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CTS Reference: M531/17

08 FEB 2017

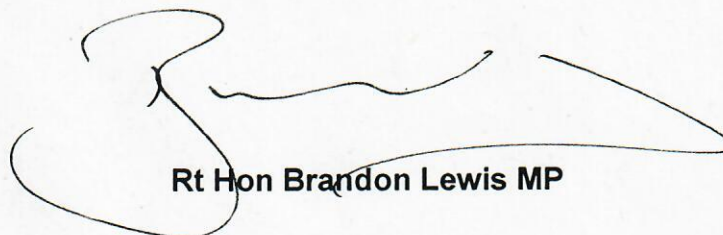
*Dear George*

Thank you for your letter of 26 October 2016 to the Ministry of Justice regarding the return of assets held in London by the son of Hosni Mubarak, Mr Gamal M H Mubarak. I am replying as Minister responsible for Mutual Legal Assistance (MLA). I am sorry for the unacceptable delay.

I understand the concerns you have raised over the return of assets to Egypt and wish to assure you that tackling corruption remains a top priority for the Government.

The UK Central Authority, part of the Home Office, is responsible for receiving and acceding to requests for MLA. If acceded to, an MLA request to confiscate assets is referred to the appropriate UK authorities to take the necessary legal steps.

Although I am not able to provide full details about the nature or status of an ongoing MLA request, I can assure you that the Government is seized of the need for action in respect of the return of assets held by Gamal M H Mubarak, and that the UK agencies concerned are in close liaison with the Egyptian Embassy in London and the Prosecutor General in Cairo.



Rt Hon Brandon Lewis MP