

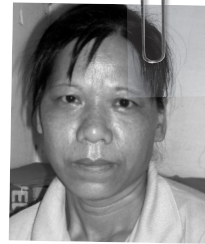
# An open letter to the G8

**Signed:**

- ALAN RICKMAN** ACTOR
- ARTHUR SMITH** COMEDIAN & WRITER
- BENJAMIN ZEPHANIAH** POET
- BILL NIGHY** ACTOR
- CAROLANNE DUFFY CBE FRSL** POET LAUREATE
- DAMON ALBARN** MUSICIAN
- DAVID AARONOVITCH** JOURNALIST
- DAVID GILMOUR CBE** MUSICIAN
- DUSTIN HOFFMAN** ACTOR
- EMMA THOMPSON** ACTOR & SCREENWRITER
- GAEL GARCIA BERNAL** ACTOR
- GEORGE MONBIOT** AUTHOR & JOURNALIST
- GORDON RODDICK** SOCIAL ACTIVIST & ENTREPRENEUR
- HARI KUNZRU** NOVELIST
- HUGH DENNIS** ACTOR & COMEDIAN
- IRVINE WELSH** NOVELIST
- JAMES McAVOY** ACTOR
- JAMES PUREFOY** ACTOR
- JAN RAVENS** ACTOR & IMPRESSIONIST
- JANE SEYMOUR OBE** ACTOR
- JO BRAND** COMEDIAN
- JOHN PILGER** AUTHOR & JOURNALIST
- JONATHAN PRYCE CBE** ACTOR
- JULIE WALTERS CBE** ACTOR
- KEN LOACH** FILM DIRECTOR
- KEVIN SPACEY** ACTOR & ARTISTIC DIRECTOR OLD VIC
- KIRSTY YOUNG** BROADCASTER
- KWAME KWEI-ARMAH** PLAYWRIGHT & ACTOR
- LYNNE FRANKS** AUTHOR & PR
- MARIO TESTINO** PHOTOGRAPHER
- MARK RONSON** MUSIC PRODUCER
- MATTHEW TAYLOR** CHIEF EXECUTIVE RSA
- MIKE LEIGH OBE** DIRECTOR OF FILM & THEATRE
- MIRIAM MARGOLYES** ACTOR
- MORGAN SPURLOCK** DIRECTOR
- NAN SLOANE** DIRECTOR CENTRE FOR WOMEN & DEMOCRACY
- NEAL LAWSON** POLITICAL COMMENTATOR & CHAIR OF COMPASS
- NIGEL HAVERS** ACTOR
- NOAM CHOMSKY** POLITICAL PHILOSOPHER
- PAUL LAVERTY** SCREENWRITER
- PETER GABRIEL** MUSICIAN
- PROFESSOR A. C. GRAYLING** PHILOSOPHER
- RICHARD CURTIS CBE** SCREENWRITER & FILM DIRECTOR
- RORY BREMNER FKC** IMPRESSIONIST & PLAYWRIGHT
- SAM TAYLOR-WOOD** CONCEPTUAL ARTIST
- SHABANA AZMI** ACTOR & ACTIVIST
- SIR RANULPH FIENNES OBE** EXPLORER
- SIR ROGER MOORE KBE** ACTOR
- SIR TREVOR McDONALD OBE** BROADCASTER
- SOPHIE OKONEDO** ACTOR
- STEPHEN FRY** ACTOR & DIRECTOR
- SUSIE ORBACH** PSYCHOTHERAPIST & AUTHOR
- TERRY JONES** ACTOR, FILM DIRECTOR & AUTHOR
- TONY BENN** AUTHOR & POLITICIAN
- TONY ROBINSON** ACTOR & BROADCASTER
- TRACEY EMIN** ARTIST
- VICTORIA WOOD CBE** COMEDIAN, ACTOR & WRITER
- VIGGO MORTENSEN** ACTOR
- YASMIN ALIBHAI-BROWN** JOURNALIST & AUTHOR

Dear G8 Leaders

We are writing to you on behalf of Nguyen Thi Lanh. You don't know her. And she doesn't know you. But she knows you will eat more than you need today, while she eats next to nothing. And she knows you have the power to change that.



**Lanh, 40, is her family's only breadwinner. She works hard in a Vietnamese shoe factory. But orders are falling because of global recession and half the workforce has been laid off. Lanh still has a job but her meagre wages have been halved. She now eats only one small meal a day. It's all she can afford if she is to pay what she must to keep her son in school.**

On behalf of Lanh and the billion other people who will go to bed hungry tonight, we ask – we demand – that you tackle this global crisis as morally and bravely as Lanh is tackling her personal one. That means delivering on your promise of billions of pounds to help recession-hit poor countries. And creating a new, fairer financial system.

ActionAid is already helping Lanh and many like her, and today launches a financial crisis appeal to raise £54 million to go directly to those who need it most. Now it's over to you. The global economic crisis was created by rich countries. There is no justification for allowing it to push people in poor countries further into poverty and hunger.

You have the chance to make the world a fairer place.

**Please take it.**