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By email to: EReece@unicef.org.uk

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Dear young climate leaders,

Many thanks for taking the time to write to me on such an important matter impacting people of all ages across the world and for sharing the impressive volume of postcards from pupils across the country.

As you will know, the UK is hosting the COP26 climate change summit in Glasgow, this November. Climate change is affecting the lives of everyone and it is our responsibility to bring world leaders together and ensure we can create a more positive future.

With this in mind, we are committed as the UK Presidency to make COP26 the most inclusive COP ever. An all of society approach is essential for the transition to a better planet. Governments, business, investors, cities, regions, civil society, youth, indigenous people and faiths need to work together in taking immediate action to support green and resilient change if we are to improve our planet.

I am delighted to hear that Unicef UK has been working with thousands of schools up and down the country to teach children about their rights and the important role they play in making a difference. It is our responsibility as Presidency to make sure world leaders understand these issues too.

On World Children's Day – a day to lift children's voices and efforts to reimagine a better world for future generations, we recognise that young people around the world are a powerful catalyst for change. Reading through your letters is an important reminder that young people are passionate about creating a better future for themselves and others.

This is why we are committed to involving young people in the planning and hosting of COP26 this November. We have established a dedicated youth engagement team in the COP26 Cabinet Office unit, who are coordinating the UK Government's strategy to ensure

youth voices are heard at COP26 and in its legacy. I am aware that my officials have recently met with your team and are keen to continue working closely with you in the run up to COP26. We have also created the COP26 Civil Society and Youth advisory council, where young activists, NGOs, indigenous peoples and faith groups are very much part of our conversations in planning COP26. I am also committed to meeting with civil society and youth in every country I visit and have been engaging with inspiring young climate leaders on recent visits.

In addition, we are working in partnership with the Italian Government, who will host the Pre-COP and Youth4Climate2021: Driving Ambition Event this September in Milan. The Youth4Climate Event will bring together 400 youth delegates to discuss a number of topics with a final declaration submitted to COP26.

Along with planning for COP26, the UK has launched the Together for Our Planet campaign. As part of the campaign, we are encouraging people to share what they are doing using #TogetherForOurPlanet on all social media platforms and joining others through the Count Us In global action aggregator. For more information on how you can get involved, please visit www.ukcop26.org/together-for-our-planet or reach out to the team directly at TogetherForOurPlanet@cabinetoffice.gov.uk.

I encourage you to continue working with officials in the Cabinet Office's COP26 Unit and BEIS to ensure the voices of young people are heard at COP26 and in its legacy.

Yours sincerely,



The Rt Hon Alok Sharma MP
COP President Designate

Thank you for your letter.