



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

**PRESS RELEASE**

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**CHIEF MINISTER TO BE MADE A FREEMAN OF THE CITY OF LONDON**

The Chief Minister left Gibraltar on Tuesday for a busy day in London.

On Wednesday, after a day of meetings with potential investors at Gibraltar House, Mr Picardo will be installed as a member of the Guild of Freemen of the City of London at the Guild Hall. He has been nominated by the Master of the Guild of Freemen, Mrs Anne E Holden, Brigadier Michael Keun and by Mr Albert Poggio OBE. After the ceremony, a reception will be held at the Guild Hall for a selected number of dignitaries from the Corporation of London. The Chief Minister and his entourage will then leave for Gibraltar House where he will attend a second reception, this one being hosted by Sir Francis Richards as Chairman of the Friends of Gibraltar.

The Chief Minister, as one of the principal guests, will then attend a dinner hosted by the Guild of Freemen in Grocers' Hall. At the dinner, there will be a toast to 'the Chief Minister and The People of Gibraltar.' After the band has played the National Anthem, they will then play the Gibraltar Anthem, 'Gibraltar, Gibraltar,' the words of which will be printed on the evening programme and the 500 guests will be encouraged to join in the singing.

The Chief Minister will return to Gibraltar on Thursday. Whilst he is away, the Deputy Chief Minister Dr Joseph Garcia will act as Chief Minister.