



Foreign, Commonwealth  
& Development Office

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Dr Christian Turner CMG  
High Commissioner to Pakistan

24 September 2020

*Dear Christian,*

I am writing to thank you and your team for hosting my productive virtual visit to Pakistan on 8 September. I was delighted that, despite the challenges posed by Covid-19, I was able to join you in Islamabad and beyond to progress business on UK priorities including Freedom of Religion or Belief, COP26, Media Freedom, tricky bilateral issues and priority consular cases. I particularly enjoyed my inspiring meeting with the girls who benefit from our Advancing Action for Adolescent Girls programme in Rahim Yan Khan and Bahawalpur. Despite the challenges of a virtual visit, I was pleased that our virtual meeting allowed me to see the impact of the BHC's work on the ground, farther from Islamabad than I would have been able to travel in person.

I would like to thank BHC Islamabad and the Pakistan Network for their quick work to support to my smooth visit and to London FCDO colleagues who prepared for my visit. In particular, I would like to thank Michael Worrall and Ben Barker-Street for their enthusiasm and tenacity in organising my programme and Eleanor Floyd for providing my comprehensive briefing pack. Thanks also to all the team who supported my visit including but not limited to Cameron Millar for his stellar work on comms, Callum Trimble-Jenkins, Amna Khan, Mark Day, Iona Thomas and Saima Anwer.

I was delighted that my first virtual visit in the new FCDO was to BHC Islamabad and commend your approach to one mission working, highlighted in my conversation with your team, lead by Amanda Mcloughlin. I look forward to continuing to work closely with the Pakistan network to deliver on UK priorities in follow up to my visit, including Girls Education, tackling polio, the Covid-19 pandemic and the strengthening of Freedom of Religion or Belief.

I look forward to visiting Pakistan in the near future.

*Yours sincerely,*

**LORD (TARIQ) AHMAD OF WIMBLEDON**  
Minister of State for South Asia and the Commonwealth  
Prime Minister's Special Representative on Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict