

## PRESS RELEASE

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## Government redeploys Ministers to match the pace of Brexit negotiations

The Government has had to redeploy its Ministerial team to match the pace of the continuing negotiations for the United Kingdom and Gibraltar to leave the European Union.

The Chief Minister Fabian Picardo will leave for London today, Monday, for Brexit-related meetings.

The Deputy Chief Minister Dr Joseph Garcia, at the same time, will travel to the United Nations in New York and address the UN Fourth Committee on behalf of the Government. He will also cover other engagements at which the Chief Minister was due to speak. Dr Garcia will join the Chief Minister after his visit to New York.

Meanwhile, the Minister for Housing and Equality, Samantha Sacramento, will travel to Glasgow to represent the Government at the annual conference of the Scottish National Party.

In the absence of the Chief Minister and the Deputy Chief Minister, the Minister for Education and the Environment, Dr John Cortes, will act as Chief Minister.

The Chief Minister Fabian Picardo said, "The ability of the Government to redeploy its Ministers to different tasks in the wider interests of Gibraltar shows the depth of strength and experience at the disposal of our wider national interest.

"This is the first time in 15 years that I will not attend the Gibraltar session of the Fourth committee and it is the first time since 2010 that I will not deliver an address for Gibraltar before the Committee. It is important I continue the work we are doing in the context of the Brexit negotiations and I know that Gibraltar's representation is in safe, able and extremely competent hands in Deputy Chief Minister, Dr Joseph Garcia. I will look forward to following his address on Tuesday evening."