

11 March 2013

Our reference: MIN/44728/2012

Lucy Johnson
Friends of Maldives team
Email: friendsofmaldives.uk@gmail.com



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

King Charles Street
London SW1A 2AH

Dear Lucy Johnson;

Thank you for your email of 11 February about Maldives.

The British Government welcomed the publication of the Commission of National Inquiry (CoNI) report. We will continue to encourage the Maldivian Government to fully implement its recommendations in order to further consolidate democracy in Maldives. We believe that it is in the best interests of the Maldivian people to focus on the future, and we look forward with interest to free, fair, and inclusive elections in September, in which all parties are able to participate fully. As I stated following my visit to Maldives, it is important for all parties to be able to participate in elections with the candidate of their choice.

We remain concerned about the political situation in Maldives, including allegations of physical and political intimidation of Parliamentarians and arrests which appear to be politically motivated. We condemn all instances of violence, or threats of violence, against all individuals and groups. Acts of violence, abuse, intimidation, or threats must be thoroughly investigated, and those responsible brought to justice. During my visit to Maldives earlier this month, I raised with the Maldivian Government the importance of fully investigating all allegations of police brutality, and ensuring that the perpetrators are brought to justice.

The British Government will continue to encourage the Maldivian Government to comply with their obligations under international human rights and humanitarian law, and to take the necessary measures to protect individuals. Our High Commissioner to Maldives will continue to raise these concerns in his regular dialogue with the Maldivian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Yours sincerely

Alistair Burt

ALISTAIR BURT