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Note verbale dated 15 May 2012 from the Permanent Mission of the Argentine Republic to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva addressed to the President of the Human Rights Council

I have the honour to refer to the national report submitted by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in connection with the universal periodic review (A/HRC/WG.6/13/GBR/1). In paragraph 140 of that report, which refers to overseas territories, mention is made of the Malvinas.

The Argentine Government recalls that the Malvinas, South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands are an integral part of the national territory of Argentina, that they are being illegally occupied by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and that they are therefore the object of a dispute over sovereignty between the two countries which is recognized as such by the United Nations and other international organizations.

This illegal occupation by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland led the United Nations General Assembly to adopt resolutions 2065 (XX), 3160 (XXVIII), 31/49, 37/9, 38/12, 39/6, 40/21, 41/40, 42/19 and 43/25, in which the General Assembly recognizes the existence of the dispute over sovereignty, which is referred to as the "question of the Malvinas", and urges the Governments of the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to resume negotiations with a view to finding the means to resolve the dispute peacefully and definitively. The Special Committee on Decolonization of the United Nations has also repeatedly called for negotiations, most recently in a resolution adopted on 21 June 2011.

Given the above, the Government of Argentina objects to the inclusion of the Malvinas in paragraph 140 of the national report of the United Kingdom as a purported overseas territory, which is invalid since they are a part of Argentine territory, and to the pretension of issuing laws, such as the Constitution referred to therein, that would be applicable to the Malvinas.

The Argentine Government requests that this note verbale be distributed as an official document of the Human Rights Council.

(Signed) Alberto P. **D'Alotto** Ambassador, Permanent Representative

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