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## PRESS RELEASE

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## **GIBRALTAR TO HOST PEER REVIEW VISIT FOR EU PROJECT**

Gibraltar has been chosen to host the second peer review visit for the EU Cities Adapt Project, which it has been participating in since last September.

The project is being carried out for the European Union's DG CLIMA and aims to provide capacity building and assistance in the development and implementation of an adaptation strategy to deal with the predicted impacts of climate change. The EU hopes that through the work undertaken via this project, cities across Europe will be better equipped to adapt to climate change.

The visit will take place over the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> May and 15 representatives from other participating cities as well as project partners, ICLEI and Ricardo-AEA, will be attending. Delegates will be learning about Gibraltar's work on climate change adaptation so far, as well as sharing their own experiences. Water scarcity is one of the projected impacts of climate change in many Mediterranean cities and the group will have the opportunity to visit the facilities at AquaGib, including the reverse osmosis plant and the water reservoirs within the Rock. They will also visit the Port to see the area affected by the 2008 storm and learn about the work done to reinforce the area and make it better able to cope with future extreme weather events.

Delegates will meet with Minister for Health & the Environment, Dr. John Cortes, as well as other members of the Gibraltar Adaptation Working Group during their 2-day visit.

Dr Cortes said, "I am very pleased, not only that we are part of this extremely important programme, but that Gibraltar has been chosen to host this meeting. Europe now knows how committed we are to the environment and to sharing our knowledge and experience in this vital climate change work.