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Our Reference:202300347881
18 April 2023

Dear Scottish Solidarity with Nicaragua

Thank you for your email of 19 March regarding the findings of the UN appointed Group of Human Rights Experts on Nicaragua Report.

Scottish Ministers share the alarm expressed by the Group of Human Rights Experts report on the deterioration of human rights in Nicaragua. The UN Report outlines severe human rights abuses, including extrajudicial executions, torture, arbitrary deprivation of nationality, as well as violations of numerous fundamental freedoms. Scottish Ministers are deeply concerned by reports of the participation of the President, Vice President, and officials in systematic and widespread human rights violations against opposition political and civil society groups.

In March 2023, Rita French, UK Human Rights Ambassador, delivered a statement to the UN on the report from the Group of Human Rights Experts on Nicaragua. Ms French reiterated the UK's support of the report's recommendations and called on the Nicaraguan government to cooperate fully with the Group.

As a good global citizen, the Scottish Government is committed to promoting democracy, the rule of law and human rights around the world. The Scottish Government unequivocally supports the fundamental human rights of freedom of thought, and the right to association and peaceful assembly. These rights are universal and inalienable. Scottish Ministers will continue to condemn the Nicaraguan Government's coordinated dismantling of democratic institutions and the use of violence against its own people which is resulting in the death and torture of civilians. We urge the Nicaraguan Government to stop the repression of opposition groups, and to co-operate fully with the UN, ensuring that those responsible for egregious human rights violations are held accountable.

Yours sincerely

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