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**Report of the Special Committee on the
Situation with regard to the Implementation
of the Declaration on the Granting of
Independence to Colonial Countries and
Peoples for 2007**



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Annex

**Caribbean regional seminar on the implementation of the
Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism:
“Next steps in decolonization”, held in Saint George’s, Grenada,
from 22 to 24 May 2007**

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I. Introduction

1. In its resolution 55/146 of 8 December 2000, the General Assembly declared the period 2001-2010 the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and called upon Member States to redouble their efforts to implement the plan of action set out in the annex to the report of the Secretary-General (A/46/634/Rev.1 and Corr.1), updated where necessary, to serve as the plan of action for the Second Decade. The report of the Secretary-General on the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism (A/56/61) contains an updated plan of action.
2. In its resolution 61/130 of 14 December 2006, the General Assembly approved the programme of work of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples envisaged for 2007, including the holding of a seminar in the Caribbean region to be organized by the Special Committee and attended by the representatives of all the Non-Self-Governing Territories.
3. As stated in the guidelines and rules of procedure for the seminar (A/AC.109/2007/1), the purpose of the seminar is to review the progress achieved in the implementation of the plan of action of the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, in order to define next steps in decolonization for follow-up and intensified action in the remaining years of the Decade. The seminar will also assess the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, in particular their constitutional evolution towards self-government and self-determination, with a view to developing, in cooperation with the administering Powers and the representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, a constructive programme of work on a case-by-case basis for the decolonization of the Non-Self-Governing Territories. The seminar will also identify areas in which the United Nations system and the international community at large could enhance programmes of assistance to the Territories within an integral framework ensuring the political and sustainable socio-economic development of the Territories concerned.
4. The seminar's discussions will assist the Special Committee in making a realistic analysis and evaluation of the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories. The seminar will give pre-eminence to a broad range of views of the peoples of those Territories. It will also secure the participation of organizations and institutions that are actively involved in the political, economic and social development of the Territories.
5. The contributions of the participants served as a basis for the conclusions and recommendations of the seminar, which will be carefully studied by the Special Committee with a view to submitting proposals to the General Assembly concerning the fulfilment of the objectives of the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism.

II. Organization of the seminar

6. The seminar was held in Saint George's, Grenada, from 22 to 24 May 2007.
7. The seminar consisted of five meetings, in which representatives of States Members of the United Nations, Non-Self-Governing Territories, administering Powers, non-governmental, regional and other organizations and experts took part.

The list of participants is given in appendix I. The seminar was organized to encourage an open and frank exchange of views.

8. The seminar was conducted by Margaret Hughes Ferrari, Permanent Representative of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to the United Nations and Chair of the Special Committee, with the participation of the following members of the Special Committee: Chile, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Grenada (host country), Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Timor-Leste and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). France and the United States of America, administering Powers, participated in the seminar as observers. Algeria, Argentina, Morocco and Spain also participated.

9. At the 1st meeting, on 22 May 2007, the following members of the Special Committee were appointed Vice-Chairmen of the seminar: Luc Joseph Okio (Congo) and Sofia Borges (Timor-Leste). Rodrigo Malmierca Diaz (Cuba) was appointed Rapporteur of the seminar. The Rapporteur also chaired the work of the drafting group, which was composed of the representatives of all members of the Special Committee attending the seminar: Chile, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Grenada (host country), Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Timor-Leste and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

10. The agenda of the seminar was as follows:

1. Role of the Special Committee in facilitating the decolonization of the Non-Self-Governing Territories within the framework of the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism:
 - (a) Identifying next steps;
 - (b) Strengthening cooperation with the administering Powers;
 - (c) Improving the participation of the people of the Non-Self-Governing Territories.
2. Perspectives of administering Powers and territorial Governments, as well as views of experts on steps towards the completion of the decolonization process:
 - (a) In the Caribbean region;
 - (b) In the Pacific region;
 - (c) In other Non-Self-Governing Territories.
3. Follow-up to the 2006 Pacific regional seminar, including the case of Tokelau:
 - (a) Perspective of the Special Committee;
 - (b) Perspective of the administering Powers;
 - (c) Perspective of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;
 - (d) Views of experts.

4. Role of the United Nations system in providing developmental assistance to the Non-Self-Governing Territories: presentations by the United Nations Development Programme and others.
5. Recommendations on advancing the decolonization process for the remainder of the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism.

