed conflict are given access to safe abortions, in situations where abortions are in breach of national law but where the pregnancy threatens the mother's life.

Baroness Northover: In conflict situations UK-funded medical care is provided through humanitarian organisations. These organisations work according to humanitarian principles including the provision of non-discriminatory aid, provided according to need and need alone.

In conflict situations where denial of abortion in accordance with a national law prohibition would threaten the woman's or girl's life or cause unbearable suffering, international humanitarian law principles may justify offering an abortion rather than perpetuating what amounts to inhumane treatment in the form of an act of cruel treatment or torture. Clearly this will depend on the woman's choice, her condition and the safety and security of the humanitarian staff, as well as other contextual factors.

Baroness Tonge: To ask HMG what threshold they apply to the provision of abortions in contravention of national law to women raped during armed conflict; and whether that threshold is higher than those applied to other forms of assistance to the wounded and sick during armed conflicts.

Baroness Northover: In conflict situations UK-funded medical care is provided through humanitarian organisations. These organisations work according to humanitarian principles including the provision of non-discriminatory aid, provided according to need and need alone.

In conflict situations where denial of abortion in accordance with a national law prohibition would threaten the woman's or girl's life or cause unbearable suffering, international humanitarian law principles may justify offering an abortion rather than perpetuating what amounts to inhumane treatment in the form of an act of cruel treatment or torture. Clearly this will depend on the woman's choice, her condition and the safety and security of the humanitarian staff, as well as other contextual factors.

Baroness Flather also wrote a letter to the US Ambassador to obtain clarification on the US policy on abortion for survivors of sexual violence in conflict.

G8 Parliamentary Conference and SRHR/FP

In March 2013 the Group wrote to the Prime Minister and senior advisors about the forthcoming G8 Parliamentary Conference in HoC, London co-hosted by the Group. Correspondence highlight the importance of SRHR and FP within the new MDG framework. The G8 Parliamentary conference communique was sent to the Cabinet team and relevant civil servants immediately following the conference in May 2012.

Please find correspondence enclosed as appendix 306

PUBLICATION

A call to End Violence Against Women and Girls Action Plan – refreshed version, 8th March 2013.

Two and a half years ago, the UK Government published its strategy to tackle violence against women and girls in the UK. An update was published in March 2013 on progress made across Government to prevent harm, bring perpetrators to justice and support victims.

Of particular interest to the Group is the continued cross departmental work on FGM, forced marriages and sexual violence in conflict. Teresa May MP, Home Secretary said in the foreword:

"Our commitment to tackle gender based violence goes well beyond England and Wales. We are determined to support and challenge other countries to ensure they support and protect women from harm. The announcement of the Foreign Secretary's Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict Initiative and the DFID's Violence Against Women and Girls Research and Innovation Fund shows how seriously we take this responsibility".

INTERNATIONAL FUNDING TO FP/SRHR AND HIV/AIDS

The UK coalition Government in May 2010 committed itself to reaching 0.7 % of GNI by 2013 and enshrining this in law. In the March 2013 budget statement George Osborne MP, Chancellor of the Exchequer confirmed the news that the UK will spend 0.7% of GNI on aid this year. By doing so, the UK will become the first member of the G8 group to meet the UN target. It will join a select group of countries – Sweden, Norway, Luxembourg, Denmark and the Netherlands.

UK total ODA expenditure in 2011/12 was £8.6 billion and in the 2012 autumn statement the forecast for 2013 was £8.7 billion and for 2014 it was £11.4 billion.

Of particular concern to the Group however is DFID's under spent of £500 million in 2012-13, which DFID explained as a result of transfers to other departments – such as the Foreign Office and Ministry of Defence, and changing project schedules.

DFID's core support to UNFPA remains at £20 million until 2014, with an additional targeted £35 million announced in November 2011 for two UNFPA programmes.

£25 million to the Global Programme to Enhance Reproductive Commodity Security, which will:

*Provide at least 1.6 million implants;
Save 2,500 women's lives;
Prevent 1.4 million unintended pregnancies and
Avert 150,000 unsafe abortions.*

£10 million to the Co-ordinated Assistance for Reproductive Health Supplies Group (CARhs), which will:

*Save more than 1,200 women;
Help avoid 650,000 pregnancies and
Avert 70,000 unsafe abortions.*

IPPF's core grant remains at £8.600 million until 2016 and MSI successfully negotiated a Programme Partnership Agreement with DFID in 2011 for £4.353 million per year between 2011 – 2013.

Both organisations also received non-core project grants. MSI grant this year being £8.111 million.

DFID bilateral expenditure directly targeting HIV and AIDS, 2006/07 – 2012/13 (GBP millions)

	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
HIV/AIDS including STI Prevention			147.9	122.036	119.094	69.002	50.3
HIV/AIDS including STI Treatment and Care			10.1	24.002	52.717	27.331	40.2
Total	128.7	134.2	158	146.038	171.811	96.333	46.111

DFID bilateral expenditure directly targeting reproductive health, 2006/07 – 2012/13 (GBP millions)

Input Sector Code	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
13010 Population Policy and Administrative Management	4.5	2.8	2.6	2.9	7.1	6.1	5.4
13021 Reproductive Health Care	29.4	18.6	36.5	43.2	47.96	108.85	36.7
13022 Maternal and Neonatal Health	21.9	34.4	61.6	49.4	49.99	121.36	125.8
13030 Family Planning, Health			8.1	15.3	31.1	43.8	109.7
Grand Total	55.8	55.9	108.8	110.8	136.12	280.11	277.6

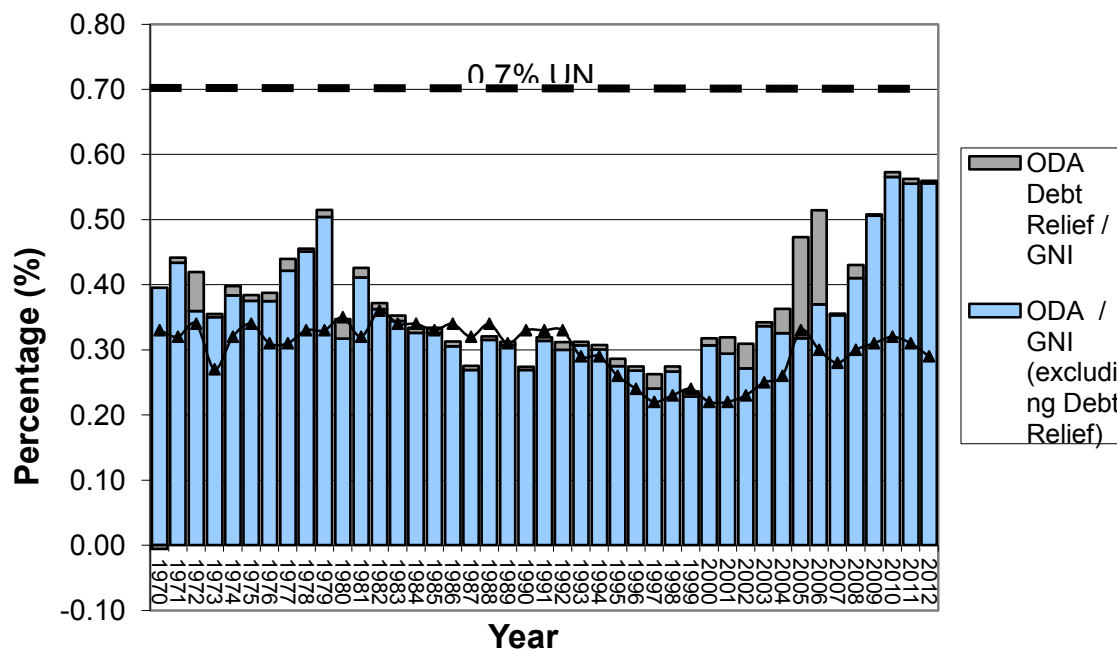
Tables 2 and 3 provide details of DFID bilateral expenditure directly targeting reproductive health and HIV/AIDS activities. However, according to DFID, the UK's direct spend on HIV should not be seen as the sum of their work. DFID is seeking to increasingly optimise linkages and integration with other 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.

DFID Core contributions to International Organisations, 2005/06 – 2011/12 (GBP thousands)

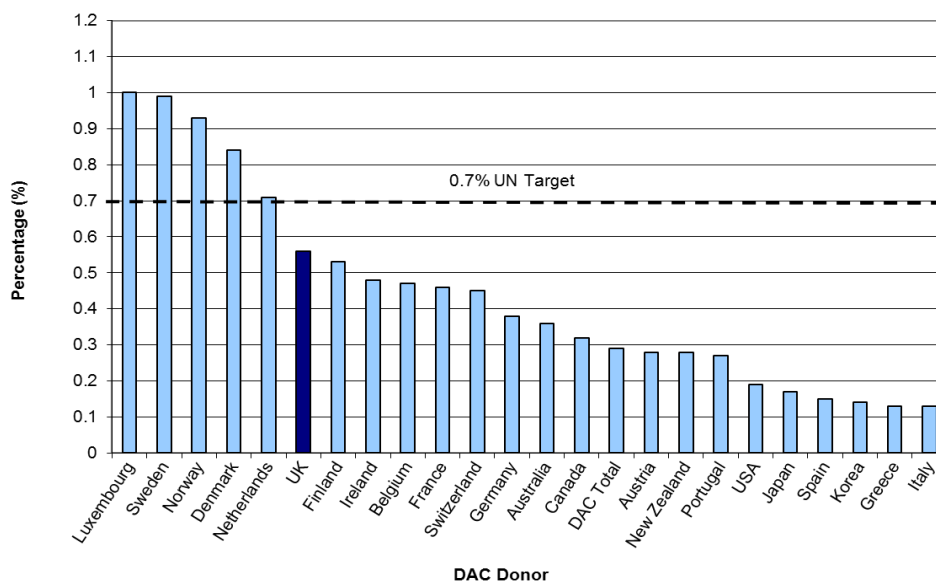
Organisation	2012/13	2011/12	2010/11	2009/10	2008/09	2007/08	2006/07	2005/06	Funding Stream
UNFPA	20,000	20,000	20,000	22,060	20,038	20,000	20,000	20,000	DFID - Core Funding
WHO	12,500	27,240	28,723	26,967	23,824	15,299	25,409	25,641	DFID and Other Govt. Depts - Core Funding
UNICEF	47,800	40,000	23,600	21,000	16,151	26,000	22,042	23,813	DFID and Other Govt. Depts - Core Funding
UNAIDS	10,000	10,000	10,000	11,030	10,000	19,000	10,000	16,002	DFID - Core Funding
IPPF*	8,600	6,450	12,015	7,500	8,600	7,500	7,500	0	Core Funding - Bilateral Funding
MSI	4,353	4,353	1,063	0	770	885	1,032	717	CSCF - Non Core Bilateral Funding Programme Partnership Agreement
Global Fund to Fight Aids, TB and Malaria	127,908	128,100	296,600	163,400	50,000	100,000	100,000	51,000	DFID Programme - Core Funding

