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Dear colleague,

Last week, the Scottish Government published the eleventh in our 'Building a New Scotland' series of independence prospectus papers, 'An independent Scotland's place in the world'. A copy of the paper is attached.

The paper sets out this Scottish Government's proposals for an independent Scotland's new place in the world, building on our strong reputation as a good global citizen.

An independent Scotland will have the ability to deepen existing partnerships, develop new ones and fully reflect the values that we seek to promote as a nation.

An independent Scotland will be open, outward-looking and engaged – seeking to create a better country for our own citizens and making a positive contribution to addressing global challenges including climate change. Achieving net zero with independence will be a topic covered later in the series.

To complement our papers, the First Minister recently launched the BANS Economy Speech series. This will build on published prospectus papers to extend and enhance this Scottish Government's vision for a stronger and more productive Scottish economy under independence. The first speech, available on the Scottish Government website, focused on industrial policy and it is anticipated that future speeches will cover the labour market, building consensus and business growth.

I share these with you for perusal and would be happy to discuss the BANS papers and the Economy Speech series with you in due course.

MAIRI MCALLAN

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