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**PRESS RELEASE**

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**Chief Minister meets Gibraltar students in Washington**

The Chief Minister, Fabian Picardo and the Deputy Chief Minister, Dr Joseph Garcia this morning attended a meeting with sixteen students from Gibraltar who are undergoing internships at the Washington Centre.

The meeting took place at the offices of the Heritage Foundation and was also attended by Nile Gardiner, the Director of the Margaret Thatcher Centre for Freedom and Luke Coffey who is a Margaret Thatcher Fellow.

The sixteen students, who have work placements with companies, NGOs and other organisations in the United States each gave a brief presentation explaining where they were based and what they were doing. They were all very pleased with the internship programme and some of them expressed a desire to continue in the United States once the scheme comes to a close in a few weeks time.

The Chief Minister explained the background to the work that the Government was doing in the United States and the efforts to develop further political and commercial ties between Gibraltar and the US.