* This includes funding from the Governance and Transparency Fund

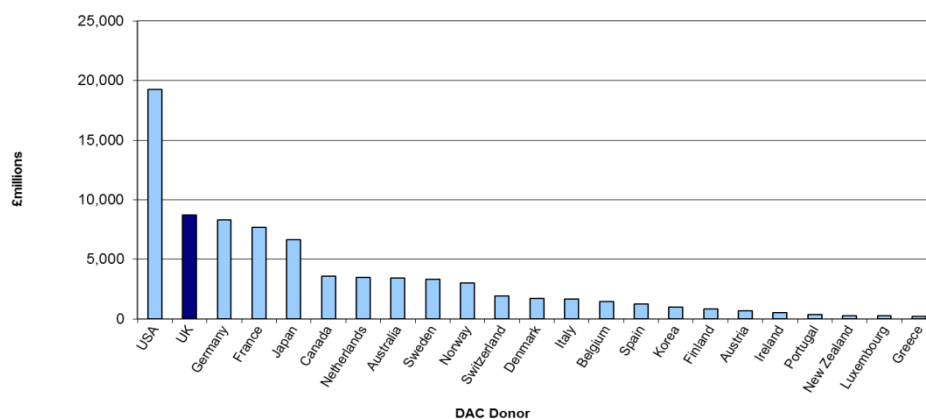
Net ODA/GNI ratios for the UK, 1970-2012



Provisional Net ODA/GNI ratios from DAC Donors, 2012



Provisional Net ODA from DAC donors, 2012



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

Group members and staff have attended several national and international workshops and conferences this year, as follows:

International Parliamentary Conference on the Implementation (IPCI) of the ICPD PoA , Istanbul, Turkey, 25th – 26th May 2012

Baroness Jenny Tonge chaired and Heather Wheeler MP and advisor attended the IPCI ICPD PoA in Istanbul 25th – 25th May 2012.

Lawmakers from 110 countries at this conference reaffirmed their support to the principles and goals of the 1994 Cairo ICPD, emphasising their continued commitment to efforts to reduce poverty and safeguard people's health and rights, including SRHR. At this fifth global parliamentarians' conference on population and development, some 400 delegates, including more than 200 parliamentarians from APPGs on Population and Development, discussed a course of action over the coming years to implement the ICPD PoA by 2014 and beyond.

"ICPD is about human beings, respect, rights, and what we can do to ensure that every individual can make his or her own decisions," said Dr Babatunde Osotimehin, Executive Director of.. *"Only then would the world be a better place."*

With only two years until the Cairo agenda is completed, delegates committed themselves to adopting the Istanbul Declaration of Commitment. Under the theme, *Keeping Promises — Measuring Results*, they determined to advocate for increased national and external funding for the entire implementation of the ICPD agenda in order to achieve access to SRHR, including FP in particular. Delegates further committed to strive to "attain at least 10 per cent of national development budgets and development assistance budgets for population and reproductive health programmes.

MPs also re-committed to ensuring the target of 0.7% of GNP for ODA is met.

Additionally, MPs pledged to support policies that give special attention to the specific concerns and needs of young people by promoting and protecting their right to "access good quality education at all levels, health, sexual and reproductive services, including comprehensive sexuality education," and to adopt measures to prevent all types of exploitation and abuse against them.

Finally, delegates have built a global network of ICPD supporters to ensure that "ICPD's continuing and emerging priorities and concerns are reflected in the ICPD Beyond 2014 discussions and reporting." They also called upon the United Nations General Assembly "to play a key role in building support for the ICPD Programme of Action," and committed to holding themselves accountable for reporting on the follow-up to the IPCI commitments.

The Istanbul conference, which concluded with an address by Turkey's Prime Minister, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, was organised by the EPF and UNFPA, under the auspices of Turkey's Grand National Assembly. It followed four similar global conferences, in Bangkok in 2006, Strasbourg in 2004, Ottawa in 2002 and Addis Ababa in 2009.

A copy of the Istanbul declaration was sent to all Group members and all relevant UK Cabinet members and senior civil servants.

Please find the Istanbul commitment enclosed as appendix 307

DFID and Bill and Melinda Gates FP Summit, 10th July 2012, London

Baroness Jenny Tonge, Richard Ottaway MP, Baroness Flather, Helen Grant MP, Baroness Northover and advisor attended the 11th July 2012 London FP Summit and pre-summit evening reception at the Science Museum.

The Group had been in close contact with the UK Government and UK SRHR Network prior to the Summit to collaborate and ensure a successful Summit (please see Group parliamentary briefing section for FP Summit dinner organised on 11th July).

The UK Government and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation organised the conference to launch a groundbreaking effort to make affordable, lifesaving contraceptives, information, services, and supplies available to an additional 120 million women and girls in the world's poorest countries by 2020.

The summit's vision was to ensure women in developing countries can have the same freedom to access FP services - without coercion, discrimination and violence - as women in the developed world.

Governments, civil society and communities were called upon to tackle the many barriers which prevent women and girls using family planning, such as a lack of contraceptives, lack of money and lack of support from their husbands.

The London Summit generated global commitments to support countries' own ambitions to make high quality, voluntary FP services more available, acceptable and affordable. In total \$2.6 billion was pledged enabling 120 million more women and girls to use contraceptives between 2012 and 2020. This means over 200,000 fewer women and girls will die in pregnancy and childbirth, and nearly 3 million fewer infants will die in their first year of life.

Please see this website for pledges:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/67328/london-summit-family-planning-commitments.pdf



The programme included high profile speakers UK Prime Minister David Cameron, President Museveni, President Kikwete and First Lady Chantal Compaore and President Kagame.

UK Prime Minister David Cameron announced £500 million in aid to increase international access to contraceptives at the Summit's. His speech is available here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/prime-ministers-speech-on-family-planning>



Since the FP Summit the FP2020 has been established to sustain the momentum from London and ensure all partners are working together to achieve and support the goals and commitments announced. More on the FP2020 and its Director Valerie DeFillipo is available here: <http://www.familyplanning2020.org/>

Prior to the London FP Summit members tabled the following PQs:

Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: *To ask the SS for ID with reference to the London Summit on FP, what estimate he has made of the proportion of unintended pregnancies in developing countries which were the result of forced or coerced sex.*

Andrew Mitchell MP: *The ability of women and girls to use contraception is hindered when they are in abusive relationships where domestic violence or forced sex takes place. Evidence indicates that the risk of unintended pregnancy is higher in the context of poor partner communication and a higher rate of domestic violence.*

Adolescent girls, including girls who are married to or in relationships with older men, are particularly at risk. In Malawi and Ghana studies report that around a third of the girls reported that they were not “willing at all” during their first sexual experience.

The London Summit on FP recognises the risks of coerced sex and commitments sought by the summit therefore include measures to address the wider context of women's and girls' empowerment.

Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: *To ask the SS for ID (1) if he will use the upcoming London Summit on FP to consider the link between child marriage and fertility and maternal health outcomes; (2) if he will encourage Governments and donors making commitments at the upcoming London Summit on FP to also commit to fund projects addressing early and forced marriage, sexual violence and social barriers to contraceptive access; (3) if he will encourage Governments and donors making commitments at the upcoming London Summit on FP to also commit to implement legal and policy changes that will address early and forced marriage; (4) if he will encourage Governments and donors making commitments at the upcoming London Summit on FP to also commit to implement legal and policy changes that will address social barriers to women and girls accessing FP and other health services in developing countries.*

Mr Duncan: *The London Summit on FP aims to support the right of women and girls to decide, freely and for themselves, whether, when, and how many children they have. At its core is the objective of saving lives and empowering girls and women to be able to make decisions about their own future. Over the last year, UK investment has given 1 million additional women in developing countries access to modern methods of contraception. Much more needs to be done, which is why we are co-hosting the summit with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.*

The summit aims to galvanise unprecedented political and financial commitment to meet the unmet need of an additional 120 million women who want to avoid or delay pregnancy. Significant political, policy and financial commitments by donors and developing countries are anticipated.

Addressing wider social and cultural barriers to women's and girls' empowerment will be essential to achieving the summit's objectives. Building the support of men, families, and communities, and ensuring laws and policies are in place to support women's and girls' empowerment and their SRHR, is critical.

The summit recognises the link between violence against women and girls, coerced sex and unintended pregnancies. There are an estimated 14 million births to adolescents every year, before they are physically, emotionally or economically prepared. Many of these girls are married. Girls who can delay marriage and their first pregnancy are at less risk of death or disability from complications arising from

pregnancy, childbirth and unsafe abortion, as these are a leading cause of death among young women aged 15 to 19. They are also more likely to stay in school and secure productive employment.

There will be a focus on these issues throughout the different sessions of the summit itself on 11 July. Commitments sought by the summit include measures to address these wider issues and it is anticipated that participants will make specific commitments to address social and cultural barriers.

Some SRHR NGO representatives as well as MPs were concerned about the narrow focus of the London FP Summit, which resulted in numerous communications between MPs, NGOs and DFID.

Please find sample correspondence enclosed as appendix 308

UCL and Women and Children First (UK) workshop on “Improving Maternal, Newborn and Child Health in Low-Income Countries, 1st November 2012, RCOG, London

Advisor attended the UCL Institute for Global Health and Women and Children First (UK) end of project dissemination workshop “Improving Maternal, Newborn and Child Health in Low-Income Countries”. This programme run by UCL’s Institute of Child Health in partnership with Ekjut (India), the Perinatal Care Project (Bangladesh) and Women and Children First (UK) was working to reduce maternal and newborn mortality by 20 %, improve maternal, newborn and child home care practices by 50 %, and increase utilisation of maternal and child health services in project populations by 50 per cent in project populations in Bangladesh and India. The achievement of above aims was announced at the workshop along with details on how success had been gained. Panel sessions followed on the inter-relationship between mobilising communities and improving health systems to provide quality maternal, newborn and child health services, the contribution advocacy can make, and how new findings can, and should, inform future policy-making.

There was a photo exhibition illustrating the programme to view throughout the day and a drinks reception followed the workshop.

Please find invitation and programme enclosed as appendix 309

Sex og Samfund strategic meeting - Looking towards 2015: Getting SRHR and population dynamics integrated into the SDGs and post-2015 agenda, 29th November, Copenhagen, Denmark

Advisor attended the SRHR NGO post 2015 framework and FP meeting in Copenhagen along with many other European SRHR NGO representatives. It was a meeting organised by Sex and Samfund in collaboration with other SRHR NGOs to update SRHR advocacy on the MDG post-2015 processes and strategies on how to ensure the integration of SRHR and population dynamics into the post 2015 outcome document.