III. Overview of the seminar

A. Proceedings of the seminar

11. On 22 May, Margaret Hughes Ferrari (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines) opened the seminar in her capacity as the Chair.
12. Elvin Nimrod, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Grenada, addressed the seminar.
13. At the same meeting, the Chief of the Decolonization Unit, Department of Political Affairs, read out a message from the Secretary-General (see appendix II).
14. At the same meeting, the Chair of the Special Committee made a statement.
15. On 24 May, at the fifth meeting, the Chair made a concluding statement.
16. At the same meeting, the participants adopted by acclamation a resolution expressing appreciation to the Government and the people of Grenada (see appendix III).

B. Statements and discussions^a

17. At the 1st meeting, on 22 May, the Chair made a statement. Statements were made by the representatives of Argentina, Cuba, Montserrat, Gibraltar and Spain. The Chair made further statement.
18. At the 2nd meeting, on 22 May, representatives of Frente Polisario, Morocco, Algeria, Cuba and the Chair made statements on point of order. Expert Howard Fergus made a presentation on decolonization efforts in Caribbean Non-Self-Governing Territories.
19. At the 3rd meeting, on 23 May, statements were made by the representatives of Argentina, Cuba, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Morocco, Falkland Islands (Malvinas),^b Frente Polisario and Turks and Caicos Islands. The representative of Algeria made a statement on the point of order. The representative of Morocco made further statement. Expert La Verne E. Ragster made a presentation on the proposed constitution for the United States Virgin Islands. The observer from Saint Helena made a statement.
20. At the 4th meeting, on 23 May, the statements were made by the representatives of Algeria and Chile. The representatives of Algeria and Morocco made statements in the exercise of the right of reply. The representative of the subregional headquarters for the Caribbean of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean made a presentation on the Non-Self-Governing

^a All statements and discussion papers of the seminar are available from the United Nations decolonization website, <http://www.un.org/Depts/dpi/decolonization>.

^b A dispute exists between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas).

Territories in the Caribbean region. At the same meeting, the statements were made by the representatives of non-governmental organizations, Anguilla National Council of Women and Grenada Education and Development Programme.

21. At the 5th meeting, on 24 May, the participants considered the draft report of the seminar presented by the Rapporteur of the seminar, Rodrigo Malmierca Díaz (Cuba).

IV. Conclusions and recommendations

22. At the 5th meeting, on 24 May 2007, the Chair presented to the participants the conclusions and recommendations outlined below.

A. Role of the Special Committee in facilitating the decolonization of the Non-Self-Governing Territories within the framework of the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism

1. Eradicating colonialism, the role of the Special Committee and the plan of action

1. The Seminar reconfirmed that the United Nations has a valid ongoing role in the process of decolonization. The mandate of the Special Committee is a major programme of the United Nations. United Nations support should be provided, until all outstanding decolonization issues are resolved in a satisfactory manner.
2. The participants reaffirmed the role of the Special Committee as the primary vehicle for fostering the process of decolonization and for expediting the implementation of the plan of action to move towards achieving the goals of the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, in accordance with resolution 55/146, as well as for monitoring the situation in the Territories.
3. The seminar recommended that the Special Committee continue to monitor the evolution of the Non-Self-Governing Territories towards achieving self-determination, in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions.
4. The Special Committee should include, as appropriate, the participation of the representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, on a case-by-case basis, in the consultations between the Special Committee and the administering Powers.
5. The implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, set out in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, is not complete so long as there remain Non-Self-Governing Territories that have yet to exercise their right to self-determination, in accordance with the relevant resolutions, including General Assembly and Special Committee resolutions on special and particular colonial situations. The inalienable rights of the people of the Non-Self-Governing Territories must be guaranteed by the United Nations and the Special Committee in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and resolutions 1514 (XV) and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960.
6. As long as the administering Powers exercise unilateral authority to make laws and other regulations affecting the Non-Self-Governing Territories without their consent, pursuant to such methods as legislation, orders in council and other methods, a Territory should not be considered self-governing.

