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THIRD INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR THE ERADICATION OF COLONIALISM

**Caribbean regional seminar on the implementation of the Third International
Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: the United Nations at 70: taking
stock of the decolonization agenda**

**Managua, Nicaragua
19 to 21 May 2015**

STATEMENT BY THE REPRESENTATIVE

OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

**Statement by the representative of the Russian Federation
delivered at the 2015 Caribbean Seminar of C-24 Managua, 19 May 2015**

Distinguished guests, dear participants, organizers and colleagues,

It's a great honor for us to be hosted by the Government of Nicaragua. Let me first of all thank our Nicaraguan friends and colleagues for inviting us to have a meeting in this beautiful city of Managua.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

My country, the Russian Federation, has not only been one of the initiators of the creation of the Special Committee on Decolonization, but has always supported the work of this very important UN body. The granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples is one of the fundamental goals of the United Nations, and it's a great pity that in the 21st century this remnant from the past still exists.

On the 14 of December we will mark the 55th anniversary of the historical UN Declaration on granting independence to colonial countries and peoples. This document elaborated and adopted in 1960 by the UN on the initiative of the Soviet Union, was a manifest proclaiming the need for the earliest possible and unconditional liquidation of colonialism. It has also declared the right of all colonial and dependent peoples for self-determination and free economic, social and cultural development - on their own. The Declaration has also served not only as a call, but as a guide for actions. Its realization has contributed to liberation of more than 750 million people - one third of the world population at that time - from colonial dependence, followed by creation of more than 80 new independent States worldwide, in Africa, Asia and Latin America who have joined the United Nations family.

Although this process of decolonization that started in the sixties in last century has resulted in obtaining independence by the majority of the colonial territories, today we see that there are non-self governing territories that have not yet realized their integral right for selfdetermination. The obligation of international community to continue providing support for the efforts of all peoples aimed at self-determination was reaffirmed in numerous documents, including the declaration of the UN Millennium Summit. The strong and solid support of the noble principles and objectives laid in the Declaration on granting independence to colonial countries and peoples remains in the core of the work of our Committee. It is of special importance to discuss the progress of decolonization in 2015, when the whole humanity is celebrating the 70th anniversary of the United Nations. The Third International Decade for eradication of colonialism should be a success story. And I will echo the previous speakers - we need to act rather than talk. We have no right to fail and no time to lose.

The Russian Federation as a permanent member of the UN Security Council as well as a member of UN Trusteeship Council and the Committee of 24 and other UN bodies whose work was related or is linked to the realization of the goals and principles of the UN Charter and the Declaration on granting independence will continue to be actively engaged in efforts aimed at full and final liquidation of colonialism on Earth.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Russian Federation let me wish all success to the work of our seminar.

I thank you.