Report of Informal UK Government Inspection of Base A, Port Lockroy

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Summary

This paper shares, for the information of Parties, the report of an informal UK government inspection of Base A, Port Lockroy, undertaken in February 2023.

Background

Base A, Port Lockroy was the first permanent British base to be established on the Antarctic Peninsula and was used as a science base until 1962. Designated as Historic Site and Monument (HSM) No.61 in 1995, the site is now managed by the UK Antarctic Heritage Trust (UKAHT) on behalf of the UK, welcoming on average 15,000 visitors each season. The UKAHT’s activities in Antarctica are authorised by the UK National Competent Authority.

Base A was last formally inspected in 2019 by a team from Chile and Argentina (ATCM XLII, IP083).

The Informal Inspection

In February 2023 the UK government took the opportunity to undertake an informal inspection of Base A, Port Lockroy, using Checklist A (Resolution 2 (2010). The report and its recommendations have been shared with the UKAHT, and are included at Annex A for the interest of Parties.