7. In the process of decolonization, and where there are no disputes over sovereignty, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right. All available options for self-determination are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in the Charter of the United Nations, and as enunciated in resolutions 1514 (XV) and 1541 (XV), and in other relevant resolutions and decisions.
8. Any attempt aimed at the partial or total disruption of the national unity and the territorial integrity of a country is incompatible with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.
9. The participants noted that in the development of work programmes for individual Territories, the participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in which there is no dispute over sovereignty should be ensured. They also pointed out that any work programme should include an information and education campaign for the peoples of those Territories, visiting missions of the Special Committee to ascertain the situation in the Territories first-hand and a consultation process acceptable to the peoples in the Territories leading to the exercise of their right to self-determination in accordance with United Nations resolutions.
10. In order to enhance the exchange of information, the Special Committee, in consultation with the administering Power and the territorial Governments, will explore the possibility of the establishment of a "Special Committee focal point" in each Non-Self-Governing Territory, in which there is no dispute over sovereignty, to help facilitate the Special Committee's working-level contacts with elected territorial Governments.
11. The Special Committee should continue to develop a mechanism to systematically review, on an annual basis, the implementation of the specific recommendations on decolonization, with a focus on implementing the mandate as set out in Assembly resolutions and the plan of action of the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism.
12. In view of the variety of circumstances of individual Non-Self-Governing Territories, some participants noted the need to consider the adoption of new thinking on decolonization within the context of the current global realities, on a case-by-case basis. The Special Committee agreed to think creatively of possibilities among the array of legitimate "transitions to self-determination", provided that the people of a Territory have the opportunity to make a fully informed choice. In that regard, the Chair's statement was welcomed by several speakers.
13. In cases where a particular Non-Self-Governing Territory is clearly in favour of building upon the basis of its existing situation, the Special Committee might wish to consider steps that it could take, bearing in mind the Territory's interests in that regard; the United Nations goal of decolonization could thus be achieved in a relatively straightforward fashion.

2. Public awareness and information campaigns

14. Continued examination of the spectrum of options for self-determination by all parties concerned and dissemination of relevant information among the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories are important elements in achieving the goals of

the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and of the plan of action.

15. In that regard, the seminar underscored the importance of education, awareness-raising, and continued dialogue on self-determination and decolonization issues aimed at and involving the people of the Non-Self-Governing Territories.

16. The participants affirmed the need for the Special Committee, in collaboration with the Department of Public Information, actively to embark on a public awareness campaign aimed at fostering an understanding among the people of the Territories of the options for self-determination included in the relevant United Nations resolutions on decolonization, especially within the context of developing programmes of work for specific Territories. The programme should disseminate information with the aim of raising public awareness in the Territories in order to heighten people's understanding of the legitimate political status options available to them in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions, including the 1960 Declaration.

17. In that connection, the participants encouraged the Department of Public Information to continue to disseminate relevant information, including to the media, non-governmental organizations and civic groups, using the tools of communication available to it and making use of such opportunities as regional seminars and visiting missions. United Nations information centres can assist in this process. The participants welcomed the new brochure issued in March 2007, prepared by the Department of Public Information and the Decolonization Unit of the Department of Political Affairs entitled "What the United Nations can do to assist the Non-Self-Governing Territories", which is also available on the United Nations decolonization website.

18. The participants encouraged the United Nations to assist Non-Self-Governing Territories that are granted observer status at United Nations world summits and conferences and at special sessions of the General Assembly by facilitating the dissemination of information to them regarding those meetings.

19. The participants reiterated that electoral assistance for a Non-Self-Governing Territory, in which there is no dispute over sovereignty, regarding any act of self-determination can be made available at the request of any administering Power and the respective Territory.

3. Visiting and special missions

20. Participants stressed that the Special Committee's visiting and special missions represent key factors in raising public awareness of decolonization issues and possible options available for self-determination. The positive impact of such missions was also noted. Moreover, visiting and special missions provide an opportunity to assess the situation in those Territories, and to ascertain the wishes and aspirations of the peoples thereof regarding their future status.

21. In addition, the participants noted the interest expressed at the seminar by representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in such visiting and special missions. They urged that such missions be undertaken as soon as possible, and called on the administering Powers to cooperate in their facilitation, where there are no sovereignty disputes. They reiterated the importance of such missions in

conjunction with innovative, more cost-effective approaches to ascertaining a representative range of public opinion in select Non-Self-Governing Territories.

4. Regional seminars

22. As activities of the plan of action of the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, regional seminars serve as an effective forum for focused discussion on matters of concern to the Non-Self-Governing Territories and afford opportunities for representatives of the peoples of the Territories to present their views and recommendations to the Special Committee. The administering Powers should facilitate the participation of the elected representatives of the Territories in the seminars in conformity with the relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations.

