



HM Treasury, 1 Horse Guards Road, London, SW1A 2HQ

The Rt Hon Fiona Mactaggart MP  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

12 JUL 2016

Dear Fiona,

Thank you for your email of 10 June on behalf of several of your constituents about double taxation agreements (DTAs).

Your constituents express several concerns about the UK's DTAs with developing countries, and mention in particular the 1955 agreement with Malawi, suggesting that it allows UK companies operating there to pay little or no tax.

The UK has an on-going programme of negotiating and renegotiating DTAs, including with developing countries. Where a developing country has wanted to negotiate or renegotiate a DTA, the UK has sought to engage with them. Our new DTAs always contain measures which challenge the abuse of reliefs and benefits contained within the DTA.

In the light of your constituents' concerns, I hope they will be pleased to know that the DTA with Malawi has, in fact, already been renegotiated, and a new agreement should be signed shortly. I hope that they will also be reassured to know that the Malawian government has stated that there is no evidence of any UK companies using the 1955 DTA to deprive Malawi of its revenues.

Please pass on my thanks to your constituents for taking the trouble to make us aware of these concerns.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Gauke'.

DAVID GAUKE