Dear Friend,

You have recently placed an order for Christian Aid Week materials with us and we wanted to update you on its status. As a result of the coronavirus situation we have made the decision to cancel further deliveries of materials.

As you are probably aware many aspects of Christian Aid Week fundraising cannot go ahead with the restrictions in place and our prime concern is for the safety and wellbeing of our volunteers and supporters at this time. If you would like more information on Coronovirus and Christian Aid Week please see our guidance <u>here</u>.

We would like to take this opportunity to reassure you that Christian Aid Week 2020 is not cancelled, however what is clear is that this will be a Christian Aid Week like no other. Whilst a number of key activities will not be taking place in May we will be working with supporters and volunteers to identify alternative ways of raising funds, acting and praying on behalf of those living in poverty both during Christian Aid Week and later in the year.

We will be sharing some new virtual ways you can support Christian Aid Week very soon so please look out for our communications in the coming weeks and do keep checking back to <u>caweek.org</u> for the latest information.

With thanks for your ongoing support and understanding.

Updated 25 March

Dear supporters.

As all of our thoughts are on the Covid-19 situation, we wanted to share an update on Christian Aid's response. We value our volunteers enormously and want to ensure you all keep safe when fundraising for Christian Aid Week. The health and safety of our community, including loyal supporters like you, is of the utmost importance to us, and we are monitoring the situation on a daily basis.

Advice for Christian Aid Week

Many of you will have been planning house-to-house collections and events. Under the current circumstances, sadly, house-to-house collections and delivery-only collections should not go ahead. In particular, along with many churches, events such as Big Brekkies or Lent lunches, where food is shared, cannot go ahead. We are looking at alternative ways to virtually meet, share and pray with supporters over the coming months in the likely absence of physical church services.

We are working on alternative plans that will allow people to take part in Christian Aid Week in different, creative ways – by post, by text and online that strengthen our communities during this challenging time. Christian Aid Week is our single-most

important fundraiser, so we would welcome your ideas on how we can creatively show love for our neighbours at home and abroad, as a community.

Our global response

Christian Aid and our partners already have experience of limiting the spread of infection during the Ebola crisis, and we will build on this experience to continue to stand together with communities living in poverty during this period. If infection rates start to develop as they are in Europe, then people in poorer countries will be hit even harder. Many are already living with reduced health resilience because of extreme poverty, or in overcrowded humanitarian camps and in countries which do not have the healthcare infrastructures needed to combat widespread disease. We will be working on the ground to help prepare communities to limit the impact of Covid-19. Please pray for us in this vital work, and support us where you can by making an online donation.

We are praying for all those affected by this new virus, both in Britain and overseas, for all those working on the frontline and for wisdom for our leaders. We will continue to monitor the situation as it evolves. During this challenging time, we all need to take seriously the science and advice being offered, remaining calm but vigilant. If you have any specific concerns or questions please email us at info@christian-aid.org or call our helpline on 020 7620 4444.