

# Press release: PM announces new measures to help Africa boost its prosperity and stability

Prime Minister Theresa May is to unveil an ambitious package of support to create new wealth in Africa – reducing the continent's reliance upon aid and improving global security.

Speaking to G20 leaders in Hamburg today (Saturday), the Prime Minister will call for global action to unlock the huge untapped economic potential of Africa.

She will say a more prosperous Africa would lift millions of people out of poverty while also offering the UK greater security at home and significant future trading opportunities.

The new long term approach to be set out by the Prime Minister will be based on three key principles:

- Building a modern partnership with Africa which is focussed much more strongly on supporting African aspirations for trade, investment and growth;
- Creating millions of new jobs;
- A commitment to work with others including the private sector to stimulate trillions of pounds/dollars investment into Africa.

Some 20 million jobs need to be created in Africa every year until 2035 just to absorb new entrants into the labour force.

The Prime Minister will say to the G20 that if young people remain permanently excluded with jobs and opportunities always out of reach then destabilising migratory patterns will persist – with extremist causes and criminality more likely to thrive.

But the Prime Minister will say that, with the right approach, if we get this right, our efforts will make it less likely that people migrate to Europe, turn to extremism or join criminal networks.

The Prime Minister will announce a package of new measures designed to help Africa reduce its reliance on aid and boost its prosperity and stability over the long-term, including:

- Announcing a new London Centre for Global Disaster Protection, which will use world-leading UK expertise and innovation to help developing countries strengthen disaster planning and use insurance to provide more cost-effective, rapid and reliable finance in emergencies, such as the severe drought in East Africa. This will reduce the need for expensive humanitarian aid, reassure private investors and help people rebuild

their lives. Insurance protection built through this centre could provide £2 billion when crises hit to ensure that the high costs of disasters aren't borne by people or businesses trapping them in cycles of poverty, and its work to build insurance markets in developing countries could generate billions of pounds each year in additional national investment to boost economic development;

- New support (£60 million) to help Africa integrate into global financial markets, by building a robust and transparent financial sector that will attract more investment and financial innovation, help its banking sector stand on its own two feet and direct finance where it is most needed. This paves the way for a strong partnership with the City of London, creating more opportunities for London to become the finance hub for Africa;
- Providing £61 million to boost trade infrastructure in Tanzania – including working with the World Bank to nearly double the capacity of Dar es Salaam port;
- £30 million dedicated to helping Somalia's state and economy recover from conflict by building a functioning civil service for sound economic management and helping up to a million people benefit from better roads and water supply; and
- £35 million UK support to Ethiopia and £11.8 million to Rwanda to help attract private investment so these countries can be less dependent on aid.

The Prime Minister will call on other G20 leaders to prove similar assistance to other African countries to help create millions of new jobs, stimulate trillions of investment and harness the power of trade.

This will enable African refugees to be supported in the first safe country they reach and reduce their need for risky onward journeys.

Germany, the G20 hosts, are already championing this approach, including through a Compact with Africa initiative to promote private investment. The Prime Minister is urging others to now follow the UK and German lead on this vital issue.

Speaking in the margins of the G20 summit, the Prime Minister said:

We must not forget that progress in Africa benefits the UK at home.

Our international aid work is helping to build Britain's trading partners of the future, creating real alternatives to mass migration, and enhancing our security, while simultaneously

ensuring we abide by our moral responsibility to meet the immediate humanitarian needs of some of the poorest people on earth. This is the future of aid, delivering value for money for the taxpayer.

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## [Press release: New War Horse story to mark the centenary of Third Battle of Ypres](#)

The work by Michael Morpurgo has been specially written for the national commemorations on Sunday 30 July. His live reading of the story will be accompanied by an appearance by the much-loved horse puppet Joey from the acclaimed National Theatre stage adaptation of War Horse.

The commemorations will also feature extracts from *The Wipers Times*, the play by Ian Hislop and Nick Newman based on the satirical trench newspaper published by British soldiers fighting on the Ypres Salient.

Images from the War will be projected onto the town's Cloth Hall, which was famously destroyed and later rebuilt. Recordings of interviews with First World War veterans and first-hand accounts from soldiers, nurses and loved ones will also be read out and projected onto the Cloth Hall.

Karen Bradley, Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport said:

A century on from the horror of Passchendaele, the nation will come together to remember the sacrifice of those who were there. This battle has become synonymous with the horrific conditions of the trenches, and the futility of the war. It is important for us to commemorate and remember not only those who never returned home from the Western Front, but the families and the communities they left behind.