Please find agenda and participant list as appendix 310

RCOG International Women’s Day: End Forced marriages Event, 8th March 2013, RCOG, London

Baroness Jenny Tonge and assistant attended the RCOG IWD event on Forced Marriages. Prof. Lesley Regan chaired the event with introductions from Prof. James Walker, RCOG Senior Vice President and Prof. Cathy Warwick RCM General Secretary.

Baroness Jenny Tonge presented the Group’s Child Marriage Hearing report and recommendations.

Please find programme and draft presentation enclosed as appendix 311

UK G8 Global Parliamentary Conference: What place for FP in the future of development, 9th – 10th May 2013, HoC, London

The Group in collaboration with EPF organised the 2013 G8 Parliamentary Conference in the UK Parliament on 9th – 10th May 2013. This Global Parliamentarians' Conference is being held annually to enable dialogue between decision-makers interested in human rights and development issues from G8 and G20 countries and their counterparts from elsewhere in Africa, the Americas, Asia and Europe.

Planning started in October 2012 and a round table planning meeting was held in February where final decisions were taken relating to conference venue, programme and speakers.

The focus of the two day conference was on the greatest challenges facing the international development community at present: the lack of access to modern methods of FP facing 222 million women around the world. The goal was to find a solution for this challenge, by examining how FP can be encompassed in the new guiding framework for international development which will follow the MDGs.

This G8 Global Parliamentary conferences was the latest in a succession of similar G8/G20 meetings that EPF and its All-Party Parliamentary Groups have organized focusing on reproductive health and rights. Previous conferences have taken place under the G8 presidencies of the UK (2005), Russia (2006), Germany (2007), Japan (2008), Italy (2009), Canada (2010) and France (2011) (further conference details will be in next year's annual report).

Addis Ababa FP Conference, 12th – 15th November 2013, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

The Group submitted an abstract for Richard Ottaway MP's paper: 'Sex, Ideology and Religion' to the Addis Ababa FP Conference in November and was shortlisted to present the paper.

The EPF in collaboration with the Asian Forum for Parliamentary on Population and Development and the Group also submitted an abstract for a panel of parliamentarians with the title: 'Generating political will to promote FP and bring about Demographic Dividend', which was also shortlisted for the conference (further conference details will be in next year's annual activity report).

Please find abstracts and proposals enclosed as appendix 312

SUPPORT AND COLLABORATION WITH OTHER APPGs

The Group continue to exchange information and support the establishment and activities of other APPGs both in the UK and abroad. Collaboration also continues with UK APPGs working on international development issues, in particular the APPG on Global Health.

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

Spanish APPG on P&D

Following the Spanish APPGs Euro-mapping launch in February 2012 and Baroness Jenny Tonge's teleconference, the Group has once again been contacted by the

Spanish journalist Maria Sahuquillo, El Pays requesting information on UK teenagers and contraception.

Please find communications and article enclosed as appendix 313

UK APG on Sudan

The Group organised a joint briefing meeting this year with UK APG on Sudan and World Vision on Maternal Health in Sudan (please see APPG on PD&RH parliamentary briefing section for further information).

Please find sample communications enclosed as appendix 314

UK APPGs on International Development

Advisor attended meetings with UK APPG secretariats working on international development issues. Meetings culminated in two further high profile briefing meetings with the Dalai Lama and The Elders in the summer of 2012 (please see APPG on PD&RH parliamentary briefing section for further information).

In March 2013 a Westminster Debate on the post 2015 MDG Framework took place following collaborative letter writing to secure the debate.

Please find letter and sample communications as appendix 315

UK APPGs on Health

Advisor attended meetings with UK APPG secretariats working on global health. Information-sharing and collaboration related to the Rio+20 Conference and the MDG post 2015 review. Joint statements and letters were sent to UK Ministers including the UK Prime Minister (please see communications under the UK Government meetings, correspondence and publication section for further information)

Please find sample communications enclosed as appendix 316

UK APPG on Global Health

The Group has communicated regularly and on occasions provided administrative support to the APPG on Global Health.

Please find sample communications enclosed as appendix 317

UK APPG on Learning outside the classroom

The Group was contacted by the UK APPG on Learning outside the classroom this year and provided general advice on the running and administration of APPGs.

Please find communications enclosed as appendix 318

UK APPG on Sexual and Reproductive Health in the UK

Advisor met with Harry Walker, the new APPG on Sexual and Reproductive Health coordinator on 4th December 2012 to introduce him to the Group's activities and to discuss possible collaborative activities.

Please find sample communications enclosed as appendix 319

APPG ON PD&RH HEARINGS

Child Marriage, “A Childhood Lost”, 2012



Stephanie Sinclair / VII

In the autumn of 2011 the Group decided to conduct parliamentary hearings into child marriage. A steering committee was established with Baroness Jenny Tonge as Chair supported by Heather Wheeler MP, Geoffrey Clifton-Brown MP and Lord Rea. The following child marriage NGO experts were invited onto the steering committee: FORWARD, ACCM UK, IPPF, MSI, Enabling Education Network, Plan UK, Girls not Brides, Karma Nirvana, White Ribbon Alliance and IKWRO.

7 committee meetings were held in preparation for the hearings between March – November 2012.

Please find committee meeting agenda and minutes enclosed as appendix 320

A press release was disseminated in March 2012 inviting short written submissions from interested organisations and individuals with relevant experience and expertise – especially from developing countries, with a deadline on 19th April. 35 written submissions were received.

Please find press release disseminated enclosed as appendix 321

Below is a list of organisations/individuals subsequently invited to give oral evidence on 19th - 20th June 2012:

- Leigh Daynes, Plan UK
- Dr Annabel Erulkar, Population Council
- Jane Ferguson, World Health Organization
- Dr Andres de Francisco, Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health
- Gauri van Gulik, Human Rights Watch
- Jane Hobson and Caroline Wood, DFID
- Jacqui Hunt, Equality Now
- Lisa Khalid and Dr Qais Ghanem, Embassy of Yemen
- Khady Koita and two anonymous survivors of child marriage
- Philippa Lei, World Vision
- Dr Rema Nanda, Pathfinder International
- Professor Lesley Regan, RCOG
- Dr Jaya Sagade, Indian Law Society's Law College, India
- Maeve Shearlaw, White Ribbon Alliance (standing in for Theresa Shaver)
- Dr Elaine Unterhalter, Institute of Education, University of London
- Ara Yoo, UNICEF

Please find hearing scheduled enclosed as appendix 322

Immediately following the child marriage Hearings PQs were tabled to raise awareness of the abuse and obtain answers to questions raised at the hearings to include in the final hearing report.

Please find sample PQs below:

Baroness Tonge: To ask HMG when they intend to introduce legislation to criminalise forced marriage.

The Minister of State, Home Office (Lord Henley): On 8 June we announced our plans to criminalise forced marriage. Subject to parliamentary time, we hope to introduce the legislation in the 2013-14 session.

Baroness Tonge: To ask HMG whether they intend that any forthcoming criminalisation of forced marriage would have extra-territorial effect.

Lord Henley: The Government have recently signed the CoE convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence on behalf of the UK. Officials are currently preparing plans to ratify the convention, including the options as regards the appropriate extraterritorial application of new criminal law relating to forced marriage. An announcement will be made in due course.

Baroness Tonge: To ask HMG whether they intend that any forthcoming criminalisation of forced marriage will include terms on (1) deportation, (2) the withdrawal of UK citizenship, or (3) the application of financial penalties for perpetrators.

Lord Henley: We have not yet drafted the new offence and so are not yet in a position to say how it will work. An announcement will be made in due course.

Baroness Tonge: To ask HMG what was the number of (1) pregnancies, and (2) deliveries to married girls below 16 years old in England in (a) 2007, (b) 2008, (c) 2009, (d) 2010, (e) 2011, and (f) to 1 June 2012.

Lord Wallace of Saltaire: The information requested falls within the responsibility of the UK Statistics Authority. I have asked the authority to reply.

Letter from Stephen Penneck, Director General for Office of National Statistics (ONS), to Baroness Tonge, dated June 2012.

As Director General for the ONS, I have been asked to reply to your recent question asking what was the number of (1) pregnancies, and (2) deliveries to married girls below 16 years old in England in (a) 2007, (b) 2008, (c) 2009, (d) 2010, (e) 2011, and (f) to 1 June 2012. And also, what was the number of (1) pregnancies, and (2) deliveries to married girls below 18 years old in England in (a) 2007, (b) 2008, (c) 2009, (d) 2010, (e) 2011, and (f) to 1 June 2012.

This question has been answered using conceptions data to represent pregnancies and maternities data to represent deliveries. Conception statistics are estimated for women usually resident in England and are based on birth registrations and abortion records. Maternity statistics are based on birth registrations. Information on marital status is provided by the informant at the time of the birth or abortion. Marital status may have changed between conception and birth or abortion.

The table in the attached spreadsheet shows the number of conceptions and maternities to married women under the age of 18 as well as under the age of 16 between the years 2007 to 2010, the latest years for which figures are available.

Number of conceptions and maternities in England to married women under the age of 16 and 18, 2007-10					
	Age	2010 ²	2009 ²	2008	2007
Maternities	Under 16 ¹	7	3	5	15
	Under 18	175	211	205	264
Conceptions	Under 16 ¹	12	21	9	14
	Under 18	233	327	369	405

The minimum legal age for marriage is 16 years of age in England and Wales. However, it is possible to marry at younger ages in other countries.

The HFE Act 2008 contained provisions enabling two females in a same-sex couple to register a birth from 1 September 2009 onwards. Due to the small numbers in England in 2009 and 2010, births registered to a same-sex couple in a civil partnership are combined with births within marriage. Similarly conceptions within a civil partnership are included with conceptions within marriage.

Baroness Tonge: *To ask HMG whether child marriages or forced marriage will be included in the personal, social and health education school curriculum.*

The PUSS for Schools (Lord Hill of Oareford): *PSHR is taught on a non-statutory basis, and therefore schools are free to decide on what they teach in PSHE education. Our current programmes of study, which many schools follow, propose that pupils are taught about the importance of respect and consent within relationships; and about the nature of marriage and other stable, loving partnerships.*

We are reviewing PSHE education, to determine how we can improve the quality of all PSHE teaching. As part of the review, we are revising the current guidance on sex and relationships education (to which schools must have regard) in order to strengthen the teaching of relationships, positive parenting and sexual consent.