23. The regional nature of the seminars, alternating between the Caribbean and the Pacific, remains a crucial element in their success. The participants encouraged the Committee, whenever possible, to hold these events in the Non-Self-Governing Territories themselves.

24. The participants took note of the decision of the Special Committee to coordinate its annual seminars with other relevant activities to be conducted in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, including visiting and special missions, as appropriate, in order to better utilize its resources.

25. The Special Committee should adopt the report of the regional seminar held in Saint George's, Grenada, from 22-24 May 2007, and include it in its report to the General Assembly, as it did with the reports of the previous regional seminars. The participants also recommended that the Special Committee integrate, to the extent possible, the recommendations of the regional seminars into its relevant resolutions on decolonization, as those recommendations are important expressions of the will of the people of the territories.

26. The participants reiterated the importance of the conclusions and recommendations at the previous regional seminars, held in Vanuatu (1990), Barbados (1990), Grenada (1992), Papua New Guinea (1993, 1996 and 2004), Trinidad and Tobago (1995), Antigua and Barbuda (1997), Fiji (1998, 2002 and 2006), Saint Lucia (1999), the Marshall Islands (2000), Cuba (2001), Anguilla (2003) and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (2005).

5. Role of the administering Powers and other Member States of the United Nations

27. The participants welcomed the presence of the representatives of France and the United States, and welcomed the statement by New Zealand with regard to Tokelau, indicating its continued cooperation with the Special Committee. They regretted the lack of representation of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and reiterated their call upon all administering Powers to engage the Special Committee in constructive dialogue in the future.

28. The seminar once again recommended that the Special Committee, the administering Powers and the Non-Self-Governing Territories engage in constructive discussions and innovative ways to expedite the implementation of the goals of the Second International Decade and its plan of action for the Eradication of Colonialism as set out in General Assembly resolution 55/146 of 8 December

2000. Participants nonetheless reiterated that progress could only be achieved with the active cooperation of the administering Powers. The Special Committee will consider whether it might be useful to reiterate the request for the use of the Secretary-General's "good offices" in this process.

29. The participants drew the attention of the administering Powers to the three options listed in resolution 1541 (XV) (annex), in which the Assembly stated that a Non-Self-Governing Territory could be said to have reached a full measure of self-government, as envisaged in the Charter, by: (a) emergence as a sovereign independent State; (b) free association with an independent State; or (c) integration with an independent State.

30. Participants suggested the applicability of resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, containing the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, which states, *inter alia*, that "The establishment of a sovereign and independent State, the free association or integration with an independent State or the emergence into any other political status freely determined by people constitute modes of implementing the right of self-determination by that people".

31. The Special Committee expressed its appreciation to Algeria, Argentina, Morocco and Spain for their participation in the seminar and encouraged other States Members to continue to cooperate with the Special Committee.

C. Perspectives of administering Powers, representatives of Territories and experts in the Caribbean region

32. The seminar welcomed the presence of representatives from the Caribbean, including from a number of Non-Self-Governing Territories (Cayman Islands, Montserrat and Turks and Caicos Islands), as well as experts and/or non-governmental organizations from the region (Anguilla, Grenada, Montserrat, Turks and Caicos Islands, and United States Virgin Islands).

33. The seminar took note of the establishment of the Cayman Islands Constitutional Review Secretariat, which had begun its work in March 2007 on a constitutional review process.

34. In the case of Montserrat, participants encouraged the administering Power to commit reasonable budgetary resources for the economic and other development needs of the Territory, particularly in terms of the special needs remaining since the volcanic eruption of 1995.

35. The participants welcomed the new constitution of the Turks and Caicos Islands which took effect in August 2006, and took note of the emphasis placed by the territorial Government on economic development and modernization.

36. The participants appreciated the statement by an expert from the University of the United States Virgin Islands outlining the University's efforts in implementing a public education programme on the upcoming Constitutional Convention, and in undertaking a variety of other functions in that regard. The representative noted that while this exercise did not cover the question of the Territory's status vis-à-vis the United States, that could follow at a later stage.

37. The participants also heard views presented by representatives of non-governmental organizations active in the Caribbean region. The representative of the Anguilla National Council of Women focused particularly on the importance of empowering women and youth in questions relating to decolonization. As part of her presentation to the seminar, the representative of the Grenada Education and Development Programme explored the interplay between the issues of economic viability and political independence.

