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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
ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN**

Statement by Mr. Hossein Maleki
First Counselor
Representative of the of the Islamic Republic of Iran at the Caribbean
Regional Seminar of the Committee of 24
Managua, Nicaragua
19-21 May 2015

In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

His Excellency Mr. Xavier Lasso Mendoza, Chairman of the C24,

Distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen,

At the outset, allow me to express my highest appreciation to the Government and great people of Nicaragua for hosting this important seminar, as well as, for their warm welcome and hospitality extended to us in this beautiful city of Managua. My appreciation also goes to Ambassador Mendoza-Garcia and the Secretariat of the C24 for their valuable effort they made in the preparation for the seminar.

I am pleased to be here and able to take this unique opportunity to reiterate my government's long-standing position on the issue of decolonization, and also learn about the progress made in this area. We welcome the exchange of views with all participants, especially those from nonself-governing territories, and look forward to their active involvement in this regard.

Mr. Chairman,

The I.R. Iran reaffirms its position on the issue of decolonization and continues to extend its full support for the aspirations of the peoples under colonial rule to exercise their right to self determination in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and its relevant resolutions. Although we can notice a significant progress made in this regard since 1961 (when the Special Committee on decolonization was established), there are still 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories on the agenda of the United Nations. Obviously, the UN success in implementing the relevant resolutions on decolonization will enhance its image among the people all over the world, especially those who suffered from the scourge of colonization. We call upon the United Nations to fulfill its responsibilities by expediting the process of decolonization towards the complete eradication of colonialism in accordance with the provisions of the United Nations Charter, the

Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and People and subsequent relevant General Assembly resolutions.

Mr. Chairman,

As we know, eradication of colonialism has been one of the priorities of the United Nations, and the Special Committee on Decolonization has been assigned to work in this direction. So, the I.R. Iran fully supports the Special Committee and believes that this UN body should be supported by member states in a way to interact effectively with Administering Powers. Meanwhile, we urge the Administering Powers to grant their full support to the activities of the Special Committee. Now, we are at the end of the first half of the Third Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism (2010-2020) and hopeful that we will not witness a "Fourth Decade" for this purpose.

Mr. Chairman,

Administering Powers should be accountable for any negative impact of their policies and activities on life of people under colonialism. They should fully respect the right of all peoples under their colonial rule, and make fair compensation for the economic, social, cultural, heritage identity, human and material losses they suffered as a result of colonial rule or occupation.

Mr. Chairman,

On its part, the I.R. Iran stands ready to further contribute to advancing the process of eradication of colonialism. The Third Decade is approaching the end of its first half. We all have moral obligations to abide by our commitments to the people under colonial rule who are waiting for action by the international community. I wish to urge the international community, to fully commit itself to the total elimination of colonialism in all its forms and call upon the United Nations to contribute in a more effective manner to this end

Mr. Chairman, While wishing you all the best of success, I reaffirm the commitment of my delegation to cooperate with you, in order to conduct the deliberations and work of the committee, here, in this Seminar to a successful completion.

Thank you