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CHIEF MINISTER SENDS CONGRATULATIONS TO GIBRALTAR KENNEL CLUB

The Chief Minister, the Hon Fabian Picardo, has sent his personal congratulations to the Gibraltar Kennel Club following its acceptance as a full member of the Federation Cynologique Internationale (FCI), the international federation of kennel clubs. The FCI has over 80 member countries and, as well as organising international dog shows, it also regulates the World Dog Show.

At its recent General Assembly, held in Budapest, the FCI's board opposed Gibraltar's membership but, in a secret ballot, member countries voted to accept Gibraltar's application by a majority of 32 votes to 26.

'I am delighted to congratulate the Gibraltar Kennel Club on its acceptance as a full member of the FCI,' said Mr Picardo. 'In particular, I wish to applaud the work done by Lawrence Llamas who successfully argued Gibraltar's position in the face of strong opposition from Spain and Argentina and to thank the Government's Chief Legal Advisor, Michael Llamas for giving his support and advice to the Gibraltar's Kennel Club bid.