



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

PRESS RELEASE

No: 803/2012

Date: 3rd December 2012

Chief Minister raises waters issues with UK Government

The Chief Minister, the Hon Fabian Picardo MP held a meeting this morning with the Minister for Europe David Lidington. The Chief Minister was accompanied by the Deputy Chief Minister Dr Joseph Garcia, Chief Secretary Ernest Gomez and UK Representative Albert Poggio.

A number of issues affecting Gibraltar were discussed during the meeting including the publication last week of the Spanish Government's Management Plan for the SAC which includes British Gibraltar Territorial Waters. This development is totally unacceptable to the Government and the seriousness in which HMGoG holds this issue was conveyed to Mr Lidington.

Mr Lidington was clear in his support for Gibraltar. He recalled British sovereignty of the waters around Gibraltar and noted that the new management plan will not affect Britain's sovereignty.

The UK and Gibraltar agreed to continue to work together across a wide range of issues, including to seek the removal of the Spanish designation and to continue to robustly challenge any further incursions.

Mr Picardo and Dr Garcia are in London for the Joint Ministerial Council of the UK Overseas Territories.