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Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)**Letter dated 15 June 2011 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

On the instructions of my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of a press release issued on 10 June 2011 by the Government of the Argentine Republic on the occasion of the "Day of Affirmation of Argentine Sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands and the Antarctic Sector" (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this note and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 45 concerning the Malvinas Islands.

(Signed) **Diego Limeres**
Deputy Permanent Representative
Chargé d'affaires a.i.



Annex to the letter dated 15 June 2011 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Press release

Day of Affirmation of Argentine Sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands

Buenos Aires, 10 June 2011

On 10 June, the Day of Affirmation of Argentine Sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands and the Antarctic Sector, the Argentine Nation commemorates the establishment in 1829 of the Political and Military Command for the Malvinas Islands and the islands adjacent to Cape Horn in the Atlantic Ocean, by decree of Brigadier General Martín Rodríguez, Acting Governor of Buenos Aires Province.

At no time since its beginnings as an independent nation has the Argentine Republic renounced its sovereignty over the southern territories and the maritime areas legitimately inherited from Spain, nor has it allowed a continental or extra-continental Power to exercise jurisdiction over those territories and areas.

The exercise of those titles and rights by the Argentine Government has thus been permanent, through the gradual adoption of laws and the establishment of legal and administrative structures which consolidated its exercise of sovereignty, promoting the development of commercial activities, settlement of population and the establishment of a local civil administration, culminating in the adoption of the Decree establishing the Political and Military Command for the Malvinas Islands on the date we are observing today, over which Mr. Luis Vernet was appointed to preside.

The clear and peaceful exercise of Argentine sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands and their dependencies was interrupted by an act of belligerence carried out by British forces on 3 January 1833, expelling the Argentine authorities and population and replacing them by British subjects.

The Government and people of Argentina today reiterate, calmly and firmly, their inalienable right, enshrined in the First Provisional Clause of the National Constitution, to the full exercise of sovereignty by Argentina over the Malvinas Islands, South Georgia Islands and South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas, and their permanent and unwavering determination to recover that sovereignty through the peaceful path of diplomatic negotiations.

The support for the legitimate claim of Argentina among the countries of our region is highly appreciated. In addition, numerous statements have been made on an ongoing basis by many international organizations and in many forums, in particular the United Nations, the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR), the Rio Group, MERCOSUR, the South American-Arab and South American-African summits, as well as the Latin American and Caribbean summits, strongly appealing to both parties to resume negotiations to bring a peaceful and just end to the sovereignty dispute.

The Government of the Argentine Republic reiterates its strong desire to resume negotiations with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland as soon as possible to put an end to this unacceptable situation of colonialism. Regrettably, the willingness of Argentina to negotiate has met with implacable resistance by the British, who, disregarding the appeals by the international community, not only have maintained the situation of colonialism, but also have continued to take innumerable illegal unilateral actions by exploiting renewable and non-renewable Argentine resources while consolidating a military presence which is offensive to the region as a whole.