Baroness Tonge: *To ask HMG what was the (1) estimated, and (2) reported, number of forced marriages in England in (a) 2007, (b) 2008, (c) 2009, (d) 2010, (e) 2011, and (f) to 1 June 2012.*

The Minister of State, Home Office (Lord Henley): *It is very difficult to estimate the scale of forced marriage in England. The very nature of this abhorrent practice means it is likely that many cases go unreported.*

The FMU (FMU) captures information about contacts, requests for advice and assistance in relation to possible cases of forced marriage. The following is a breakdown of reported cases from 2007 to 2012: in 2007, data were not collected on the number of reported cases of forced marriage; in 2008, a total of 1,618 reports relating to possible forced marriage were received by the FMU; in 2009, a total of 1,682 reports relating to possible forced marriage were received by the FMU; in 2010, a total of 1,735 reports relating to possible forced marriage were received by the FMU; in 2011, a total of 1,468 reports relating to possible forced marriage were received by the FMU; up to 1 June 2012, a total of 611 reports relating to a possible forced marriage were received by the FMU.

Baroness Tonge: *To ask HMG how many pregnant girls below 18 years old in England were forced into marriage in (1) 2007, (2) 2008, (3) 2009, (4) 2010, (5) 2011, and (6) to 1 June 2012.*

Lord Henley: *The FMU does not hold any data on the number of pregnant girls below 18 years old in England, forced into marriage.*

Baroness Tonge: *To ask HMG what was the number of deliveries to girls below 18 years old in England, where forced marriage had occurred, in (1) 2007, (2) 2008, (3) 2009, (4) 2010, (5) 2011, and (6) to 1 June 2012.*

Lord Henley: *The FMU does not hold any data on the number of deliveries to girls below 18 years old in England, where forced marriage occurred.*

Baroness Tonge: *To ask HMG with which countries they collaborate to stop child marriages and forced marriage; and how.*

The Minister of State, FCO (Lord Howell of Guildford): *The Government are committed to tackling the practice of forced marriage and providing the best protection possible to victims.*

Through our unique cross-government FMU we do more to protect and support victims than any other country in the world. Our embassies and High Commissions conduct hundreds of rescues and repatriations every year of British nationals who are facing forced marriage abroad. Last year the FMU provided advice or support in almost 1,500 cases.

The FMU has worked to increase dialogue and action on forced and early marriage internationally. The recently established International Partnership Board (IPB) on forced marriage engages with London-based embassies and High Commissions across a number of countries, including of: the United States, Canada, Germany, Australia, Austria, Afghanistan, Iraq, Belgium, and the Netherlands.

The focus of the IPB is to share ideas and experiences, review forced marriage legislation around the world and build an international coalition to work towards ending this abhorrent practice.

Child marriage is an issue that cuts across all four pillars of the DFID's Strategic Vision for Girls and Women, so we work closely with a range of partners on programmes relevant to raising the age of marriage.

This is both at the level of programmes in country and also through our international policy dialogue with non-governmental organisations and United Nations (UN) agencies, including: UN Women; UNICEF; UNFPA; and, the WHO.

We have targeted programmes to tackle child marriage in a number of countries including Bangladesh, Zambia and Ethiopia. Alongside this a number of our programmes, for example in education, family planning and broader empowerment for girls and women, will impact on the age of marriage. Projects such as delivering cash transfers to girls to keep them in school or working with religious leaders to amplify voices that speak out against child marriage are proving to be very effective ways to prevent early and forced marriage.

Baroness Tonge: *To ask HMG how government departments work together to combat child marriages and forced marriage.*

The Minister of State, Home Office (Lord Henley): *The FMU, which is jointly funded and run by the Home Office and the FCO, leads the Government's work to tackle forced marriage working with partners across government, statutory agencies and non-governmental organisations. This multi-agency group meets quarterly at the FMU Partnership Board to review progress on actions developed to tackle these issues.*

Baroness Tonge: *To ask HMG how government departments work together to combat child marriages and forced marriage.*

The Minister of State, Home Office (Lord Henley): *The FMU, which is jointly funded and run by the Home Office and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, leads the Government's work to tackle forced marriage working with partners across government, statutory agencies and non-governmental organisations. This multi-agency group meets quarterly at the FMU Partnership Board to review progress on actions developed to tackle these issues.*

Baroness Jenny Tonge also spoke at two CPA events on child marriage in May and June 2012 (please see the non APPG on PD&RH parliamentary briefing section for further information).

The child marriage report titled: 'A Childhood Lost', was launched on 27th November 2012 with Andrew Mitchell MP, previous SS for ID and child marriage survivors as the key note speakers.

Please find invitation enclosed as appendix 323

A press release was disseminated for the launch and press coverage was successful in: The Independent, TrustLaw (Thomson Reuters), Postcode Gazetter and Medsin. EuroNGOs, Girls not Brides and Plan UK also advertised the launch on their websites and e-mail lists.

Immediately following the launch the report was disseminated widely to all UK MPs/Peers and cabinet Ministers, regional APPG on PD&RH networks, relevant African and Asian government representatives and networks. Later this year the report will be sent to religious leaders in the UK.

Please find sample press coverage enclosed as appendix 324

The report was subsequently referenced in parliament PQs and debates as follows:

Extract from Violence against Women debate, 29th November 2012, HoL

Baroness Jenkin: *“...Violence against women and girls is the most widespread form of abuse worldwide, affecting one-third of all women in their lifetime. Addressing violence against women and girls is a central development goal in its own right and key to achieving other development outcomes for individual women and their families, communities and nations. Globally, 603 million women live in countries where domestic violence is not yet considered a crime.*

To mention a few specific issues, more than 60 million girls are child brides. I recommend the report of the APPG on PD&RH, A Childhood Lost, published earlier this week, which is packed with detailed information spelling out the consequences of child marriage, as well as some utterly tragic case histories.

Yesterday's horrifying news of the beheading of a 15 year-old in northern Afghanistan because her father thought she was too young to marry, is the latest in an alarming trend of similar violence in the area. About 100 million to 140 million girls and women have experienced FGM. More than 600,000 women and girls are trafficked across borders each year, the vast majority for sexual exploitation....”

Extract from immigration question, 3rd December 2012, HoL:

Baroness Tonge: *“My Lords, is the Minister aware that in this country the age of marriage is 16 if that marriage takes place with parental consent? Is he also aware that this is used for some girls to be taken out of the country against their will to be married so that they can then bring their husbands back here? What is his department doing to stop that practice, and when will we bring our age of marriage up to 18 in line with other countries?”*

Lord Taylor of Holbeach: *“This House has frequently debated forced marriages. The Government are bringing forward legislation to criminalise them.”*

A letter was sent to Lord Taylor of Holbeach, PUSS for the Home Office immediately after the debate to clarify the Governments position on age of marriage and to determine what work is undertaken at UK borders to stop parents taking their children abroad to get married and bringing husbands back to the UK.

Please find correspondence enclosed as appendix 325

Extract from Violence against Women and Girls debate, 14th February 2013, HoC

Heather Wheeler MP: *“Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. I appreciate being called now, because—unfortunately—I have to go to the Westminster Hall debate at 1.25 pm. I want to talk about protecting future generations of women and girls from violence and forced marriage.*

Worldwide, 10 million girls are married each year before they are 18, which is equivalent to more than 27,000 girls per day, or 19 every minute. In the developing world, one in three girls will be married before they are 18. In October last year on the first international day of the girl, the UNFPA released new data that predict that, by 2020, if child marriage prevalence trends continue, 142 million girls will be married before they are adults and, because of the rising global population, that means an increase in child marriage to around 14 million girls per year.

In most cases, laws and international conventions are in place to protect children from being forced into marriage, yet Governments fail to implement those protections. We do not know exactly how many British girls face forced marriage, but evidence shows that they are being taken out of the country to be married against their will. Here in the UK, families are also getting children married off in the community or in religious ceremonies. Some take advantage of the fact that the law in Britain allows the marriage of 16 and 17-year-olds with parental consent.

Understanding the causes and consequences of early and forced marriage is paramount in preventing girls from losing their childhood, their dreams and the opportunities to make their own choices about their lives and relationships. Causes and practices vary according to context, yet there are common themes. In some areas, child marriage has been practised for many centuries, while in others it emerges as a response to conditions of crisis, including political instability, natural disaster and civil unrest.

Poverty and gender inequality are common drivers of child marriage. Many parents marry their daughters off young to protect them from poverty, sexual harassment, the stigma of extramarital sex, and sexually transmitted infections. They also marry daughters off to reduce their own economic burdens, and yet child marriage entrenches those problems and does little to protect girls or boys.

In the developing world, a lack of access to education is both a symptom and a cause of child marriage, especially for girls, many of whom get very little formal education because they are valued more for their future roles as wives and mothers. As a result, they miss out on opportunities to learn, to build financial independence and to make autonomous decisions about their futures. Those effects are passed on to successive generations.

Child marriage is a shocking infringement of human rights and the rights of the child. It has many significant and worrying consequences. It leads to higher rates of maternal mortality and morbidities; it contributes to infant mortality and poor child development; it is associated with violence, rape and sexual abuse, resulting in emotional and psychological problems, desertion and divorce; and it increases population growth and hinders sustainable development."

Mary Macleod: *"In Bangladesh, an eight-year-old child ran away from her 60-year-old husband whom she had been forced to marry, and had acid poured over her. She has no life at all and is not supported or protected in the least. We must protect against such things."*

Heather Wheeler: *"I am grateful for my hon. Friend's intervention. The stories one hears from around the world are shocking. Child marriage takes away opportunities for education and training, and removes autonomy. It removes economic independence, undermines self-confidence and reaffirms gender stereotypes. It is associated with, and helps to perpetuate, harmful traditional practices, including FGM. It is a severe threat to combating poverty and the achievement of the MDGs.*

As the vice-chair of the APPG on PD&RH, I want to highlight child marriage and maternal and reproductive health, in response to "A Childhood Lost", the group's report, which was published last year following parliamentary hearings. The consequences of child marriage for maternal and reproductive health are grave. Child brides are unable to negotiate protected sex with their husbands, and are often under pressure to start bearing children immediately, which leads to a prolonged period of reproduction and larger numbers of children.

Girls under 15 are five times more likely to die in childbirth than women in their 20s, and also face much higher chances than older women of experiencing pregnancy-related injuries such as fistulas, and of contracting sexually transmitted infections, including HIV. The children of child brides are 60% more likely to die before the age of one than children whose mothers are aged 19 or over. Those problems are compounded by the fact that child brides are often unable to access life-saving health care for themselves and their children, including contraception, family planning advice and maternal health care.

The British Government have demonstrated a strong political will to tackle forced marriage in the UK and abroad, and a Bill to criminalise the offence in the UK is being drafted. As I said at the beginning, legislation is not enough to combat child marriage. Governments need to revise laws and policies on related important issues such as divorce, inheritance and property ownership to protect girls. Improved co-operation is needed across Government Departments and embassies, including in the UK. Other harmful practices such as FGM need to be tackled, and access to sexual and reproductive health services, improved registration systems, and professional support and shelters, are essential.

