

04 June 2008

**STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR JOHN DUNCAN TO THE STANDING
COMMITTEE ON MINE CLEARANCE, MINE RISK EDUCATION AND
MINE ACTION TECHNOLOGIES ON THE FALKLAND ISLANDS,
SOUTH GEORGIA AND SOUTH SANDWICH ISLANDS**

The United Kingdom has no doubts about its sovereignty over the Falkland Islands, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas. The principle of self-determination, enshrined in article 73 of the UN Charter, underlies our position on the sovereignty of the Falkland Islands. There can be no negotiations on the sovereignty of the Falkland Islands unless and until such time as the Falkland Islanders so wish.