

## HM GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR PRESS OFFICE

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

No: 17/2012

Date: 9<sup>th</sup> January 2013

## HMGoG reaction to Jose Ignacio Landaluce's call for Cooperation

HMGoG takes note of reports that Algeciras Mayor and Partido Popular MP, Jose Ignacio Landaluce has converted to the cause of cooperation with Gibraltar for the mutual benefit of the inhabitants of the area.

HMGoG could not agree more.

No opportunity should be lost for further cooperation for the benefit of the populations on either side of the frontier. Gibraltar is already contributing in a substantial way. The latest figures indicate that the UK and Gibraltar were the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> highest investors in Andalucia, last year, and there are around 7000 frontier workers officially employed on the Rock benefiting from our economy. It is precisely for this reason that HMGoG remains thoroughly committed to the Tripartite Process of Dialogue as the framework for further progress and cooperation; as the UK has said it is and the PSOE in Spain continues to argue.

What is increasingly clear is that the Partido Popular is increasingly isolated in its sterile policy of not wanting to engage with the UK and Gibraltar and now is seeking to avoid Spain's obligations under the Cordoba Agreement. None of these actions by the PP will progress the desirable cooperation for mutual benefit.