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European Union Committee

House of Lords London SW1A OPW Tel: 020 7219 8654 euclords@parliament.uk www.parliament.uk/lords

David Rees MS
Chair of the External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee
Welsh Parliament
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 ISN

19 March 2021

Dear David,

Many thanks for your letter dated 22 February 2021, regarding the UK-EU Parliamentary Partnership Assembly.

I note your request that Members of the Senedd form part of the UK's delegation to the Parliamentary Partnership Assembly and I understand your concern that the TCA covers a number of policy areas which fall within the remit of the devolved legislatures.

Discussions about how the UK delegation to the Parliamentary Partnership Assembly (PPA) would work are at an early stage but House of Commons colleagues are aware of your concerns. The PPA will come into being at some point after the ratification of the Trade and Cooperation Agreement, which as you know has been delayed following the extension of the period of provisional application until 30<sup>th</sup> April.

Regardless of the outcome of these discussions, the European Union Committee has always valued the close relations with the committees of the devolved legislatures, and I know the new European Affairs Committee and its sub-committee on the Protocol will want to continue these fruitful relationships.

I would be happy to discuss this matter further as talks continue to progress.

I am copying this letter to Sir Oliver Heald MP.

Yours sincerely,

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Lord Kinnoull

Chair of the European Union Committee