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25 May 2007

Mr Jeff Powell
Co-ordinator
The Bretton Woods Project
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**Engaging with the Islamic
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Dear Mr Powell

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REF: 0388-07

I am writing in reply to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which was received by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) on 11 May 2007. In your request you asked for:

- *1. all correspondence concerning the establishment and operations of the Washington-DC based foundation the Foundation for the Future
- * 2. all details of UK financial support for the Foundation for the Future

I can confirm that the FCO does hold some information relevant to your request.

Part 1 of your query is very broad. In order to identify how best to answer that part of your query, I would be grateful if you could clarify exactly what you require in terms of correspondence regarding the Foundation's establishment and operations.

It may help if I outline some possible ways of narrowing your request. You could request correspondence on certain specified topics, within a certain timeframe or correspondence between the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Board of the Foundation. You can find further information about the Foundation for the Future on their website:
<http://www.foundationforfuture.org/>.



In answer to part 2 of your query, the following information is in the public domain.

At the Forum for the Future in Bahrain on 12 November 2005, the UK pledged \$1 million to the Foundation for the Future. Many donors have made pledges to this initiative, which is part of the international community's efforts to help the Broader Middle East and North Africa region develop their civil society. Half of the UK pledge has been paid on the understanding that it may be used towards start up costs. No UK funds have yet been disbursed by the Foundation. We expect to make payment of the remaining 50% at a later date, upon receipt of satisfactory evidence of project activity.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint, or request a review of our decision, you should write to me at the above address.

If you are not content with the outcome your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

The Information Commissioner's Office,
Wycliffe House,
Water Lane,
Wilmslow,
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely

Claire Demaret
Engaging with the Islamic World Group

