

23 November 2004

CAF welcomes Charities' Bill announcement in the Queen's speech

CAF (Charities Aid Foundation) welcomed the Government's commitment announced in the Queen's Speech today to introduce a new Charities' Bill.

In a statement, Simon Hebditch, Executive Director External Affairs, said:-

"CAF is glad that the Government has committed itself to modernising charity law in the next session of Parliament. It is high time that many activities should be recognised as charitable - the promotion of human rights being a prime example.

We also believe that it is necessary for all charities to be able to demonstrate that what they do is for the public benefit. Giving will only increase in this country if the general public feels confident that funds are being used well and that charities are having a real impact in their communities.

The Government is expecting charities themselves to create a robust self-regulation system for dealing with complaints about some fundraising techniques and methods so that it doesn't have to impose new rules itself. CAF applauds that approach and is currently chairing a group drawing up proposals to establish new complaints machinery for donors."