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English only

UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Subsidiary Body for Implementation

Thirty-third session

Cancun, 30 November to 4 December 2010

Agenda item 17

Other matters

Other matters

Submission from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

1. A submission was received on 30 November 2010 in relation to item 17 of the agenda of the thirty-third session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation.
2. In accordance with the procedure for miscellaneous documents, this submission is reproduced* in the language in which it was received and without formal editing.

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Submission from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Statement by the Delegation of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

The delegation of the United Kingdom deeply regrets the need to make an intervention following the statement by the distinguished delegate of the Argentine Republic.

The UK delegation does not believe that this is the appropriate forum to raise sovereignty issues of any kind.

In reference to the content of the statement made by the delegation of Argentina, the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland has no doubt about its sovereignty over the Falkland Islands, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands and their surrounding maritime areas. The United Kingdom firmly rejects the claim by the Government of Argentina to sovereignty over those islands and maritime areas.

The principle of self-determination, enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, underlies our position on the sovereignty of the Falkland Islands. There can be no negotiation on the sovereignty of the Falkland Islands unless and until such time as the Falkland Islanders so wish. The Islanders regularly make it clear that they wish the Falkland Islands to remain under British sovereignty.

The United Kingdom applied the Framework Convention on Climate Change¹ and the Kyoto Protocol² to the Falkland Islands on 7 March 2007.

As such the United Kingdom has included emissions from the Falkland Islands within its Greenhouse Gas Inventories in fulfilment of its obligations under the Convention and the Protocol.”

I would like to request that the content of this statement is included as an annex to the report of the meeting or as a MISC document, as appropriate.

¹ “In respect of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Bailiwick of Jersey and the Isle of Man. On 4 April 2006: in respect of the Bailiwick of Guernsey. On 2 January 2007: in respect of Gibraltar. On 7 March 2007: in respect of Bermuda, Cayman Islands, Falkland Islands.” http://unfccc.int/files/kyoto_protocol/status_of_ratification/application/pdf/kp_ratification20090601.pdf

² “On 4 April 2006, the Government of the United Kingdom informed the Secretary-General that the Protocol shall apply to the Bailiwick of Guernsey and the Isle of Man. On 2 January 2007: in respect of Gibraltar. On 7 March 2007: in respect of Bermuda, Cayman Islands, Falkland Islands and the Bailiwick of Jersey.” http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=XXVII-7-a&chapter=27&lang=en#6