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Letter dated 28 September 2020 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In accordance with the published instructions for the right of reply, the United Kingdom would like to exercise the right of reply in response to the statement by the distinguished representative of Spain.

On 25 September 2020, during agenda item 8 of the seventy-fifth session of the General Assembly, "General debate", the representative of Spain made reference to the United Kingdom's sovereignty over Gibraltar, further to which the United Kingdom wishes to place the following statement in the official record of proceedings:

The United Kingdom recalls its sovereignty over Gibraltar and the territorial waters surrounding it and reaffirms that, as a separate territory recognized by the United Nations and included since 1946 in its list of Non-Self-Governing Territories, Gibraltar enjoys the rights accorded to it under the Charter of the United Nations.

The United Kingdom also recalls that the people of Gibraltar enjoy the right to self-determination. The 2006 Gibraltar Constitution, which was endorsed in a referendum by the people of Gibraltar, provides for a modern and mature relationship between Gibraltar and the United Kingdom.

The Government of the United Kingdom restates its long-standing commitment to the people of Gibraltar that it will not enter into arrangements under which the people of Gibraltar would pass under the sovereignty of another State against their freely and democratically expressed wishes. The United Kingdom also confirms that it will not enter into a process of sovereignty negotiations with which Gibraltar is not content.

I should be grateful if you would circulate the present letter as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 8.

(Signed) Jonathan Allen

