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Dear Presiding Officer, Convener and Mr Brown,

Thank you for the opportunity to appear in front of the EEAC Committee on 1 September.

As I wrote in my letter of 22 September, I concluded following the session that on one occasion regrettably I provided incorrect information to the Committee. I informed you of my intention to write to Official Report to seek to have a note of the correct information added to the Official Report, and reflected alongside the original contribution.

Specifically, in response to a question by Mr. Keith Brown regarding the flooding emergency in Nepal, I said: "In relation to the funding element for that situation, we have a global start fund of about £900,000. A portion of that is locally available through the start fund in Nepal, and they will be committed to using that fund in humanitarian efforts." That was not accurate – there was not a portion of the £900,000 that had been given to the Start Fund in Nepal. The Scottish Government had, instead, been informed that if the dedicated Nepal fund had depleted, funds would have been released from the Global Start Fund.

I wrote to the Official Report to ask that a note with the following correct information be added: "In relation to the funding element for that situation, we have a Global Start Fund of about £900,000. There is a local Start Fund in Nepal. If the local Start Fund in Nepal depletes, funding from the Global Start Fund may be released." The Official Report have now confirmed that my request has been accepted.

I look forward to working with the Committee and will do my best to avoid similar issues going forward.

Yours sincerely,

SIMITA KUMAR