

**On the Occasion of the UK Launch of the EastWest Institute's
Parliamentarians Network for Conflict Prevention and Human
Security, Westminster**

**Statement from Rt Hon David Miliband MP, UK Secretary of State
for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs – 26 March 2009**

I'm sorry not to be with you for the UK launch of the Parliamentarians Network for Conflict Prevention and Human Security. Conflict prevention and resolution are at the heart of the Government's approach to foreign policy. That is why we are so keen to build our capacity to support early warning, conflict prevention and resolution, as well as that of regional and international organisations.

It is right that your work to raise awareness and to promote diplomatic initiatives on conflict issues should contribute to this agenda. I believe that attempting to link Parliamentarians with a common interest across the globe is an initiative which should bring about real benefits, particularly in terms of sharing knowledge and expertise. The Network can also add value by helping to improve understanding on approaches to conflict prevention and early response. I hope that you will be able to develop links with the UN, the EU and other regional organisations to bring together and unite our collective conflict prevention efforts.

I look forward to further co-operation with you and wish you every success with the launch.