



OFFICE OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS APPOINTMENTS

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Rt Hon Alistair Burt MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Dear Alistair,

4 June 2014

INDEPENDENT CONSULTANCY - COMMISSIONS WITH GLOBAL GSA GROUP BV AND GLOBAL PARTNERS GOVERNANCE PRACTICE LTD.

You asked for the Committee's advice about accepting commissions with Global GSA Group BV and Global Partners Governance Practice Ltd (GPG), having left your ministerial position in October 2013.

The Committee noted that the offers came about following discussions in April 2014 and November 2013 with the CEO and Director respectively and noted that you had no previous contact with Global GSA Group.

The Committee took into account that you were aware of GPG's work with the FCO's Arab Partnership whilst you were in office and you met those involved in delivering programmes for the UK Government, but made no executive decision on the awarding of any contract or grant. The Committee also noted that GPG has been working with parliaments, parties, politicians and staff in countries throughout the Middle East and North Africa, including Iraq, Egypt, Jordan, Oman, Bahrain and Kuwait.

The Committee agrees that the commissions are permissible within the terms of your independent consultancy and can be accepted as soon as you wish. These conditions are:

- that you should not draw on any privileged information available to you as a Minister;

Members:

Mark Addison, Sir Colin Budd KCMG, Rt Hon Lord Dholakia OBE,
Mary Jo Jacobi, Rt Hon Baroness Liddell of Coatdyke
Sir Hugh Stevenson, General the Lord Walker of Aldringham GCB CMG CBE

- for 12 months from your last day in ministerial office, you should not undertake any work as a consultant which involves providing advice to any company or organisation on the terms of any bid or contract relating to the work of your former Department, the FCO;
- for two years from your last day in ministerial office, you should not become personally involved in lobbying the UK Government on behalf of your new company or its clients; and
- once you have received approval to set up as an independent consultant, for two years from your last day in ministerial office you must seek confirmation from the **Committee directly** that each individual commission is permissible under the terms of your consultancy before taking it up. If, after enquiry, the Committee takes the view that a commission is, or may be, outside the terms of the consultancy you will be expected to submit a fresh application.

I would be grateful if you could let me know when you take up these commissions, or if it is announced that you are to do so. This will enable the Committee to publish brief details on the regularly updated consolidated list on its website and in its next annual report. This letter may also be published (with relevant redactions of personal information).

Yours sincerely,



DEAN PONDER
COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT

Members:

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Mary Jo Jacobi, Rt Hon Baroness Liddell of Coatdyke
Sir Hugh Stevenson, General the Lord Walker of Aldringham GCB CMG CBE