



10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

29 August 2012

Dear Mr. Naphan,

Thank you for your letter of 16 July requesting clarification of the Government's policy on targeted strikes.

The UK Government's position is that the use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV) against terrorist targets is a matter for the States involved. We expect all concerned to act in accordance with international law including taking all feasible precautions to avoid civilian casualties when conducting military operations.

As you acknowledge, both the US Attorney-General and President Obama's Deputy National Security Advisor have in recent months spoken publicly about the legal, practical and ethical framework for the United States' targeted strikes policy. Their position is that targeted strikes are legal as a matter of both domestic and international law, and that the powers exercised are necessary, proportionate and effective, and subject to rigorous checks and balances.

With regard to your request for clarification on the Government's policy on the exchange of intelligence material, as I am sure you will understand our long-standing position is that we do not comment on intelligence matters.

Yours sincerely,
David Cameron

Mr David Mepham