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PRESS RELEASE

No: 237/2013

Date: 5th April 2013

Gibraltar at Marrakech FIA World Touring Car Championship Event

The Chief Minister, the Hon Fabian Picardo MP, travels to Marrakech today, Friday, where Her Majesty's Government of Gibraltar is pleased to have been invited to host a stand at the Marrakech FIA World Touring Car Championship which runs from the qualifying laps on Friday 4th April to the race itself on Sunday 7th April.

During this event, Gibraltar will have its own stand at the track, showcasing the Rock's many products and services to the Moroccan public attending the event, which has become one of the highlights of the sporting and social calendar in the Kingdom of Morocco.

Mr Picardo will attend the event along with the Hon Neil Costa MP, Minister for Tourism, Commercial Affairs, Public Transport and the Port.

A delegation from the Gibraltar Tourist Board will also attend.

Miss World 2009, Kaiane Aldorino, will also be there to represent Gibraltar. She has featured prominently in the marketing of the event and who has been given the honour of starting the prestigious race.

The race is broadcast to a global audience on Eurosport. Viewers in Gibraltar will be able to view the race at 5pm on Eurosport UK on Sunday 7th April.

The Chief Minister and Mrs Picardo will be hosting hospitality for the Moroccan national press at the Gibraltar stand.

This event will, in particular, serve to highlight the recent changes in Gibraltar's immigration rules emphasising HM Government of Gibraltar's relaxation of visa requirements for Moroccan Schengen multiple entry visa holders and the Government's stated desire to develop modern tourism, trade and business links with the Kingdom of Morocco.

Chief Minister, Fabian Picardo, said: "This is an excellent opportunity to promote what Gibraltar has to offer to the Moroccan tourist industry and to business people in the affluent south of Morocco. Our presence at this prestigious event will enable us to showcase the Gibraltar tourist product as well as our vision of establishing stronger links across the Straits with the Kingdom of Morocco and its people. I am delighted that to make the Gibraltar presence unmissable, Miss World 2009, Kaiane Aldorino has been chosen to start the race."

Mr Picardo returns to Gibraltar on Monday. The Deputy Chief Minister will be acting Chief Minister in Mr Picardo's absence.

Ends