

The Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London
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8 June 2013

Dear Prime Minister Cameron,

As two of the Transparency Champions that you welcomed to 10 Downing Street on Saturday 15 June, we wish to thank you for your time and for your own championing of transparency during your presidency of the G8. With just a few hours to go before a final deal is reached, we wanted to reach out to you once more to urge you to ensure that developing countries, and their citizens, share in the benefits of any new G8 transparency measures.

Currently, anonymous shell companies, foundations and trusts are exploiting opacity for corrupt practices by disguising who their actual owners are. Revealing who actually owns and controls them would be an important step in enhancing corporate transparency. By committing to establishing public registries on companies' ownership, the G8 would crack down on the abuse of secret companies. This must be done in ways that work for developing countries. The best way of doing that is by making the registries public.

In parallel, we call on you to support us in reducing the tax evasion and aggressive tax avoidance practices of multinational corporations that rob all of our countries of resources. We need a G8 deal on automatic exchange of tax information that gives full access to developing countries' governments from the outset, regardless of whether or not they are currently able to automatically provide information themselves. Our countries and our citizens must not be left out of the transparency revolution.

As we discussed at breakfast, these issues are ones that affect us all, in developed and developing countries, and the solutions we seek must also be global. Today, you and your fellow G8 leaders have the opportunity to do something historic by agreeing a deal that works for people around the world.

Signed:

Rakesh Rajani
Founder and Head of Twaweza

John Githongo
CEO, Inuka Kenya Trust