

The All Party Parliamentary Group for Fairtrade Annual General Meeting

21/06/2021

Virtual

Attendance

Holly Lynch MP - Labour
Huw Merriman MP – Conservative
Jason McCartney MP – Conservative
Fleur Anderson MP - Labour
Rachael Maskell MP - Labour
Catherine McKinnell MP - Labour
Navendu Mishra MP – Labour
Stephen Timms MP – Labour
Ruth Jones MP - Labour
Lynne Rouse on behalf of Jonathan Ashworth MP - Labour
David Taylor – Fairtrade Foundation
Tim Aldred – Fairtrade Foundation
Alice Lucas – Fairtrade Foundation

Apologies

Stuart McDonald MP - SNP
Caroline Lucas MP - Green
Anne McLaughlin MP – SNP

Meeting started at 4.05pm.

- Holly Lynch MP introduces the event and welcomes members. Today's meeting is a formal meeting to reconstitute the APPG and elect officers, and will also include an update from Tim Aldred, Head of Policy at the Fairtrade Foundation.

- Election of Officers:
 - Holly Lynch MP and Jason McCartney proposed as Co-Chairs by Huw Merriman MP. Unanimous vote with Co-Chairs elected.
 - Holly Lynch MP proposes Huw Merriman MP as Vice-Chair who is elected by members.
 - Holly Lynch MP states that Anne McLaughlin MP has offered, in writing, to be co Vice-Chair, and is duly elected.
 - Holly Lynch MP opens up the floor to other members to become an Officer in the APPG. No further offers.

- End of formalities
- Update from the Fairtrade Foundation by Tim Aldred
 - Fairtrade Fortnight 2021 saw 82 Members at a virtual 'in conversation with' event with the Secretary of State for Trade. The virtual tea plantation tour was attended by 20 Members.
 - Recognition of the Fairtrade Mark remains high, despite the pandemic. 90% have seen the FT mark, 80% have trust in the FT mark.
 - New campaign launched for Fairtrade Fortnight 2021: Fairtrade and Climate.
 - Fairtrade has had some quick encouragement - one of the policy asks, aviation and shipping, was included in the UK's climate targets.
 - Currently working with Fairtrade Africa to decide on next steps.
 - Key policy asks moving forward: 1) Governments must keep the promise on climate finance to support the Global South 2) Keen to see a strengthening of the Environment Bills Deforestation provisions 3) Continue calling for UK trade policy that delivers for the climate.
- Other big themes
 - Deepening farmer and worker leadership
 - COVID-19 recovery
 - Trade policy – Ghana and Cameroon, GSP consultation, new FTAs
 - Human Rights and Environmental Due Diligence (HREDD) Legislation
 - FCDO support, including the restoration of 0.7%
- Holly Lynch MP thanks Members for continued support, and the Fairtrade Foundation for Secretariat services. Alice Lucas will be working on the APPG's Annual Report in the coming weeks.
- Floor opened to other Members for comment. No further comments.
- **Meeting ended 4.25pm.**