The event will be preceded by the traditional Last Post ceremony which has taken place every evening at the Commonwealth War Graves Commission Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial since 1928. As part of the ceremony, representatives of combatant nations will lay wreaths under the Gate.

On Monday 31 July, thousands of descendants of the men who fought, and those with a connection to the battle, will attend a ceremony at the Commonwealth War Graves Commission's Tyne Cot Cemetery, the largest CWGC cemetery in the world, where almost 12,000 men are buried. Serving military personnel and descendants will read out letters and diaries from their ancestors as part of

a service of remembrance to those who fought at Passchendaele.

Author Michael Morpurgo said:

All our yesterdays help us to comprehend our present. It is ever more important in this complex world for young people to know the roots of their history. We are inclined to take for granted our freedoms and our rights. It is easy to forget that so many of those who came before us, fought and died to defend the liberties we enjoy today.

We are now a hundred years on from the battle of Passchendaele, one of the most appalling battles of the First World War, in which thousands upon hundreds of soldiers suffered and died. It is a moment to reflect on their lives, and on the terrible nature of that war and of all wars, and on the importance of maintaining peace. They fought for our peace. That is what we must not forget, which is why we must continue to tell the story, to pass it on.

Broadcaster Ian Hislop, who co-wrote The Wipers Times with Nick Newman, said:

It is a great honour for the Wipers Times play to be included in the commemoration of Passchendaele. This satirical trench newspaper was born in the ruins of Ypres and named Wipers by the Tommies who could not pronounce it. It captured the defiant black humour of the British Forces in the face of overwhelming adversity. This story has gone from the Western Front to the West End, and now it is returning to where it all began.

Lisa Burger, Executive Director of The National Theatre of Great Britain said:

We are absolutely delighted to be bringing War Horse to Ypres for this historic event. We hope that with Michael Morpurgo's specially written short story alongside Joey's appearance at the commemoration of Passchendaele, we can remind people of the cavalry action and the bravery of both men and animals during the First World War.

Welsh poet Hedd Wynn, who was killed on the first day of Passchendaele, will be honoured in the commemorations, along with Irish poet, Francis Ledwidge, who was also killed in action on 31 July 1917. The National Youth Choir of Scotland will perform at all three commemorative events and around 100 graduates of youth empowerment programme National Citizen Service (NCS), aged 16 to 19, will be part of the delivery team at the commemorations.

Passchendaele began at 3.50am on 31 July 1917 when Gough's Fifth Army launched their attack over a 15 mile front. Despite initial successes, the attack soon became bogged down and hampered by rain which turned the battlefield into liquid mud. By the end of the offensive, the Allied forces had sustained over 320,000 casualties. German losses are estimated to be between 260,000 and 400,000.

The Government's four year First World War centenary programme will close in 2018 with services to mark the start of the 100 Days offensive – the Battle of Amiens – in August, and a special ceremony at Westminster Abbey to commemorate the centenary of Armistice. The centenary will also be marked with an expanded march past the Cenotaph following the traditional Remembrance Sunday service, and an event at the Commonwealth War Graves Commission St Symphorien Military Cemetery near Mons in Belgium. St Paul's Cathedral will hold a special service of music and readings.

The Government's cultural partner, 14-18 NOW, is also commissioning a series of arts projects to reflect the major themes of the centenary. This will culminate in a UK-wide event on Sunday 11 November, in which people across the UK will be invited to participate and reflect on how the FWW continues to shape our world today.

## **ENDS**

For further information, interviews and image requests please contact Faye Jackson on [faye.jackson@culture.gov.uk](mailto:faye.jackson@culture.gov.uk) or on 020 7211 6263.

Extract from Michael Morpurgo's *From Farm Horse to War Horse*:

Father used to tell me that when he was a littlun he used to get hisself into all sorts of trouble. He always said that the worst scrape he got hisself into, was the First World War, and the worst battle he was ever in was at Passchendaele. And he was there, all because of a horse.

## **Join the Commemorations on social media:**

Watch, share and embed this short YouTube video featuring stories of those that served at Passchendaele, as told by their ancestors:

[Passchendaele100](#)

Explore our map to discover a range of [personal Passchendaele stories](#) of those that served, representing regions across the UK.

Share your Passchendaele histories and messages of remembrance on social media alongside the #Passchendaele100 hashtag.

