## <u>Press release: PM statement on Crown</u> <u>Prince and Deputy Prime Minister of</u> <u>Saudi Arabia</u>

I am pleased to welcome the appointment of His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed bin Salman as the Crown Prince and Deputy Prime Minister of Saudi Arabia.

The relationship between Saudi Arabia and the UK is strong and historic, and we continue to work closely together in a range of areas.

Our security and intelligence cooperation is vital as we tackle the shared threat of terrorism and our growing trade and investment ties are important for the prosperity of all our citizens.

Britain remains a firm supporter of Saudi Arabia's ambitious reform agenda 'Vision 2030' which is essential for Saudi Arabia's long-term stability and success.

I look forward to working with Prince Mohammed bin Salman to deepen our close bilateral ties in the years ahead, building on the constructive meetings we had in Saudi Arabia earlier this year.

I also pay tribute to the work of His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed bin Naif, who has played a central role in our counter-terrorism collaboration and been a firm friend of the UK for many years.