D. Views of the representatives of other Non-Self-Governing Territories

38. The seminar also welcomed the presence of representatives from other Non-Self-Governing Territories (Falkland Islands (Malvinas)^b, Gibraltar, Western Sahara) and the observer from Saint Helena. The seminar expressed particular appreciation for the great effort made by the observer of Saint Helena to attend the event.

39. The participants, in considering the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas), reiterated that the Special Committee should continue to encourage the resumption of negotiations between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom with the aim of finding a lasting solution to the situation, taking into account the interests of the population of the Territory, in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations.

40. The participants heard comments from the representative of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)^b, who proposed that Argentina and the United Kingdom cooperate on practical issues in the south-west Atlantic.

41. The participants received an update from the representative of the Government of Gibraltar on constitutional developments, and welcomed the trilateral Framework of Dialogue between Gibraltar, Spain and the United Kingdom.

42. Participants took note of the remarks made by the observer of Saint Helena regarding its arrangements vis-à-vis the United Kingdom. The progress being made on Saint Helena's airport was welcomed.

43. With regard to Western Sahara, welcoming the developments of the last months, the participants supported Security Council resolution 1754 (2007) of 30 April 2007, which called, inter alia, for the parties to enter into negotiations without preconditions in good faith, taking into account the developments of the previous months, with a view to achieving a just, lasting and mutually acceptable political solution, which would provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara in the context of arrangements consistent with principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations, and noting the role and the responsibilities of the parties in that respect. The participants also recalled the mandate of the Special Committee towards the self-determination for the people of Western Sahara.

E. Follow-up to the 2006 Pacific regional seminar, including the case of Tokelau

44. The participants noted with concern the military installations and activities of the administering Powers in any of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, which run counter to the rights and interests of the people concerned and which create serious health and environmental hazards.

Case of Tokelau

45. The seminar noted the decision of Tokelau to hold a second referendum on its self-determination in November 2007 and expressed that the right to self-determination should be viewed and supported in its unique context (a case-by-case approach). It also noted that all three parties (Tokelau, the administering Power and the United Nations) involved should engage in a concerted effort to ensure that full information on the draft treaty and constitution is disseminated, discussed and consulted upon through a comprehensive awareness programme in the villages of Tokelau and among Tokelauans living abroad over the coming months leading up to the referendum.

F. Role of the United Nations system in providing assistance to the Non-Self-Governing Territories

46. The Special Committee expressed its appreciation for the participation of the representative of ECLAC, and for his statement outlining the technical cooperation activities in the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the Caribbean. Participants acknowledged this cooperation and assistance from the United Nations system and regional organizations.

47. The participants supported closer cooperation between the Special Committee and the Economic and Social Council in order to promote increased United Nations assistance in the economic and social sphere to the Non-Self-Governing Territories.

48. All Non-Self-Governing Territories should be given access to relevant United Nations programmes in the economic and social sphere, including those emanating from the plans of action of United Nations major summits and conferences, in furtherance of capacity-building and consistent with the necessary preparation for the attainment of a full measure of internal self-government.

49. The seminar stressed that the wider United Nations system should continue to explore ways to strengthen existing measures of support and formulate appropriate programmes of assistance to the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories and seek concrete proposals for the full implementation of the relevant resolutions by the specialized agencies, as detailed in General Assembly resolution 56/67 of 10 December 2001.

50. The participants recognized the vulnerability of small island Non-Self-Governing Territories, which continues to be of major concern, and also that their vulnerability would grow unless urgent steps were taken to address and strengthen the Territories' capacities, in accordance with the Mauritius Declaration.^e

51. The seminar reiterated its support for the current participation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the relevant regional commissions of the United Nations and in the specialized agencies of the United Nations. It called for the increased involvement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the programmes and activities of the United Nations system in furtherance of the decolonization process, subject to the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and in accordance with the relevant

^e *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Luis, Mauritius, 10-14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

United Nations resolutions and decisions, including General Assembly and Special Committee resolutions and decisions on specific Territories.

52. The participants recommended that the Special Committee establish closer ties with relevant regional organizations and encouraged Non-Self-Governing Territories to develop closer contacts with them.

