## Rt Hon Nicola Sturgeon MSP First Minister of Scotland

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Rt Hon David Cameron MP Prime Minister 10 Downing Street LONDON SW1A 2AA



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Dear David

As you know, the Scottish Government has raised concerns about the impact of TTIP on the NHS with both the UK Government and the European Commission on a number of occasions. These concerns are shared by campaigns such as the People's NHS and thousands of people across Scotland and the UK.

It remains our view that the most effective way to put the issue beyond doubt and to provide the concrete assurance that we and the public require is to provide an explicit exemption for the NHS on the face of the agreement. Legal advice for Unite has suggested specific legal text to provide such an exemption:

'The UK reserves the right to adopt or maintain any measure with regard to the organization, the funding and provision of the National Health Service in the UK, as well as with regard to the public and/or the non-for profit character of the National Health Service in the UK, where services may be provided by different companies and/or public or private entities involving competitive elements which are thus not services carried out exclusively in the exercise of government authority.'

I urge the UK Government to ensure that the NHS is fully and explicitly exempt from TTIP and, if that is not the case, to use its veto at the European Council to prevent TTIP progressing.

NICOLA STURGEON

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