EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO

THE LEBANON (UNITED NATIONS SANCTIONS) (OVERSEAS TERRITORIES)(AMENDMENT) ORDER 2007

2007 No. 2131

1. This Explanatory Memorandum has been prepared by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and is laid before Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

   This memorandum contains information for the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments

2. Description

2.1 This instrument amends S.I. 283/2007 The Lebanon (United Nations Sanctions)(Overseas Territories) Order 2007 ("the Principal Order").

2.2 The Authorities of the Sovereign Base Areas in Cyprus and the Falkland Islands (which includes South Georgia and the Sandwich Islands) drew to our attention recently that the standard provisions on the prosecution of offences contained in the Principal Order did not accurately reflect the rules applicable in those Territories. This Order amends the Principal Order to ensure that it accurately reflects the rules applicable to the prosecution of offences in these Territories.

2.3 The opportunity has been taken also to correct some small errors in the Principal Order that were drawn to our attention by Counsel to the Joint Committee in a letter to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office dated 13 April 2007.

3. Matters of special interest to the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments

The Order will be made at the Privy Council meeting on the 25th July 2007 and laid before Parliament on the following day. The Order will come into force the day after it is laid so that the amended provisions can be utilised immediately.

4. Legislative background

4.1 This instrument applies to the territories listed in paragraph 5 below.

4.2 This Order is made pursuant to section 1 of the United Nations Act 1946.

5. Extent

This instrument applies to the following territories: Anguilla, Bermuda, British Antarctic Territory, British Indian Ocean Territory, Cayman Islands, Falkland Islands, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Henderson, Ducie and Oeno Islands, St. Helena and Dependencies, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands, The Sovereign Base

Areas of Akrotiri and Dhekelia on the Island of Cyprus, Turks and Caicos Islands and the Virgin Islands. All the territories were consulted.

6. European Convention on Human Rights

Although this instrument is laid before Parliament, there is no provision for further parliamentary proceedings and no statement is therefore required.

7. Policy Background

This instrument will modify the provisions of the Principal Order on the prosecution of offences insofar as they relate to the Sovereign Base Areas in Cyprus and the Falkland Islands (which, for this purpose, includes South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands). These changes have been made at the request of the Authorities in these Territories who have been consulted on the draft Order and have expressed their agreement to the proposed changes.

8. Impact

8.1 A Regulatory Impact Assessment has not been prepared for this Order as it has no impact on business, charities or voluntary bodies.

8.2 The impact on the public sector is negligible.

9. Contact

Ivan Smyth, FCO Legal Advisers, tel: 020 7008 4367 or e-mail: ivan.smyth@fco.gov.uk, can answer queries regarding this instrument.

18th July 2007