

Administration of Joseph R. Biden, Jr., 2024

Statement on the Agreement Between Mauritius and the United Kingdom on the Status of the Chagos Archipelago

October 3, 2024

I applaud the historic agreement and conclusion of the negotiations between the Republic of Mauritius and the United Kingdom on the status of the Chagos Archipelago. It is a clear demonstration that through diplomacy and partnership, countries can overcome longstanding historical challenges to reach peaceful and mutually beneficial outcomes. This agreement affirms Mauritian sovereignty over the Chagos Archipelago, while granting the United Kingdom the authority to exercise the sovereign rights of Mauritius with respect to Diego Garcia.

Diego Garcia is the site of a joint U.S.-U.K. military facility that plays a vital role in national, regional, and global security. It enables the United States to support operations that demonstrate our shared commitment to regional stability, provide rapid response to crises, and counter some of the most challenging security threats we face. The agreement secures the effective operation of the joint facility on Diego Garcia into the next century.

We look forward to continuing our strong partnership with Mauritius and the United Kingdom in upholding a free and open Indo-Pacific.

Categories: Statements by the President : Chagos Archipelago, Mauritius-United Kingdom agreement on status.

Subjects: Chagos Archipelago, territorial status; Diego Garcia, U.S.-United Kingdom joint military facility; Mauritius, relations with U.S.; Mauritius, relations with United Kingdom; United Kingdom, relations with Mauritius; United Kingdom, relations with U.S.

DCPD Number: DCPD202400873.