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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: accelerating decolonization  
through renewed commitment and pragmatic measures**

**Saint George's, Grenada**

**2 to 4 May 2019**

**SUBSTANTIVE STATEMENT BY**  
**THE CHAIR OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF 24**

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

**2019 Caribbean Regional Seminar**

**Statement by**

**Her Excellency Ms. Keisha Aniya McGuire**

**Chair 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**

**Saint George's, Grenada, 2 May 2019**

Excellencies,

Distinguished delegates,

Ladies and gentlemen,

Over the years, the General Assembly has reiterated the important role played by the regional seminars, with the active participation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, as a helpful means for the Special Committee on Decolonization to fulfil its mandate.

The Special Committee also attaches great significance to the seminar as it is held in observance of the Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories.

The General Assembly has also underlined that the regional nature of the seminars is considered a crucial element for ascertaining the political status of the Territories.

Indeed, the regional seminars are an effective mechanism to interact, exchange views and to have an enriching dialogue on how to move the decolonization agenda forward.

Having an enriching and transforming dialogue is our aim for this seminar. A dialogue enabling us to devise innovative and pragmatic measures to ensure the advancement of the decolonization process is essential.

This seminar will focus on: the role of the Special Committee in making viable advancements in the Territories; the perspectives of the administering Powers, the Territories and other stakeholders in devising strategies to overcome the challenges in decolonization and

ensuring the well-being of the peoples of the Territories; and the role of the United Nations system in providing development assistance in accordance with relevant resolutions.

In the penultimate year of the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, this seminar has an special opportunity to devise and propose, through frank and constructive discussions, innovative, specific and practical measures to facilitate the Special Committee to discharge its mandate.

Excellencies,

Distinguished guests,

Ladies and gentlemen,

The General Assembly has stressed the importance that the Special Committee is apprised of the views and wishes of the peoples of the Territories and enhances its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the political and constitutional arrangements with the administering Powers.

In this respect, the seminar also provides us with the opportunity to receive first hand information on the topics proposed in the agenda of the seminar.

Furthermore, the Special Committee continues to examine closely the political, economic and social developments in the Territories under its purview, in line with its mandate to monitor the implementation of the Declaration on Decolonization.

Excellencies,

Distinguished guests,

Ladies and gentlemen,

We look forward to hearing your views and thoughtful assessments. I encourage you to engage in constructive dialogue which I am certain will result in a fruitful outcome of the seminar.

Thank you.

2 May 2019

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