



Department  
for International  
Development



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*Dear Natalie,*

Thank you for your letter of 4 April, about the 58<sup>th</sup> session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW).

I would like to thank you for your kind comments about the positive contribution made by UK's ministers and officials at the CSW.

I was particularly pleased to see that the Agreed Conclusions included a call for a standalone goal on gender equality, women's and girls' empowerment and the human rights of girls and women; ending all forms violence against women and girls; economic empowerment; leadership and participation in decision making; and ending harmful practice, including Child, Early and Forced Marriage, and Female Genital Mutilation.

The UK Government is building a strong coalition with others to ensure that gender equality features prominently in the framework that is eventually agreed by member states of the United Nations. The voices of people living in poverty, including girls and women, must be at the heart of the debate.

I look forward to UNA – UK's continuing support on these critical issues to improve the lives of girls and women across the world.

*Best Wishes,*

*Justine*

JUSTINE GREENING