Use these [websites](#) to research your Passchendaele and First World War family histories and local connections.

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## Press release: PM calls on G20 to tackle modern slavery supply chains

Speaking at the G20 summit in Hamburg today, the Prime Minister will call for the G20 to recognise that modern slavery is a global issue requiring global solutions and cross-border cooperation.

The Prime Minister will say that the international response is currently fragmented and concerted action is not prioritised.

So she is calling on the G20 to set the direction for the rest of the world in seeking to eradicate this abhorrent practice by 2030, including by eliminating it from company supply chains.

The Prime Minister will ask G20 leaders to commit to working with businesses domestically to promote transparency in supply chains to rid the world of this archaic evil.

Speaking at the G20, the Prime Minister said:

This is the great human rights issue of our time. Tackling human trafficking and modern slavery remains a top priority for this government and we are committed to stamping out this abhorrent crime.

In the UK we have set up the first ever government taskforce for modern slavery, bringing together every relevant department to co-ordinate and drive all our efforts in the battle against this cruel exploitation.

But if we are to eradicate modern slavery around the world, we need to go much further. Victims will only find freedom if we cultivate a radically new, global and coordinated approach to defeat this vile crime.

And that is why today at the G20 summit I am calling on the international community to follow Britain's lead in prioritising action in this area, in particular in supply chains.

### **Notes to editors:**

The UK Modern Slavery Act (2015) includes a transparency in supply chains provision. This requires all businesses operating in the UK with an annual turnover of £36 million or more to publish an annual statement of the actions they've taken to ensure that slavery and human trafficking is not taking place in any part of their supply chain, or in their own business.

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## [Press release: PM meeting with Prime Minister Gentiloni: 7 July 2017](#)

The Prime Minister held a meeting with Prime Minister Gentiloni this afternoon to discuss the migration crisis in the Mediterranean.

The two leaders agreed that a team from Home Office and DFID will travel to Italy to offer expertise on processing papers and other documents to allow migrants to be returned to their source country.

They also committed to work together to tackle the problem upstream. They will work together on how best to spend £75million pledged by DFID to help migrants making the journey from Africa to the central Mediterranean route.

The Government has announced some of the money will be made available to fund voluntary returns home for migrants who are making this treacherous journey.

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## [Speech: Defence Secretary Speech at CSIS, Washington](#)

It's great to be back in the United States and to be speaking at this world-renowned Centre whose ideas have influenced generations of defence thinkers on both sides of the pond.

This is my first opportunity to visit the United States after our recent election and let me reassure you that post-election our government remains strong and we're committed to delivering stronger defence.

### **Stronger Defence**

Now there are some who have taken a look at Britain in the past few months after an unpredictable election – I am not sure there another kind these days – have looked at the negotiation over Brexit, have looked at in the series of appalling terror incidents in Manchester and London, and have wondered whether Britain is getting distracted in any way from its international role.

That wouldn't be the first time our critics have been wrong.

I remember that first visit as Defence Secretary back in 2015.

That was before, rather than after, the General Election of that year, yet

some the concerns expressed were all too familiar.

They said we weren't committed to the 2 per cent.

They noted our parliament's refusal to endorse strikes against Assad's chemical weapons.

That said we wouldn't be committing to two aircraft carriers. They said we wouldn't act in the face of trouble.

So it's worth reminding ourselves what happened next.

## **1. Investing**

First, we did invest.

Later that year, 2015 we conducted an ambitious Strategic Defence Security Review committing to continue to meet NATO's 2 per cent target.

Since then not only have we done what we said we would do but we have also chosen to grow our defence budget year-on-year by at least 0.5 per cent ahead inflation.

NATO's figures published last week confirmed that we are spending more than 2 per cent and also meeting the target to spend 20 per cent of that on new equipment.

We are using that growing budget, we're using it to purchase, develop and build a raft of high-end kit.

From P8s and drones to Apache helicopters and Armoured Vehicles.

From fifth generation F35 fighters to two aircraft carriers – the most powerful ships ever built in Britain.

And we were delighted two weeks ago to witness HM Queen Elizabeth embark for the first time on her sea trials.

Our carrier strike plans, thanks to your continuing support, and we have over 120 British pilots and aircrew are training here on the first ten of our F35s fighters, those plans are rapidly becoming reality.

After a vote last summer, we are building new nuclear Dreadnought submarines to maintain our ultimate nuclear deterrent and I cut the steel in October.