I am interested to know whether the Government will consider including child marriage in the personal, social, health and economic education curriculum; whether they will make registration of religious marriages compulsory in the UK; and whether they will increase the minimum legal age for marriage to 18 when criminalising child marriage. I urge the DFID and other donors to evaluate existing interventions so that aid is spent effectively, and to scale up programmes to prevent child marriage and support survivors. The DFID has shown great leadership in family planning via the June 2012 family planning summit. We need to work to meet the needs of family planning, and sexual, reproductive and maternal health care of girls and women of all ages, whatever their marital status.

We parliamentarians must work with colleagues in other countries, particularly in the developing world, to galvanise political will and to share best practice in tackling child marriage through programmes and services, and legislative reform and implementation. We urgently need to do something for women worldwide whose cries are not heard."

In February 2013 the Group submitted the hearing report as written evidence to the DFID Select Committee inquiry into violence against women and girls (please see consultation under the general collaboration, meetings and correspondence section for further information).

In March 2013 Baroness Jenny Tonge presented the Child Marriage Hearing report at the RCOG IWD event on 8th March 2013 at the RCOG (please see the International Conference section for further information).

In March 2013 one of the child marriage survivors who gave oral evidence at the hearings spoke at a Magistrates conference and made reference to the Groups report.

Several meetings were set up with interested press and film producers following the hearings (please see the press section for further information).

Child marriage has seen increased press coverage throughout the year.

Please find sample articles enclosed as appendix 326

Maternal Morbidity – “Better off Dead?”, 2009

The Group continues to promote the 2009 Maternal Morbidity Hearing Report: ‘Better off Dead?’ in parliamentary debates, press articles, and at national and international conferences.

Return of the Population Growth Factor – Its impact upon the MDGs, 2007/2009

The Group continues to promote the 2007/2009 Hearing Report: ‘Return of the Population Growth Factor and its Impact upon the MDGs’ and 2009 updated summary leaflet.

The report and its 2009 updated summary leaflet were submitted as written evidence to numerous consultations (please see consultations under the general collaboration, meetings and correspondence section for further information).

Linking Sexual and Reproductive Health and HIV/AIDS, “The Missing Link”, 2004

The Group continues to promote the 2004 Hearing Report: ‘The Missing Link’. The advantages of linking SRHR and HIV/AIDS, policies, services and programmes, are now commonly accepted.

Of particular interest this year was the IPPF, Population Council and LSHTM ‘Integra Initiative’ launched in Parliament on 20th March 2013 evaluating the effectiveness of Integrating SRHR and HIV services (please see APPG on PD&RH parliamentary briefing section for further information).

FGM, 2000

The Group continues to promote its 2001 FGM Hearing Report.

Jane Ellison MP the chair of the APPG on FGM has been particularly active tabling PQs and raising the issue in parliamentary debates (please see Parliamentary Statements, Legislation, Debates, Early Day Motions and Questions for further information).

Baroness Jenny Tonge also tabled the following PQs:

Baroness Tonge: To ask HMG whether they will consider minimal mandatory antenatal data gathering, including on FGM and cutting.

The PUSS, DoH (Earl Howe): The Maternity and Children's Dataset will be introduced in April 2013 and will provide information that can be used to improve the quality of clinical care and efficiency of maternity services. The data items that have been approved so far do not include FGM. We are discussing with the National Health Service and Social Care Information Centre whether and how soon it might be possible to include data on FGM.

Additionally, the NHS and Social Care Information Centre collect data on hospital episode statistics (HES), with details of all admissions to NHS hospitals in England. HES clinical codes do not currently enable us to identify admissions for FGM-related treatment such as deinfibulation. We are exploring the inclusion of a HES code for deinfibulation in the next update of HES coding scheduled for release in April 2014.

Baroness Tonge: To ask HMG whether they will make it mandatory for health, education and social service professionals to report knowledge or suspicion of FGM and cutting to the police.

To ask HMG whether parents have a duty to report suspected FGM and cutting to Government officials.

The PUSS, Home Office (Lord Taylor of Holbeach): Guidance on reporting cases of FGM (FGM) is detailed in the multi-agency practice guidelines issued by the Government in February 2011. Under Section 11 of the Children Act 2004, there remains a duty for all professionals to act to safeguard girls at risk. In all cases, if anyone is worried about someone who is at risk of FGM or has had FGM, this information must be shared with social care or the police. It is the responsibility of the police and social services to investigate and to safeguard and protect any girls or women involved.

Of particular interest this year was the meeting with the Surrey police Child Protection Team and Keir Starmer, the DCP Services which culminated in a round table meeting on 28th September 2012 organised by Keir Starmer with FGM experts to discuss the way forward in bringing about an FGM prosecution in the UK.

The following action plan for agencies was agreed upon at this meeting:

- *Data. Improved national data on allegations of FGM or of persons who maybe at risk of FGM that have been referred to the police. More robust national data on cases referred to the CPS for advice and / or charging decision*
- *Case studies. Identify case studies from the data (above) to examine emerging issues on why they did not proceed. If no action was taken, why was this?*
- *Reporting duties. Explore what the reporting duties are for medical professionals, social care professionals and teachers in referring possible FGM cases to the police. Consider whether existing reporting mechanisms need strengthening. Consider position of medical professionals to enable reporting without risk of criminalisation*
- *Legislation. Explore whether evidence to prosecute offences under other legislation is possible and may be easier to support, such as section 5 Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act (DVCVA) 2004, as amended by DVCVA 2012, which creates an offence of causing or allowing a child or vulnerable adult to die or suffer serious physical harm?*
- *Legislation. Explore what evidence is required to support charges of conspiracy to commit or aiding and abetting the offence of FGM*
- *Legislation. Explore whether there should be a change to existing legislation including consideration of preventative orders (breach of which to be a criminal offence)*
- *Other jurisdictions. Examine how other jurisdictions (especially common law jurisdictions) have prosecuted cases of FGM*

- *Investigation. Explore how other police tactical options might operate and what intelligence could be collated to support evidence gathering for a prosecution.*
- *Pro-active prosecution policy. The police and the CPS to develop a protocol for the police to refer all cases of FGM to the CPS for early advice on the lines of enquiry and evidential issues for the police to build a strong case.*
- *Guidance. Discussions with the DfE on whether guidance on Working Together to Safeguard Children requires updating for further clarity about FGM*

Please find correspondence with surrey police team and the CPS as well as attendee list at CPS meeting enclosed as appendix 327

A follow up meeting will be held in the spring/summer of 2013.

FGM has also seen increased press coverage this year and importantly the UK Government announced in March 2013 that £35 million has been set aside for programmes to help reduce FGM by 30 per cent in 10 priority countries over the next five years. The Programme will:

- *support work to end FGM in at least fifteen countries by working directly within local communities;*
- *work with governments and traditional leaders to back laws to end FGM;*
- *fund research into the most cost-effective approaches to ending FGM, to make sure our work has the maximum impact; and*
- *support diaspora communities in the UK to help change practices in their countries of origin.*

Please find press articles enclosed as appendix 328

APPG PD&RH PUBLICATIONS

Activity Reports

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

Hearings/Surveys/Reports

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 MDGs', 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 the Group's accounts April 2012 – March 2013 enclosed as appendix 329

ACRONYMS

ACCM (UK) -	Agency for Culture and Change Management (UK)
AGH -	Action for Global Health
AFPPD -	Asian Forum on Parliamentarians on Population and Development
AGM -	Annual General Meeting
AIDS -	Auto-Immune Deficiency Syndrome
APPG -	All Party Parliamentary Group
APPG on PD&RH -	All Party Parliamentary Group on Population, Development and Reproductive Health (the Group)
BBC -	British Broadcasting Corporation
BIS -	Business, Innovation and Skills
BPAS -	British Pregnancy Advisory Service
C -	Conservative
CEO -	Chief Executive Officer
CHETNA -	Centre for Health, Education, Training and Nutrition Awareness
CoE -	Council of Europe
CPA -	Commonwealth Parliamentary Association
CPS -	Crown Prosecution Service
CQC -	Care Quality Commission
CSO -	Civil Society Organisation
DAC -	Development Assistance Committee
DCP -	Director of Crown Prosecutions
DEFRA -	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
DfE -	Department for Education
DFID -	Department for International Development
DMI -	Development Media International
DoH -	Department of Health
DPP -	Director of Public Prosecutions
Dr -	Doctor
DRC -	Democratic Republic of the Congo
DSW -	German Foundation for World Population
DVCVA -	Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act
ECM -	Enriched Culture Medium
EDM -	Early Day Motion
EOC -	Emergency Obstetric Care
EPF -	European Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development
EP -	European Parliament
EU -	European Union
EuroNGOs -	European Non Governmental Organisations for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, Population and Development
FAAPPD -	Forum of Asian and Arab Parliamentarians on Population and Development
FCO -	Foreign and Commonwealth Office
FGC -	Female Genital Cutting
FGM -	Female Genital Mutilation
FMU -	Forced Marriage Unit
FORWARD -	Foundation for Women's Health Research and Development
FP -	Family Planning
GADN -	Gender and Development Network
GBS -	Group B streptococcus
GDP -	Gross Domestic Product
GE -	General Election
GJC -	Global Justice Center

GMC -	General Medical Council
GNI -	Gross National Income
G8 -	Group of Eight - consists of Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia the UK and the US
G20 -	Group of Twenty – consists of the finance ministers and central bank governors of 19 countries: the G8 countries, plus Argentina, Australia, Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Republic of Korea and Turkey. The twentieth member is the European Union, which is represented by the rotating Council
HES -	Hospital Episode Statistics
HFEA -	Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority
HIV -	Human Immune Virus
HLP -	High Level Panel
HMG -	Her Majesty's Government
HoC -	House of Commons
HoL -	House of Lords
HPA -	Health Protection Agency
HPV -	Human papillomavirus
HTA -	Human Tissue Authority
IAPG -	Inter-American Parliamentary Group
ICA -	Independent Commission for Aid
IEC -	Information, Education and Communication
ICRC -	International Committee of Red Cross
ICPD -	International Conference on Population and Development
ID -	International Development
IDA -	International Development Association
IPB -	International Partnership Board
IPCI ICPD -	International Parliamentary Conference on the Implementation of the ICPD PoA
IKWRO -	The Iranian and Kurdish Women's Rights Organisation
IPPF -	International Planned Parenthood Federation
IPPR -	Institute for Public Policy Research
IVF -	In Vitro Fertilisation
IWD -	International Women's Day
L -	Labour
LD -	Liberal Democrat
LGBT -	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender
LSHTM -	London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
MCN -	Maternal and Child Network
MDGs -	Millennium Development Goals
MEP -	Member of European Parliament
MoD -	Ministry of Defence
MP -	Member of Parliament
MSI -	Marie Stopes International
NCT -	National Childbirth Trust
NGO -	Non Governmental Organisation
NHS -	National Health Service
NICE -	National Institute for Clinical Excellence
NPFPC -	National Population and Family Planning Commission
NSC -	National Screening Committee
NSPCC -	National Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children
ODA -	Official Development Assistance
OECD -	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
ONS -	Office of National Statistics

