



GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR
Ministry for Environment and Tourism
Joshua Hassan House
Secretary's Lane
Gibraltar

PRESS RELEASE

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The Government categorically rejects the denial by the International Primate Protection League UK (IPPL) that “at no point did the organisation or the representative dictate preconditions to the Gibraltar Government.” The IPPL then goes on to attempt to justify this incorrect statement by references to exchanges in emails between the IPPL and GONHS.

The Government is therefore publishing the IPPL proposal in full (copy attached) so that the public and the media can see for themselves that such preconditions were indeed set. The proposal says that it is an “Agreement” which is made between the Government of Gibraltar, the IPPL, GONHS and the AAP Foundation. It then goes on to set out what each of these parties are agreeing to do by signing this Agreement. Paragraphs 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3 of the proposed Agreement specify in detail the commitments the Government is making when it signs the Agreement. The fact that these are preconditions, is clearly shown by the introduction to paragraphs 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3 under the heading “**Future Management**” which clearly states that the “relocation is offered on the understanding that long-term preventative measures will be put in place to ensure the situation does not arise again.” Clearly this means that the relocation can **only** take place if these measures are put in place and therefore these are clearly preconditions. It is precisely because it contains preconditions that the IPPL proposal was rejected out of hand by the Government, through GONHS, and why the Government considers that there is no proposal on the table.

However, the Government categorically states that it has not rejected in principle all or any of the measures being supported by the IPPL as preconditions. In its own time and at the moment the Government, in its sole judgement, considers appropriate some of these measures may be introduced by the Government, but the Government will never accept these as preconditions.

The Government notes that the petition published on the IPPL Website is not considered as a “subsequent action” by the IPPL because the petition had been published prior to the meeting the IPPL had with the Minister for the Environment on the 24th April 2008. The Government was not aware of this at the time of the meeting and neither was it familiar with the contents of the petition. Be that as it may, the Government reiterates its earlier statement that the IPPL’s action, subsequent to their visit to Gibraltar, were disappointing and did not meet the Government’s expectations of goodwill and co-operation. The IPPL could have shown goodwill by either removing the petition or, alternatively, modifying its contents to give detail of the Government’s policy and position subsequent to the briefing the IPPL had received at the meeting with the Minister. The reality is that the petition, which is still there on the IPPL’s Website, continues to be one sided, completely ignores Gibraltar’s position and policy and contains emotive and inaccurate statements which can only be designed to be an embarrassment to Gibraltar.