And adapting to an age of Information Warfare.

Investing in equipment with the sensors and receptors to handle a superabundance of information.

Transforming our military structures to cope with the virtual environment.

Bringing our Royal Signals and Intelligence Corps together under a shared command to collate, analyse and disseminate cyber information more



efficiently and effectively.

And training up a new generation of cyber warriors to strengthen our networks and tackle vulnerabilities.

## **2. Acting**

My second point today is that we're doing more than investing, we're also acting.

When I spoke here in March 2015 that was still under the shadow of the 2013 Syria vote against taking military action to deal with the use of chemical weapons.

But by the end of that year, the new Parliament had overwhelmingly voted to extend what we were doing in Iraq into Syria itself.

Today we're performing a pivotal role in the 71 member Counter-Daesh Global Coalition attacking Daesh positions with our aircraft, training over 50,000 local forces, using our cyber capabilities to disrupt their activities in Iraq and Syria. An overall contribution of air strikes second only to the US.

It's striking to think when I took office only three years ago Daesh were closing in on the gates to Baghdad. Today they are close to defeat in Mosul.

But this is far from the UK's only operation.

We're going global.

We're not just in the Middle East.

But in Afghanistan where we've committed to increasing troop numbers, by just under a hundred, building capability, training the next generation of Afghan officers, and strengthened the Afghan airforce.

We're in Africa too training Somalians to fight Al Shabaab and assisting South Sudan in the midst of an appalling humanitarian crisis.

In total this afternoon, we have over 10,000 British service men and women deployed on more than 25 operations around the globe.

So Britain has delivered. Britain is delivering.

We will continue to do so.

## **3. Partnering**

But we will do so in partnership.

This is my third point.

We're stronger when we work together.

The fact is today our nations are facing a wave of multiple, concurrent,

diverse global threats from Islamist extremism: from North Korea testing missiles and, as we have seen, firing off missiles; Russia more aggressive as we have seen in Ukraine and Syria; from the Iran sponsoring terror; from the insidious spread of misinformation or cyber-attacks.

Such are challenges that demand an international response.

So, as we deliver on the domestic vote to leave the political framework that is the European Union, we are not stepping back from European defence but to step up to strengthen Euro-Atlantic security.

In particular, we're bolstering our bonds with NATO – the cornerstone of defence to defend and deter in light of Russian aggression; leading NATO's Enhanced Forward presence in Estonia with 800 British troops; working with the United States-led enhanced Forward presence in Poland; this year heading the Alliance's Very High Readiness Joint Taskforce; sending Typhoons to Romania for Southern Air Policing to police Black Sea skies; and using the biggest Navy in Europe to lead half of NATO's maritime missions for a year to cover the Mediterranean, the Black Sea, and the Aegean.

We're also right beside the US in calling for all nations to pay their way.

President Trump is absolutely correct to say that European nations need to do more to shoulder the burden.

Since we stood together to demand action back in the Wales summit of 2014, 24 out of 29 member nations have now raised their game, and the Alliance has cumulatively increased its spending by \$46bn.

But money isn't NATO's only issue.

NATO now must transform itself into a far more agile organisation, able to respond to an unprecedented range of risks.

Secretary Mattis and I are working together on proposals for faster decision-making, better prioritisation, and less bureaucracy.

That also means adopting a 360 degree approach producing a coherent force capable of meaningful action with a modern, integrated approach to defence and deterrence. Playing an enhanced role in the fight against international terror.

The UK's global influence doesn't just come from NATO.

But from our wealth of bi-lateral alliances.

Last week we took a significant step forward by expanding the UK-led Joint Expeditionary Force to include Sweden and Finland.

This now gives us a nine-nation armed force of like-minded northern European nations able to deploy a force of up to 10,000 personnel, augmenting our ability to respond to threats in the North Sea and North Atlantic but also giving us the adaptability and agility to deploy very quickly to humanitarian

tasks, to rescue our citizens from crisis hotspots or to conduct more minor military missions.

And we've recently used our purchase of your P8s to do more with trilateral partners addressing the changing security environment and increased Russian submarine activity in the North Atlantic.

Last week's agreement with Norway and the US enables closer co-operation on training, logistics, and support .

## **US Strongest Ally**

It goes without saying that the US remains our strongest ally.

Since I spoke here back in 2015 our partnership has only strengthened further.

