Dear Chairmen and Ranking Members:

On November 27, 2019, the Attorney General, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, certified that the agreement between the United States and the United Kingdom on Access to Electronic Data for the Purpose of Countering Serious Crime satisfies the requirements of section 2523(b) of Title 18 of the United States Code. On December 4, 2019, the Department of Justice (Department) transmitted that certification to the Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate. Although the Department intended to notify the Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives on that same date, the Department, because of a clerical error, did not provide actual notification to those committees until January 10, 2020.

Pursuant to section 2523(d)(2), an executive agreement under the statute shall not enter into force until, at the earliest, 180 days after the Department has provided notice to the relevant Senate and House Committees. Because the Department did not complete this notice requirement until January 10, 2020, the Department considers July 8, 2020 to be the date upon which the agreement will enter into force, absent the enactment into law of a resolution of disapproval as set forth under the statute.
Please do not hesitate to contact this office if we may provide additional assistance regarding this or any other matter.

Sincerely,

Stephen E. Boyd
Assistant Attorney General
The Honorable Lindsey Graham  
Chairman  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jim Risch  
Chairman  
Committee on Foreign Relations  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Bob Menendez  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Foreign Relations  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

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