

UNCLASSIFIED (Sup Sub to DFAT)

Simon

Thanks for your message.

The Chinese Government has consistently rejected reports of forced organ harvesting in China, including in our bilateral human rights dialogues. At various times Chinese government officials have admitted that organs were previously transplanted from executed prisoners, but have highlighted the more recent growing regulation of China's organ transplant system, including requirements that all organ donation must now be voluntary.

The last bilateral human rights dialogue with China was held in 2014. Australian Government participants have prepared a classified summary report for internal use on each dialogue. My reference to the next dialogue occurring the following month (April 2017) turned out to be incorrect; it did not occur then and no subsequent timing has been agreed.

Regards, Graham

From: Simon, Daniel (REPS) [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 16 January 2018 11:12 AM
To: Fletcher, Graham [REDACTED]
Cc: Lumley, Bronnie [REDACTED]; Fladun, Sonya (REPS)
[REDACTED]
Subject: China-Australia dialogues

Dear Mr Fletcher,

We are cleaning up some administration around the organ trafficking hearings last year.

With reference to the dialogue between yourself and Senator Moore, are you able to provide information about:

- The response from the Chinese government to the reports of organ harvesting
- Whether the China-Australia Dialogues are minuted.

Many thanks

Daniel

Senator MOORE: You also said that you did not want to go to talk with the Chinese about unsubstantiated allegations. In the regular China-Australia dialogue, has this issue been on the agenda?

Mr Fletcher: Yes. We have said to them that there are disturbing reports out there about organ harvesting, which we think China needs to pay attention to. We have said in relation to harvesting of organs from executed prisoners that we are opposed to that and would like China to stop that practice. We were a little careful. Where we are sure there is a problem in an area we are quite happy to tell them and to tell them to fix it. But in relation to the organ harvesting of prisoners of conscience on a large scale, we have not gone that far to say we think there is a problem. There are

disturbing reports, and we are sort of saying, 'You owe it to yourselves. If this is fictitious, as you claim it is, prove it.'

Senator MOORE: I know that dialogue is a very formal process. When that has been raised and these reports are there, what is the response from the government? Do they deny it?

Mr Fletcher: I imagine they do, but I do not have that detail in front of me.

Senator MOORE: Are those dialogues minuted?

Mr Fletcher: Yes. We do a report of them. The last one was in 2014.

Senator MOORE: We can check that as well.

Mr Fletcher: The next one will be next month.

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