Dear Stephen

Thank you for your letter of 29 December 2016 regarding official development assistance (ODA) expenditure in North Africa.

You asked about UK funding in Tunisia; education programmes in Tunisia and other countries being delivered through the North Africa Joint Unit; the UK contributions to trust funds managed by the World Bank, African Development Bank and the EU in North Africa; and the FCO’s travel advice for Tunisia. I will address these specific questions in turn below.

**Bilateral programming in Tunisia**

I can confirm that the figures provided to Jeremy Lefroy by the British Embassy are correct. This financial year across bilateral and cross-government funds, including the Conflict, Security and Stability Fund, the UK will spend over £8 million in Tunisia. This is up from £7 million in 2015/16, and from £3.5 million in 2014/15. In terms of planned spending for subsequent years, exact figures are to be determined. But with the growth of the North Africa Good Governance Fund, which will total £280 million across the region in the period up to 2020, the figures in your letter for Tunisia are a reasonable estimate.

**Education programmes in North Africa**

You also asked for information about spending on education in North Africa, which by country is split as follows (all figures are for current financial year unless otherwise stated). Most spending in North Africa is managed by the Embassies in each of the countries in which we work, so this list includes bilateral spending that is not administered through the North Africa Joint Unit.

**Egypt:** £120k for scoping activities focused on the reform of school-age education.

**Tunisia:** nil this financial year, although as you are aware we are considering new projects with an education focus, including on addressing the drop-out rates in schools in the interior regions.
Libya: £5k for a bilateral programme with the British Council, providing teachers in two universities to deliver English language teacher training focused on new technologies.

Algeria: £1.29m for projects on employability, skills and labour market access with universities, students and graduates and support to school improvement and quality through professional development of existing school inspectors.

Morocco: nil this financial year.

**UK contributions to World Bank, African Development Bank and EU trust funds in North African countries**

The breakdown of UK contributions for this financial year to trust funds managed by the World Bank and African Development Bank is as follows. These figures relate to where the UK has made a direct bilateral contribution to a trust fund, rather than imputed UK shares of our core contribution to each institution, which would of course be much larger.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trust Fund operator</th>
<th>Egypt</th>
<th>Tunisia</th>
<th>Libya</th>
<th>Algeria</th>
<th>Morocco</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>World Bank</td>
<td>£3 million</td>
<td>£440,000</td>
<td>£1.1 million</td>
<td>nil</td>
<td>nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African Development Bank</td>
<td>nil</td>
<td>£1 million</td>
<td>nil</td>
<td>nil</td>
<td>nil</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The UK does not currently make any direct contributions to EU trust funds in North Africa. The North Africa window of the EU Emergency Trust Fund (EUTF) for Africa (for migration) is €256 million in total, of which around 15% comes from the UK's general contribution to EU funding. A detailed breakdown on the use of the EUTF in North Africa is available on the Commission's website at: http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/regions/africa/eu-emergency-trust-fund/north-africa_en

**FCO travel advice for Tunisia**

As you know, the FCO currently advises against all but essential travel to Tunisia. Having consulted my colleague Tobias Ellwood, I can confirm the travel advice for Tunisia, as with all countries, is being kept under constant review. The safety of British nationals is the paramount consideration with regard to travel advice.

We recognise that because of the current advice against all but essential travel, Tunisia receives few visitors from the UK. However, the tourism sector in Tunisia is not wholly dependent on this, and the impacts should be seen in the context of tourism from other countries. Some of those countries have also seen heavy falls in tourist numbers since the 2015 terrorist attacks, while others, such as Russia, have seen large increases in the number of their visitors in the same period.

Rory Stewart