OPT -	Optimum Population Trust
PACE -	Parliamentary Assembly of Council of Europe
PAI -	Population Action International
PLCPD -	Philippines Legislators Committee on Population and Development
PoA -	Programme of Action
PQ -	Parliamentary Question
PSD -	Partido Social Democrata
PSHEE -	Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education
PSN -	Population and Sustainability Network
PUSS -	Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
PUSS for ID -	PUSS for International Development
RCM -	Royal College of Midwives
RCN -	Royal College of Nursing
RCOG -	Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists
RPC -	Research Programme Consortia
SRHR -	Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
SS -	Secretary of State
SS for ID -	SS for International Development
STI -	Sexual Transmitted Infection
SWOP -	State of the World Population
TB -	Tuberculosis
UCL -	University College London
UK -	United Kingdom
UN -	United Nations
UNAIDS -	The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNFPA -	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF -	United Nations Children's Fund
USA -	United States of America
Vs -	Versus
VSO -	Voluntary Services Overseas
WCF (UK) -	Women and Children First (UK)
WHO -	World Health Organization
WRA -	White Ribbon Alliance
XB -	Cross Bencher

APPENDIXES

Appendix 1:	Introductory letters to APPG on PD&RH
Appendix 2:	APPG on PD&RH committee meeting agendas and minutes.
Appendix 3:	Invitation to Royal Society Report launch: 'People and the Planet' and communications.
Appendix 4:	Communications with Surrey Policy 'child protection team'.
Appendix 5:	Invitation to World Vision Sudan Maternal Health report launch.
Appendix 6:	Invitation to Dalai Lama event with list of APPGs hosting the event and attendance list.
Appendix 7:	Invitation to Marie Stopes International Global Impact Report launch.
Appendix 8:	Invitation to The Elders' event and attendance .list.
Appendix 9:	Invitation to APPG on PD&RH Family Planning dinner.
Appendix 10:	Invitation to The APPGs on International Development and Beyond 2015 roundtable event on Post-2015 Priorities: Perspectives from the Global South.
Appendix 11:	Invitation to MSI Afghanistan briefing meeting: Opportunities, Challenges and Recommendations for Action.
Appendix 12:	Invitation to the APPGs on Health dinner on the post 2015 International Development framework and Global Health.
Appendix 13:	Invitation to UNFPA briefing meeting on: Family Planning and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in China Facts, Opportunities, Challenges and Recommendations for Action.
Appendix 14:	Invitation to IPPF, Population Council and London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine launch of research on linking SRHR and HIV/AIDS services.
Appendix 15:	Briefing from the International Committee of Red Cross on rape in war zones and abortion.
Appendix 16:	Invitation to BBC Media Action meeting: can mobile phones save lives?
Appendix 17:	Invitation to APPG Pro-choice and Sexual Health UK meeting: Climate around abortion and its impact on women's care.
Appendix 18:	Invitation to the Royal Society report press launch: 'People and the Planet'.
Appendix 19:	Invitation to the Royal College of Midwives and White Ribbon Alliance 'Day of the Midwife' celebration event.
Appendix 20:	Programme, MP bios and speaking notes for the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association event with women MPs from Afghanistan and Pakistan.
Appendix 21:	Programme and briefing for the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association UK Lunchtime Lecture Series: 'Realising rights: The role of parliamentarians in tackling forced marriage.
Appendix 22:	Invitation to Reproductive Health Matters 20 th anniversary celebration.
Appendix 23:	Invitation and agenda to Jan Trust Forced Marriage Report launch – consent matter: towards effective prevention of forced marriage within the Pakistani community in the UK.
Appendix 24:	Invitation to DFID Family Planning Summit reception: Science Museum.

Appendix 25:	Invitation to ActionAID briefing meeting on Family Planning, Health and Women's Empowerment in Nigeria.
Appendix 26:	Invitation to the Iranian and Kurdish Women's Rights Organisation 10th anniversary event.
Appendix 27:	Invitation and briefing for the Global Justice Center briefing meeting on rape as a weapon of war in conflict.
Appendix 28:	Invitation to UNFPA State of the World Population report launch with front cover of report and contents pages.
Appendix 29:	Invitation to the APPG on AIDS and UK Consortium of AIDS and International Development World AIDS Day meeting.
Appendix 30:	Communications on Global Justice Center briefing meeting on rape in war zones and access to abortion services.
Appendix 31:	Invitation to SafeHands photographic exhibition.
Appendix 32:	Invitation to Progress Educational Trust briefing meeting on: The donor-conceived perspective.
Appendix 33:	Invitation to White Ribbon Alliance International Women's Day celebration – stories of mothers.
Appendix 34:	Communications with EPF re Mr Volonte's Council of Europe motion for resolution: "Combating Eugenics and discrimination against people with disabilities.
Appendix 35:	APPG on PD&RH updated flyer.
Appendix 36:	Communications with EPF re Mr Tonio Borg's candidacy as European Union Commissioner for Health and Consumers.
Appendix 37a:	Communications with EPF re UK MPs/Peers and their support for the ICPD PoA.
Appendix 37b:	Communications with EPF, IPU and UK MPs re amendments to IPU resolution on Access to Health as a basic right: The role of parliaments in addressing key challenges to securing the health of women and children.
Appendix 38:	Agenda for EPF conference for European APPG Secretariats with participants list.
Appendix 39:	Communications with EuroNGOs re their external evaluation.
Appendix 40:	EuroNGOs AGM programme.
Appendix 41:	Concept note for EPF Philippines study tour with invitation and programme.
Appendix 42:	Communications re APPG on PD&RH Myanmar study tour.
Appendix 43:	Information re Royal Society Report 'People and the Planet' launch.
Appendix 44:	Briefing for 22 nd April 2012: FGM Radio Interview.
Appendix 45:	Information on DFID's forthcoming Family Planning Summit.
Appendix 46:	The Guardian article on the UK Prime Minister being the chairman advising the UN secretary general on the future of the MDGs.
Appendix 47:	DFID Select Committee report: EU development aid cash going to the wrong people and wrong countries.
Appendix 48:	Media release on the UN resolution on adolescents and youth from the 2012 UN Commission on Population and Development.
Appendix 49:	Briefing from World Vision for the international development debate on the Queen's Speech on 17 th May
Appendix 50:	Article on birth-defect risk seen in assisted conception.
Appendix 51:	Briefing for The Queen's Speech debate on International Development.

Appendix 52:	Briefing on the new global maternal mortality trends 1990 – 2010.
Appendix 53:	Summary of the Turkey IPCI ICPD PoA Statement of Commitment.
Appendix 54:	Information on Aung San Suu Kyi arrival to the UK Parliament.
Appendix 55:	Information on UNFPA's plans for Family Planning.
Appendix 56:	Briefing on UK bilateral funding to priority countries
Appendix 57:	Information on the Rio+20 outcome document.
Appendix 58:	IPPF's press statement on Rio+20 outcome document.
Appendix 59:	List of International Development News presenters.
Appendix 60:	DFID's new Logo with the Union Jack.
Appendix 61:	Summary and link to DFID's Annual Report 2011 – 2012.
Appendix 62:	Summary and link to Save the Children and Action Aid's Family Planning reports/briefings.
Appendix 63:	Briefing for the 'conservative women forum'.
Appendix 64:	UNFPA's press release on World Population Day.
Appendix 65:	Reproductive Health Matters' response to the UK London Family Planning Summit.
Appendix 66:	Briefing on NHS abortion consent forms.
Appendix 67:	Briefing on the UK Government Family Planning Summit.
Appendix 68:	The Independent article on HIV cure via bone marrow transplant for cancer.
Appendix 69:	Baroness Jenny Tonge's article published in the Huffington Post on the London Family Planning Summit.
Appendix 70:	Briefing for FGM news-night interview.
Appendix 71:	Comparison data on mortality due to AIDS vs. mortality due to pregnancy and childbirth for women in the reproductive age group.
Appendix 72:	Copy of DFID's website with info on the Family Planning Summit.
Appendix 73:	Briefing on Ban Ki-moon's panel to lead the global development agenda post-2015.
Appendix 74:	Information on child marriage press coverage.
Appendix 75:	Briefing on EU ODA.
Appendix 76:	The Guardian article on misoprostol.
Appendix 77:	Info on NGO side events at the Conservative party conference.
Appendix 78:	Position papers on Population/SRHR and Health in support of HoC and HoL post 2015 MDG debates.
Appendix 79:	Information on the new SS for ID, Justine Greening MP.
Appendix 80:	Information on the re-shuffle and new Ministers support for women's rights in the UK.
Appendix 81:	Article on what does the reshuffle mean for developing countries.
Appendix 82:	Information about the cross party inquiry looking into unwanted pregnancy in the UK.
Appendix 83:	Information on Tony Blair's Faith Foundation and DFID's work with Faith Foundations.
Appendix 84:	Briefing on UN convention on the Right of the Child.
Appendix 85:	Briefing on DFID's partnership with Bayer HealthCare AG contraceptives for 27 Million women and girls.
Appendix 86:	Copy of Ministers key note speeches at the UK Family Planning Summit, with a copy of Guttmacher's and UNFPA's

	publication: Adding it up, as well as Myanmar and Morocco FP/SRHR indicators and assorted articles.
Appendix 87:	Article on Jeremy Hunt MP's voting record on abortion rights.
Appendix 88:	Article on Tessa Jowell MP and Sarah Brown, Patron of WRA 'sure start' initiative in the developing world.
Appendix 89:	Article on Maria Miller MP and her statement on abortion.
Appendix 90:	Article on Female Genital Cutting and the Crown Prosecution meeting.
Appendix 91:	The Independent article on the science of abortion.
Appendix 92:	The Lancet research on Palestine and contraceptive uptake.
Appendix 93:	An analysis and briefing on the Economic Affairs Committee report: The Economic Impact and Effectiveness of Development Aid.
Appendix 94:	Briefing on FP/SRHR – MDG 2015 in support of Mark Lazaroqicz MP's debate in Westminster Hall on 23 rd October.
Appendix 95:	Information on US Aid and abortion.
Appendix 96:	The Guardian article: Abortion counselling review cancelled by Government.
Appendix 97:	Briefing on US funding and rape as a weapon of war and abortion.
Appendix 98:	Information on Mr Tonio Borg and the potential of him being the new EU Commissioner for Health.
Appendix 99:	Population Matter's briefing sent to select peers in support of HoL post 2015 MDG ballet debate on 22 nd November.
Appendix 100:	Copy of UNFPA's The State of World Population 2012 report entitled: By Choice, Not by Chance: Family Planning, Human Rights and Development.
Appendix 101:	Briefings sent in support of the HoL post 2015 MDG ballet debate on 22 nd November.
Appendix 102:	Briefing sent in support of the HoL post 2015 MDG ballet debate 22 nd November.
Appendix 103:	Briefing on Population momentum and child marriage.
Appendix 104:	Information on the Female Genital Mutilation round table meeting with Keir Starmer.
Appendix 105:	EPF analysis of votes for Mr Tonio Borg as the new EU Commissioner for Health.
Appendix 106:	UNFPA State of the World Population report.
Appendix 107:	Invitation to the Royal Society event: Valuing nature: An audience with the Natural Capital Committee.
Appendix 108:	Invitations to the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) High Level Meeting Side Event: Europe Aid and Beyond'.
Appendix 109:	Child marriage follow up oral DFID PQ.
Appendix 110:	The Guardian article: UK aid budget takes hit in chancellor's autumn statement.
Appendix 111:	A copy and summary of President Vladimir Putin annual address to the Federal Assembly of the State.
Appendix 112:	Communications in support of the HoL 9 th January 2013 debate on UK funding abortion care in armed conflict for rape victims.
Appendix 113:	EuroMapping 2012 booklet on DAC Official Development Assistance.
Appendix 114:	Briefing on Mali's and Sahel's population.

