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**OPPOSITION HAVE FLOUTED ACCEPTED STANDARDS OF PARLIAMENTARY
BEHAVIOUR**

Peter Caruana's statement about his petty decision to vote against an adjournment of Parliament until 2nd August is entirely wrong and clearly intentionally misleading.

The Government had two ministers (the Chief Minister and the Minister for Sport) away from Parliament on Thursday due to work engagements representing Gibraltar abroad; Mr Picardo travelling for the Opening Ceremony of the Olympic Games and Mr Linares at a meeting of all Commonwealth Sports Ministers in London. With them here the Government would have had a majority in the relevant vote.

Mr Licudi was back in Gibraltar on 27th July and was available to answer questions from that afternoon and would have been available to answer questions on Monday 30th July and Tuesday 31st July. The decision to adjourn to Thursday 2nd August was made because Mr Caruana had previously asked Mr Picardo and Dr Garcia to hold question time sessions on Thursdays and Fridays, a request that the Government has, until now, tried to accommodate. In fact the whole Parliamentary timetable for this session of Parliament has been altered out of courtesy to Mr Caruana personally – including the Chief Minister agreeing to change the timing of his questions to accommodate Mr Caruana's travel plans.

In the circumstances, it is clear that Mr Caruana and the GSD are becoming very poor value for money for the taxpayer.

In light of that, Mr Caruana's petty and petulant stance reflect entirely on him and his now discredited, rejected and unnecessarily combative style of politics which breeds division and prevents proper Parliamentary cooperation.