

ANDY BURNHAM FOR US

To members of the Labour Campaign for International Development,

Labour has a proud history of internationalism, standing in solidarity with those most in need around the world. That tradition reflects our values, but it also recognises a simple truth: Britain is stronger, safer and more prosperous when we work with others to tackle shared challenges.

There are so many challenges that no nation can address alone: global health threats, conflict, poverty, humanitarian crises on every continent, climate change, and economic instability. As the Labour Campaign for International Development (LCID) knows so well, international cooperation is not only the right thing to do, it is firmly in our national interest.

When Gordon Brown appointed me Health Secretary, it coincided with the acceleration of the H1N1 ("swine flu") pandemic. It quickly became clear to me that it was not enough simply to provide a national NHS response. We needed to work alongside the World Health Organisation, European health agencies and international partners to share information, coordinate our response and prepare for a rapidly developing global health emergency.

That experience reinforced a lesson which remains as important today as it was then: in an increasingly interconnected world, the challenges we face are global and require global solutions. Britain should show leadership on the international stage, not retreat from it. That's the approach I took as Mayor of Greater Manchester - demonstrating how building new global partnerships can help build a greener, fairer and more prosperous city-region.

As we look ahead, the UK's G20 Presidency provides an important opportunity to demonstrate British leadership. We should seize that moment to strengthen international cooperation, support reforms that make the global financial system work better, and ensure that our international institutions are fit for the challenges of the twenty-first century.

Throughout my political life, I have believed that a Labour Party that is confident in our values at home should also be confident in our internationalist tradition abroad.

That is why, as I seek the leadership of the Labour Party, I am asking for the nomination and support of LCID. I want to work alongside you to ensure that international development, global justice and international cooperation remain at the heart of Labour's mission.

Finally, I would also like to thank everyone in LCID for your support and campaigning in Makerfield in recent months. I know there were members of LCID who came from far and wide to support me and be part of our positive campaign for change - and I am deeply grateful for your friendship and support.

I would be honoured to have the support of Labour Campaign for International Development to be the next leader of the Labour Party, and would look forward to working with you and drawing on the expertise and experience of your members in the future.

Best wishes,

Andy Burnham

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andy Burnham". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.