Appendix 115:	The Guardian article: David Cameron's golden thread and the post 2015 MDG framework.
Appendix 116:	MSI's press release on Bill Gates annual letter and its reference to Family Planning.
Appendix 117:	Summary information on the Royal College of Midwives 2012 report: The State of Maternity Services in the UK.
Appendix 118:	Articles on Ethiopian Jews and coerced depo injections.
Appendix 119:	Information on DFID opposition team's thoughts on the new post 2015 MDG framework.
Appendix 120:	New York Times article on India vs. China vs. Egypt.
Appendix 121:	Briefings in support of the HoC debates on 14 th February on sexual violence in conflict states and child marriage.
Appendix 122:	National Health Service briefings in response to regulations opening up in England's NHS to competition.
Appendix 123:	Article on David Cameron's 'aid for military'.
Appendix 124:	Article on Israeli Ethiopian birth control to be examined.
Appendix 125:	NGO MDG post 2015 briefing in support of 14 th March HoL population debate.
Appendix 126:	IPPF, MSI and EFP briefings for International Women's Day debates.
Appendix 127:	Information for the HoL International Women's Day debate.
Appendix 128:	Facts and statistics on FGM and Child Marriage in support of HoL debates.
Appendix 129:	Justine Greening MP, SS for ID International Women's Day statement.
Appendix 130:	Information on the World Health Organization Europe health report.
Appendix 131:	Information on MSI chief executive officer departure.
Appendix 132:	Health Worker briefing in support of Lord Crisp's debate on 25 st March 2013.
Appendix 133:	Information about UK's new sexual health improvement framework.
Appendix 134:	Briefing in support of the HoL debate on the APPG on Global Health report: 'All the Talents'.
Appendix 135:	Briefing from They Foundation on forced hysterectomies in India.
Appendix 136:	Information on the updated DFID shadow team.
Appendix 137:	Communications with UNFPA Head Office.
Appendix 138:	Communications with UNFPA Nordic office on child marriage.
Appendix 139:	Communications with IPPF re post 2015 MDG framework, DFID Family Planning Summit and child marriage hearings.
Appendix 140:	Communications with MSI re Lynne Featherstone MP's visit to Uganda, child marriage hearings, the G8 Parliamentary Conference and the establishment of an APPG in Afghanistan.
Appendix 141:	Communications with UK SRHR Network re new SS for ID, Justine Greening MP.
Appendix 142:	Communications with the Royal Society re their 'People and Planet' publication and launch.
Appendix 143:	Communications with Rio+20 SRHR NGOs re Rio+20 and parliamentary debates and questions.

Appendix 144:	Communications with International Medical Corps re funding for reproductive health and safe abortion services for survivors of sexual violence in fragile states.
Appendix 145:	Communications with Surrey Police child protection team re child marriage.
Appendix 146:	Communications with Keir Starmer, Director of Public Prosecutions re Female Genital Cutting meeting.
Appendix 147:	Communications with film producer: Deeyah re her child marriage film.
Appendix 148:	Communications with Stuart Basten re his parliamentary population publication and his application for the Economic and Social Research Council research grant.
Appendix 149:	Communications with They Foundation, India re forced hysterectomies in India.
Appendix 150:	Communications with Development Media International.
Appendix 151:	Communications with Womankind re Baroness Jenny Tonge's HoL speech on survivors of rape in conflict in January 2013.
Appendix 152:	Population Action International "landscape assessment" survey on Family Planning and reproductive health.
Appendix 153:	Coca Cola, Myriad (Durex) and Unilever correspondence.
Appendix 154:	Communications with Christine McCafferty.
Appendix 155:	Communications with Garvin Horwich, Manchester University student.
Appendix 156:	Communications with Royal Wotton Bassett Academy.
Appendix 157:	Submission to the DFID Select Committee consultation on the post 2015 Development Goals, September 2012.
Appendix 158:	Submission to the EU consultation on the post 2015 Development Goals, September 2012.
Appendix 159:	Submission to WHO consultation on the World We Want – Health in the Post-2015 Development Agenda, October 2012.
Appendix 160:	Submission to DFID Select Committee inquiry into food security, November 2012.
Appendix 161:	Submission to DFID shadow team consultation on the post 2015 MDG framework, 22 nd January 2013.
Appendix 162:	Submission to DFID Select Committee inquiry into violence against women and girls, February 2013.
Appendix 163:	Submission to UK Labour Party Policy Commission on post 2015, February 2013.
Appendix 164:	Media training course certificate.
Appendix 165:	Briefing for Female Genital Mutilation Skynews interview.
Appendix 166:	Communications with Maria Polachowska re child marriage for BBC Newsnight.
Appendix 167:	Communications with Maria Caspani, Production editor, AlertNet, TrustLaw Women, Thomson Reuters Foundation re child marriage and published article.
Appendix 168:	Communications with Sarah Boseley re the Guardian article on HIV/AIDs highlighting linkages between child marriage and HIV/AIDS.
Appendix 169:	Communications with David Blair re his 28 th June Telegraph article: "One million teenage girls 'suffer death or injury from pregnancy'.

Appendix 170:	Communications with Jaz Cummins, Community Coordinator – Global Development, The re their new two week project which will map views on barriers to contraception access.
Appendix 171:	APPG on PD&RH press release and op-ed on the London Family Planning Summit and article in the Huffington Post on 23 rd July.
Appendix 172:	APPG on PD&RH press release for World Contraception Day.
Appendix 173:	APPG on PD&RH op-ed for International Day of the Girl.
Appendix 174:	Richard Ottaway MP's speech at the Population Institute Media award ceremony.
Appendix 175:	Letter send to The Guardian in response to the article: "Meaning of David Cameron's golden thread must be untangled, MPs say".
Appendix 176:	APPG on PD&RH press release for Valentine's Day.
Appendix 177:	APPG on PD&RH press release for International Women's Day.
Appendix 178:	HoC oral ministerial statement on Equal Marriage Consultation, 11 th December 2012.
Appendix 179:	HoC written ministerial statement on Tackling Sexual Violence in Conflict, 12 th June 2012.
Appendix 180:	HoC written ministerial statement on International Development – Departmental Annual Report and Accounts, 25 th June 2012.
Appendix 181:	HoC written ministerial statement on Abortion Providers (Inspections), 12 th July 2012.
Appendix 182:	HoC written ministerial statement on Nursing and Midwifery Council Grant, 16 th October 2012.
Appendix 183:	HoC written ministerial statement on India (Aid), 9 th November 2012.
Appendix 184:	HoC written ministerial statement on Birth Environment (Improvements), 12 th November 2012.
Appendix 185:	HoC written ministerial statement on Rwanda, 30 th November 2012.
Appendix 186:	HoC written ministerial statement on Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority and Human Tissue Authority, 25 th January 2013.
Appendix 187:	HoC written ministerial statement on Rwanda, 1 st March 2013.
Appendix 188:	HoC written ministerial statement on Violence against Women and Girls Action Plan 2013, 7 th March 2013.
Appendix 189:	HoC written ministerial statement on the Review of Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE), 21 st March 2013.
Appendix 190:	HoC written ministerial statement on the Independent Commission for Aid Impact, 21 st March 2013.
Appendix 191:	HoC Bill on Surrogate Parents (Leave, Pay and Allowance Arrangements), 17 th April 2012.
Appendix 192:	HoC Bill on Relationship, Drug and Alcohol Education (Curriculum), 17 th October 2012.
Appendix 193:	HoC Bill on Family Perinatal Support and Adoption, 7 th November 2012.
Appendix 194:	HoC Bill on Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Bill, 5 th February 2013.

Appendix 195:	HoC debate on Rio+20 Summit, 26 th June 2012.
Appendix 196:	HoC debate on MDGs, 3 rd July 2012.
Appendix 197:	HoC debate on FGM, 5 th July 2012.
Appendix 198:	HoC debate on Development Aid (Legislation), 11 th July 2012.
Appendix 199:	HoC debate on Immigration, 6 th September 2012.
Appendix 200:	HoC debate on Democratic Republic of the Congo, 22 nd October 2012.
Appendix 201:	HoC debate on Post-2015 Development Agenda, 22 nd October 2012.
Appendix 202:	HoC debate on Induced Abortion, 31 st October 2012.
Appendix 203:	HoC debate on Stillbirth Certification, 31 st October 2012.
Appendix 204:	HoC debate on Overseas Aid (UK-Based Consultants), 20 th November 2012.
Appendix 205:	HoC debate on Sexual Health Data, 13 th December 2012.
Appendix 206:	HoC debate on HIV (Developing Countries), 19 th December 2012.
Appendix 207:	HoC debate on FGM, 8 th January 2013.
Appendix 208:	HoC debate on Neonatal Care, 6 th February 2013.
Appendix 209:	HoC debate on Violence against Women and Girls, 14 th February 2013.
Appendix 210:	HoC debate on Sexual Violence in Conflict, 14 th February 2013.
Appendix 211:	HoC debate on UK's Development Work (Girls and Women), 7 th March 2013.
Appendix 212:	HoC debate on Fetal Anti-Convulsant Syndrome, 26 th March 2013.
Appendix 213:	HoC oral PQ on Forced Marriage (Prosecutions), 22 nd May 2012.
Appendix 214:	HoC oral PQ on ODA, 23 rd May 2012.
Appendix 215:	HoC oral PQ on Women's Health (Egypt), 23 rd May 2012.
Appendix 216:	HoC oral PQ on Post-MDG framework (Women and Girls), 23 rd May 2012.
Appendix 217:	HoC oral PQ on Sex Education, 18 th June 2012.
Appendix 218:	HoC oral PQ on Forced Marriage, 28 th June 2012.
Appendix 219:	HoC oral PQ on Democratic Republic of Congo, 31 st October 2012.
Appendix 220:	HoC oral PQ on UK Aid (Uganda and Rwanda), 19 th November 2012.
Appendix 221:	HoC oral PQ on Development Spending Target, 12 th December 2012.
Appendix 222:	HoC oral PQ Question on Sustainable Development Goals, 12 th December 2012.
Appendix 223:	HoC oral PQ on The Global Fund, 12 th December 2012.
Appendix 224:	HoC oral PQ on Departmental Value for Money, 12 th December 2012.
Appendix 225:	HoC oral PQ on Midwives, 15 th January 2013.
Appendix 226:	HoC oral PQ on Sexual Health Policy, 15 th January 2013.
Appendix 227:	HoC oral PQ on Women's Health and Education (Afghanistan and Pakistan), 22 nd January 2013.
Appendix 228:	HoC oral PQ on Safety of Women (India), 22 nd January 2013.
Appendix 229:	HoC oral PQ on Aid Target, 30 th January 2013.

