Foreign & Commonwealth Office (UK)

Grace 1: UK statement on the outcome of Gibraltar's legal proceedings

2019-08-15

A Foreign & Commonwealth Office spokesperson said:

The UK notes the conclusion of Gibraltar’s legal proceedings and the steps Gibraltar’s authorities have taken to prevent the ship’s cargo from reaching Syria in contravention of EU Syria Sanctions.

We note the Government of Gibraltar has received assurances from Iran that the Grace 1 will not proceed to Syria. Iran must abide by the assurances they have provided. We will not stand by and allow Iran – or anyone – to bypass vital EU sanctions on a regime that has deployed chemical weapons against its own people.

There is no comparison or linkage between Iran’s unacceptable and illegal seizure of, and attacks on, commercial shipping vessels in the Strait of Hormuz and the enforcement of EU Syria sanctions by the Government of Gibraltar. Freedom of navigation for commercial shipping must be respected and international law upheld.

Source: https://www.gov.uk/government/news/grace-1-uk-statement-on-the-outcome-of-gibraltars-legal-proceedings