



**Damian Hinds**  
MP for East Hampshire

News release

10 March 2011  
For immediate release

## **Damian Hinds Marks International Women's Day and Supports Action on Health in Childbirth**

Damian Hinds this week attended the Parliamentary Mum's Café, created by the White Ribbon Alliance, to highlight the needs of pregnant women in developing countries who continue to die and suffer in childbirth. Three and a half million more health workers are needed to meet international targets on women and children's health.

Damian joined the event, which marked the 100th anniversary of International Women's Day, and showed his support of the Government's pledge to increase aid to mothers in the developing world— a key priority in the Government's refocusing of aid spending.



Currently, half of the women in Africa give birth without skilled care.

Damian Hinds said

*"We have a chance to help make a remarkable difference for women in poorer countries. We can save thousands of lives by providing urgently needed basic health services for women. A woman dies every 90 seconds for lack of the most rudimentary standards of care. The Government has rightly recognised our moral obligation to help where we can and I am proud we in the UK will continue to contribute to international efforts."*

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Notes to editors:

Picture to follow separately by email

In 1910, when International Women's Day was first created, 355 women per 100,000 died as a direct result of childbirth or pregnancy-related causes in England and Wales. Today in the UK the number of maternal deaths stands just under 12 per 100,000.

In September 2010 the Government committed to doubling its annual international support for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health by 2012, and sustain that level to 2015.  
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