## JOINT PRESS RELEASE ON BEHALF OF THE HON JJ BOSSANO, GIBRALTAR JOINERY BUILDING SERVICES LIMITED AND MR BRIAN ZAMMIT

The Hon. Joe Bossano and GJBS have reached a settlement with Mr Brian Zammit in relation to the libel claim brought against Mr Zammit last December.

The apology and retraction from Mr Zammit followed an article he published which was defamatory of Mr Bossano and the management of GJBS. As a result of the apology and retraction issued by Mr Zammit, Mr Bossano and the management of GJBS will now not pursue legal action against Mr Zammit.

Francisco Ponce of Citipeg has also recently apologised to Mr Bossano and the management of GJBS for the statements that were the origin of the false allegations. Mr Ponce agreed to pay an agreed amount of damages to a charity of the choosing of Minister Bossano and the management of GJBS.

The apology and retraction from Mr Zammit to Mr Bossano and the management of GJBS reads as follows:

## "APOLOGY AND RETRACTION

I refer to two posts published on the "Gibraltar Politics" Facebook group page, of which I am an administrator, on 18th December 2012, namely:

- 1. A post written by me entitled "Do We Have a Xenophobic Government?"
- 2. A post containing a hyperlink leading to an article on the www.lalineadigital.es website.

In the first post I stated that sources from within Gibraltar Joinery and Building Services Limited ("GJBS") had informed "Gibraltar Politics" that GJBS's directors had been instructed by the Hon Joseph Bossano MP, Minister for Employment, not to invite GJBS's Spanish employees to the company Christmas party, and that the directors of GJBS had agreed and followed this instruction from the Hon Mr Bossano. We did not seek a comment from Hon Mr Bossano or GJBS directors before I posted the relevant comments.

The hyperlink contained in the second post led to an article on the www.lalineadigital.es website which quoted Mr Francisco Ponce of CITIPEG as having made similar allegations against Hon Mr Bossano and GJBS and referring to the situation as an example of discrimination and racism against the Spanish workers.

It was my intention to report the fact that the allegations had been made, as I believed they concerned a matter of public interest. I did not intend to take any position on the substantive truth or otherwise of the allegations.

In the circumstances, and if anything I have said or posted has caused anyone to think that I intended to say that the allegations were true, I apologise to Hon Mr Bossano, GJBS and its Directors, for any embarrassment and inconvenience which may have been caused to them."