



SIOS NEWS BRIEF (7-11 April)

UK to hold off on deal ceding Chagos Islands amid US opposition (April 11)

The UK is setting aside a bill to return the Chagos Islands to Mauritius amid a lack of support from the United States. According to AFP news agencies and Reuters, a UK government spokesperson said in a statement, “We have always said we would only proceed with the deal if it has US support”. This followed reports in the UK media that a bill laying out plans to cede sovereignty had been dropped from the next parliamentary agenda. Last year, the UK and Mauritius jointly announced a deal that would return full sovereignty of Chagos to Mauritius.

URL: <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2026/4/11/uk-to-hold-off-on-deal-ceding-chagos-islands-amid-us-opposition>

Amid global turbulence, Indian ocean countries must stay cohesive, says Jaishankar (April 10)

Addressing the 9th Indian Ocean Conference in Mauritius, India’s External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar stressed that the IO is not just a geographic space but a living ecosystem that sustains livelihoods, economies, resources, connectivity, and shared cultural heritage. Highlighting the increasing global instability, he said, “... We gather here again at a time when the turbulence in the world and in the Indian Ocean itself is at a high. This gives our conversations a particular value, and I’m confident that you all share that belief... The world may be more fragmented, but we, the nations of the Indian Ocean, must seek to be more cohesive...”.

URL: <https://www.firstpost.com/world/amid-global-turbulence-indian-ocean-countries-must-stay-cohesive-says-jaishankar-13999013.html>

Iran to let no more than 15 vessels a day to pass Strait of Hormuz, TASS cites a senior Iranian source (April 9)

Russia’s state TASS news agency quoted a senior Iranian source saying, Iran will not allow more than 15 vessels a day to cross the Strait of Hormuz under the ceasefire agreement it agreed with the United States. The Strait, a strip of water 21 miles wide between Oman and Iran, is the main route for vital goods and about a fifth of the world supplies and provided passage from the Gulf to the Indian Ocean.

URL: <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/iran-let-no-more-than-15-vessels-day-pass-strait-hormuz-tass-cites-senior-2026-04-09/>