



PRESS RELEASE

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United Nations Seminar

The presentation of the Gibraltar Statement at the Nicaragua Seminar was so successful that when the Hon Joe Bossano MP finished his delivery, it was followed by a warm applause from the audience; an unprecedented reaction. In addition, the Ambassador of Papua New Guinea, a Committee of 24 Member, asked to participate in order to thank Minister Bossano for raising the issue of the inaccuracies in the report of the proceedings at the Fiji Seminar held last year and stated this would have to be investigated.

The Chairman, the Ambassador for Ecuador, expressed his anger that such a matter should need to be looked into so as to ensure accuracy in reflecting what happens in the Seminar discussions.

None of the C 24 Members or UN Member States present, who participated in the debate which dealt with the three territories where there are disputes, namely Falklands, Gibraltar and Western Sahara, supported the position taken by the Spanish Representative. The contributors to the debate limited their speeches to support the statement made by the Argentinian delegate with reference to its sovereignty claim over the Falklands, and the Polisario Representative in respect of the application of self-determination to Western Sahara.

The following countries and Committee of 24 Members spoke in the debate:

Ecuador (Chair)	Indonesia
Algeria	Iran
Chile	Nicaragua
Costa Rica	Russia
Cuba	Syria
El Salvador	Uruguay
Ethiopia	Venezuela
Guatemala	



Not a single one of them expressed any views about Anglo-Spanish negotiations or suggested any continuation of the Brussels process.

The objective of Gibraltar in participating in the Seminar is to ensure that the other participants, especially the Committee of 24 Members and other UN Nation States, remain neutral and keep an open mind, given that Spain constantly claims that it has the undiluted support of the international community in its attempts to take over Gibraltar against the wishes of its people.

Minister Bossano expressed his satisfaction that the attempt to misrepresent the position which had been arrived at in the Fiji Seminar had been stopped in Nicaragua. He also added that it is important to remain vigilant and keep attending the Seminars, as he has been doing over the years, if we are to counteract Spain's attempts to turn dislocations to its advantage.