



**HM GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR**  
**PRESS OFFICE**  
**No.6 Convent Place**  
**Gibraltar**  
**Tel:20070071; Fax: 20043057**

**PRESS RELEASE**

No: 577/2012

Date: 13<sup>th</sup> September 2012

**'National Day was a Huge Success,' says Chief Minister**

'What a fantastic, fantastic few days for Gibraltar!' said the Chief Minister, the Hon Fabian Picardo. 'The Mega-Concert, the rally, the crowds in Casemates, even the firework display and all the entertainment – the long weekend really could not have been any better.'

'We promised that, if we were elected to power, we would return National Day to its original home in Casemates and to base it around a political rally – and that's exactly what we did. It is clear that the people of Gibraltar, no matter what their party allegiance, wanted to celebrate their National Day together, to form part of the political rally and to celebrate everything that is Gibraltarian and they certainly had a great time doing it! I'm also hugely delighted that the Mega-Concert, another of our manifesto commitments, was such an enormous success.'

Dr Joseph Garcia, the Deputy Chief Minister stressed the importance of inviting various MPs from London. 'I spoke to several of them and, no matter which political party they belonged to, I know that they have taken Gibraltar's issues back to Westminster and that they intend to raise those issues in both the House of Commons and the House of Lords. They all left with very positive impressions of the Rock and with an obvious commitment to our concerns. This shows the value of inviting them here to see Gibraltar first-hand for themselves.'

'I would like to thank everyone, far too many to mention by name, who was involved in making the weekend such a massive success,' added the Chief Minister.