Appendix I

List of participants

Members of the Special Committee

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Margaret Hughes Ferrari* (Chair)
China	Bian Ge*
Chile	Jose Antonio Cousiño
Congo	Luc Joseph Okio* (Vice-Chairman)
Côte d'Ivoire	Guillaume Bailly-Niagri*
Cuba	Rodrigo Malmierca Díaz* (Vice-Chairman) Victoria M. Delgado
Grenada (Host country)	Angus Friday Cyrilla R. Steele
Indonesia	Hari Prabowo
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Hossein Maleki*
Russian Federation	Denis Paletskiy*
Saint Kitts and Nevis	Carlisle Richardson*
Timor-Leste	Sofia Borges
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	Edna Figuera

States Members of the United Nations

Algeria	Mahieddine Djeflal
Argentina	Gerardo Abel Diaz Bartolomé Ana Marcela Pastorino
Morocco	Souad El Alaoui Gajmoula Bent Ebi Kaltoum Al Khayat M. Khaddad el Moussaoui
Spain	Alberto Virella

Administering Powers

France (observer)	Gérard Guillet
United States of America (observer)	Edgar Johnson

* Member of the official delegation of the Special Committee.

Non-Self-Governing Territories

Cayman Islands	Alden McLaughlin Orett Connor Suzanne Lookloy
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)**	Richard Davies
Gibraltar	Joseph Holliday Perry Stieglitz Francis Cantos
Montserrat	Claude Hogan Sylvia Gabriel
Turks and Caicos Islands	Jeffrey C. Hall Olincia Missick
Western Sahara	Ahmed Boukhari

Organizations of the United Nations system

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean	Ronald Williams
World Health Organization/Pan American Health Organization	Gina Watson

Non-governmental organizations

Anguilla National Council of Women (Anguilla)	Lana Hoyoung
Grenada Education and Development Programme (Grenada)	Dessima Williams Gloria Payne-Banfield

Experts

Nicole Philip (Grenada)
Howard Fergus (Montserrat)
La Verne E. Ragster (United States Virgin Islands)
Tregenza A. Roach (United States Virgin Islands)

Observers

Joseph Bossano (Gibraltar)
William Drabble (Saint Helena)

** A dispute exists between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas).

Appendix II

Message from the Secretary-General

In this Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories, it gives me great pleasure to convey my greetings to all who have gathered in Grenada for the Caribbean Regional Seminar on Decolonization, my first message to a meeting convened by the Special Committee of 24. I would like to express my appreciation to the Government and people of Grenada for their generous hospitality in hosting this gathering.

Achieving self-government for the peoples of the world has been one of the cardinal goals of the United Nations since its inception. Under the Organization's auspices, nearly 750 million people have benefited from the exercise of the right to self-determination, and decolonization can truly be considered a United Nations success story.

Today, there are 16 Non-Self-Governing Territories remaining on the agenda of the United Nations. As an organ mandated to facilitate decolonization, the Special Committee organizes seminars such as this one to provide a forum for the 2 million people living in these Territories to air their views about the unique problems they face, and to promote direct communication between the Special Committee, the representatives of the Territories and the administering Powers. As we all know, cooperation between the administering Power, the Territories and the United Nations is essential for there to be progress in discharging the mandate of the Special Committee on Decolonization.

Later this year, in an important act of self-determination, Tokelau will hold a second referendum on the option of self-government in free association with New Zealand. The path followed by this small Pacific Territory in close cooperation with the administering Power is an example of what can be achieved when there is constructive political will. The close cooperation extended to the Committee by both parties stands out as exemplary.

Some of the other Territories, particularly in the Caribbean, have also made considerable progress in their constitutional, political, economic and social development, and have gone a long way towards self-government. I urge you all to continue working together to find the appropriate format and timing for the completion of the decolonization process in each Territory.

I wish you a productive and successful seminar.

Appendix III

Resolution expressing appreciation to the Government and the people of Grenada

The participants in the Caribbean regional seminar,

Having met from 22 to 24 May 2007 in Saint George's, Grenada, for the purpose of reviewing next steps in the implementation of the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,

Having heard the important statement by the Honourable Elvin Nimrod, the Foreign Minister of Grenada,

Taking note of the important statements by the representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Express their profound gratitude to the Government and the people of Grenada for providing the Special Committee with the necessary facilities for its seminar, for the outstanding contribution they have made to the success of the seminar and, in particular, for the very generous and kind hospitality and the warm and cordial reception accorded to the participants throughout their stay in Saint George's.