I've already touched on operations across the world from the Europe to the Middle East to Africa and Afghanistan.

But the truth is we're integrated at every level working in each other's headquarters, flying each other's ships and planes, collaborating on everything from nuclear capabilities – including sharing a common missile compartment – and intelligence to autonomy.

With our fifth generation F35 soon to arrive in the UK and the prospect of US F35 fighters flying from the decks of our new carriers and vice-versa, the trajectory of this relationship is only going one way.

## **Stronger Deterrence**

Back in 2015 the US helped support our SDSR.

Today, as you turn to your own National Defence Strategy, I would like to share just one conclusion drawn from that experience of working together on our defence review.

That is the need for a stronger, modern deterrence.

Last year saw the passing of the Noble prize winning economist Thomas Schelling, a great American who helped codify our current notions of deterrence.

Were he here today, he would doubtless remind us that deterrence is about much more than the atom or hydrogen bomb.

It's about ensuring our adversaries know the cost of an attack will be far greater than any potential reward. In the Cold War that meant massing armies along the borders of the iron curtain while building up vast nuclear arsenals.

Yet in an age of 'Grey Zone Conflict' with proxy non-conventional threats –

sometimes anonymous and often amorphous adding to the conventional and nuclear danger and threatening to undermine the rules-based international order on which our security and prosperity depend, our deterrence must evolve.

Agility will be critical.

It demands constant strategic planning to prepare for a broader range of threats.

It requires perpetual persistence to continually countering cyber intrusion, rebut the malicious misinformation of our adversaries with a faster truth and seek new innovations in disruptive capability – be it big data or autonomy – to stay ahead of the curve.

Above all it will be about the art of persuasion.

## **Leadership**

Last week, I spoke at the Margaret Thatcher Security Conference in London. Its theme was whether we are witnessing the decline and fall of the West.

Whether our western values are up to overcoming these new dangers?

I argued that not only can rise to this challenge but we must and we will.

We are not attacked because we've failed – we are attacked because we won, because we succeeded in spreading our values and beliefs across the world.

Today we are recovering our confidence.

Yet in an age of contested interests and confrontation where our adversaries seek to use social media, cyber warfare and misinformation to rewrite the Western narrative to extend their spheres of influence to try to limit those freedoms, we must learn to remake those arguments because that will make our societies far more resilient far less susceptible to the sophistry of our foes.

Yet that will require leadership.

No two nations are better equipped to make the West's case than the US and the UK.

We share the same values of democracy, justice and freedom values we fought for throughout the past century.

Yet we didn't just fight.

We also championed the causes of liberty, the free market and technological innovation.

We gave people ever greater opportunity to live wealthier, healthier, happier, lives.

And if we present our case strongly enough, we will do more than just build resilience in our own countries.

We might just awaken the hopes of those living under oppressive regimes.

In the eighties President Reagan and Prime Minister Thatcher succeeded in shattering the shackles of communism not just because they railed against the cruel and desolate creeds that lurked behind the iron curtain but because they presented the vision of a better life.

I remember, a few years back, being struck by Sharansky's description of that "beautiful moment" when news of Reagan's Evil Empire speech reached Siberia:

"It was the brightest, most glorious day. Finally a spade had been called a spade. Finally, Orwell's Newspeak was dead. President Reagan had from that moment made it impossible for anyone in the West to continue closing their eyes to the real nature of the Soviet Union."

So today it is not just enough to speak out against the aggressive behaviour of Russia in Ukraine and Syria or to urge our adversaries to act in accordance with international law we must also give hope to people across the world of a better way of life.

As my friend Jim Mattis said in Germany last week, marking the 70th anniversary of the Marshall Plan: "We stand for freedom and we will never surrender the freedom of our people."

## **Conclusion**

In 1996, the Iron Lady delivered a speech in Fulton Missouri – where, of course, Churchill had coined the iron curtain phrase fifty years before

She said: "There are rare moments when history is open and its course changed by means such as these. We may be at just such a moment now"

We too have reached such a moment

So once more we look to the US to recapture the spirit of Fulton.

To provide stronger deterrence for a darker age.

To remake the West's case.

And to follow the mission statement of this very Centre in "sustaining American prominence and prosperity as a force for good in the world".

As you do, rest assured that a bolder, global Britain, as we were in the Great War, in the Second World War, in the Cold War, will continue standing by your side, strengthening our transatlantic bond, fanning the flames of freedom, changing the course of history.