Appendix 230:	HoC oral PQ on International Aid Targets, 30 th January 2013.
Appendix 231:	HoC oral PQ on FGM, 6 th February 2013.
Appendix 232:	HoC oral PQ on FGM, 11 th February 2013.
Appendix 233:	HoC oral PQ on FGM (Conviction Rates), 12 th February 2013.
Appendix 234:	HoC oral PQ on Violence against Women and Girls, 14 th February 2013.
Appendix 235:	HoC oral PQ on Sexual Health Policy, 26 th February 2013.
Appendix 236:	HoC oral PQ on Alcohol Consumption (Pregnancy), 26 th February 2013.
Appendix 237:	HoC oral PQ on Women's Rights in India and Pakistan, 6 th March 2013.
Appendix 238:	HoC oral PQ on FGM, 6 th March 2013.
Appendix 239:	HoC oral PQ on Human Papilloma Virus, 6 th March 2013.
Appendix 240:	HoC oral PQ on Overseas Aid (Private Sector Contracts), 11 th March 2013.
Appendix 241:	HoC oral PQ on Departmental Responsibilities (International Development), 13 th March 2013.
Appendix 242:	HoC oral PQ on Post-2015 Development Goals, 13 th March 2013.
Appendix 243:	HoC oral PQ on Post-2015 Development Agenda, 21 st March 2013.
Appendix 244:	MPs signing EDM 62 – Group B Streptococcus, 15 th May 2012.
Appendix 245:	MPs signing EDM 64 – Group B Streptococcus (No. 2), 15 th May 2012.
Appendix 246:	MPs signing EDM 74 – Supporting Mothers at Risk of Perinatal Depression, 16 th May 2012.
Appendix 247:	MPs signing EDM 106 – FGM, 22 nd May 2012.
Appendix 248:	MPs signing EDM 178 – NHS Maternity Services in England, 12 th June 2012.
Appendix 249:	MPs signing EDM 200 – Cervical Screening Awareness Week, 13 th June 2012.
Appendix 250:	MPs signing EDM 250 – Hormone Pregnancy Test Drugs, 21 st June 2012.
Appendix 251:	MPs signing EDM 426 – HIV Self-Testing, 3 rd September 2012.
Appendix 252:	MPs signing EDM 496 – Day of the Girl, 11 th September 2012.
Appendix 253:	MPs signing EDM 543 – The Birth I Want Campaign, 18 th September 2012.
Appendix 254:	MPs signing EDM 615 – Group B Streptococcus Infection, 22 nd October 2012.
Appendix 255:	MPs signing EDM 738 – Aid to India, 19 th November 2012.
Appendix 256:	MPs signing EDM 744 – Death of Savita Halappanavar, 20 th November 2012.
Appendix 257:	MPs signing EDM 781 – BLISS – Premature Babies Health Charity, 27 th November 2012.
Appendix 258:	MPs signing EDM 875 – Screening of Group B Streptococcus, 20 th December 2012.
Appendix 259:	MPs signing EDM 936 – Abortions of Baby Girls, 16 th January 2013.

Appendix 260:	MPs signing EDM 1021 – Fetal Valproate Syndrome, 5 th February 2013.
Appendix 261:	MPs signing EDM 1050 – Reporting of Reasons for Abortion, 6 th February 2013.
Appendix 262:	MPs signing EDM 1087 – UK’s Role in Fighting Global Poverty, 13 th February 2013
Appendix 263:	HoL oral ministerial statement on Equal Marriage Consultation, 11 th December 2012.
Appendix 264:	HoL written ministerial statement on Abortion, 12 th June 2012.
Appendix 265:	HoL written ministerial statement on Embryology, 28 th June 2012.
Appendix 266:	HoL written ministerial statement on Rwanda, 24 th September 2012.
Appendix 267:	HoL written ministerial statement on Women: Peace and Security, 31 st October 2012.
Appendix 268:	HoL written ministerial statement on Health: Maternity Services, 12 th November 2012.
Appendix 269:	HoL written ministerial statement on Rwanda, 30 th November 2012.
Appendix 270:	HoL written ministerial statement on Violence against Women and Girls, 7 th March 2013.
Appendix 271:	HoL written ministerial statement on DFID: Tied Aid, 11 th March 2013.
Appendix 272:	HoL debate on the Queens Speech (6 th Day), 9 th May 2012.
Appendix 273:	HoL debate on Economic Affairs Committee (EAC) Report: Development Aid, 22 nd October 2012.
Appendix 274:	HoL debate on Treatment of Homosexual Men and Women in the Developing World, 25 th October 2012.
Appendix 275:	HoL debate on MDGs, 22 nd November 2012.
Appendix 276:	HoL debate on Violence against Women, 29 th November 2012.
Appendix 277:	HoL debate on Embryology, 24 th January 2013.
Appendix 278:	HoL debate on Rwanda, 4 th March 2013.
Appendix 279:	HoL debate on International Women’s Day, 7 th March 2013.
Appendix 280:	HoL debate on HIV/AIDS: Commonwealth Countries, 13 th March 2013.
Appendix 281:	HoL debate on Education: Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHEE), 21 st March 2013.
Appendix 282:	HoL debate on Independent Commission for Aid Impact, 21 st March 2013
Appendix 283:	HoL oral PQ on Overseas Aid, 24 th September 2012.
Appendix 284:	HoL oral PQ on Health: Babies, 24 th September 2012.
Appendix 285:	HoL oral PQ on Health: Cervical Cancer, 24 th September 2012.
Appendix 286:	HoL oral PQ on Health: Circumcision, 24 th September 2012.
Appendix 287:	HoL oral PQ on Population Growth, 24 th September 2012.
Appendix 288:	HoL oral PQ on Abortion, 11 th October 2012.
Appendix 289:	HoL oral PQ on Health: HIV, 29 th November 2012.
Appendix 290:	HoL oral PQ on Abortion, 4 th December 2012.
Appendix 291:	HoL oral PQ on Homosexuality in Nigeria and Uganda, 9 th January 2013.
Appendix 292:	HoL oral PQ on Health: HIV Strategy for England, 15 th January 2013.

Appendix 293:	HoL oral PQ on Health: Midwives, 25 th February 2013.
Appendix 294:	HoL oral PQ on Crime: Sexual Violence, 6 th March 2013.
Appendix 295:	HoL oral PQ on UK: Ageing Population, 19 th March 2013.
Appendix 296:	HoL oral PQ on Global Health, 25 th March 2013.
Appendix 297:	Congratulations letter sent to new SS for ID, Justine Greening MP.
Appendix 298:	Correspondence re DFID and APPG on PD&RH AGM, 19 th November, 2012.
Appendix 299:	Invitation to DFID Family Planning Summit - Stakeholder Group meeting, 28 th September 2012.
Appendix 300:	Invitation to DFID Panel Discussion on Women's Rights in Afghanistan, 11 th December 2012.
Appendix 301:	Invitation to DFID Family Planning Summit – Stakeholder Group meeting, 8 th February 2013
Appendix 302:	Correspondence with UK Government on Rio+20 and Family Planning.
Appendix 303:	Correspondence with David Cameron MP, Prime Minister on Rio+20 and the Royal Society report.
Appendix 304:	Correspondence with DFID re IPCI ICPD PoA, Turkey Declaration of commitment.
Appendix 305:	Sample correspondence re Rape as a weapon of war and access to safe abortion service.
Appendix 306:	Correspondence with David Cameron MP, UK Prime Minister re G8 Parliamentary Conference and SRHR/Family Planning.
Appendix 307:	Istanbul commitment sent to UK Cabinet Ministers and relevant civil servants.
Appendix 308:	Correspondence with SRHR NGO re DFID and Bill & Melinda Gates Family Planning Summit.
Appendix 309:	Invitation and programme to University College London and Women and Children First (UK) workshop on “Improving Maternal, Newborn and Child Health in Low-Income Countries.
Appendix 310:	Agenda and participants list for Sex og Samfund strategic meeting - Looking towards 2015: Getting SRHR and population dynamics integrated into the SDGs and post-2015 agenda.
Appendix 311:	Programme and presentation to the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists International Women's Day: End Forced marriages Event.
Appendix 312:	Abstract and proposal sent to Addis Ababa Family Planning Conference organisers.
Appendix 313:	Communications with Maria Sahugillo, El pays and press article.
Appendix 314:	Communications with UK APG on Sudan.
Appendix 315:	Communications with UK APPGs on International Development.
Appendix 316:	Communications with UK APPGs on Health.
Appendix 317:	Communications with UK APPG on Global Health.
Appendix 318:	Communications with UK APPG on Learning outside the classroom.
Appendix 319:	Communications with UK APPG on Sexual and Reproductive Health in the UK.

Appendix 320:	Child Marriage Hearing committee meeting agenda and minutes.
Appendix 321:	Child Marriage Hearing press release.
Appendix 322:	Child Marriage Hearing schedule.
Appendix 323:	Invitation to Child Marriage Hearing report launch.
Appendix 324:	Press coverage for Child Marriage Hearing report launch.
Appendix 325:	Correspondence with Lord Taylor of Holbech, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for the Home Office on child marriage.
Appendix 326:	Child marriage articles.
Appendix 327:	Correspondence with surrey police team and Keir Starmer re the Crown Prosecution Service meeting and attendee list.
Appendix 328:	Female Genital Cutting articles.
Appendix 329:	APPG on PD&RH accounts.