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FORTH INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR THE ERADICATION OF COLONIALISM

Pacific regional seminar on the implementation of the Fourth International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: advancement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories through the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and beyond

Castries, Saint Lucia

11 to 13 May 2022

**STATEMENT BY THE REPRESENTATIVE
OF BRAZIL**

**STATEMENT BY THE BRAZILIAN DELEGATION AT
THE PACIFIC SEMINAR ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FOURTH
INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR THE ERADICATION OF COLONIALISM:
ADVANCEMENT OF THE NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES THROUGH THE
CORONAVIRUS DISEASE PANDEMIC AND BEYOND.
SAINT LUCIA, 11 – 13 MAY 2022.**

Ladies and gentlemen,

I take the floor in this opportunity to reiterate Brazil's staunch support for Argentine sovereignty over the Malvinas, South Georgia, and South Sandwich Islands, as well as their surrounding maritime spaces.

Brazil has systematically supported Argentina's legitimate rights on this issue in the sessions of the UN General Assembly Fourth Committee and the Special Committee on Decolonization.

The case of the Malvinas is a special colonial situation which has been going on for almost two centuries. It is important to recall that the original British settlers and their descendants occupied the islands illegally. There are no grounds, therefore, to apply the principle of self-determination of peoples to this case. For Brazil, the Malvinas are part of the Argentine national territory, and for this reason we call for the application of the principle of the territorial integrity of States.

We see with great concern, however, breaches of multilateral decisions related to Resolution 31/49 of the General Assembly, which oblige the parties not to

change the situation of the Islands. We urge the United Kingdom to cease unilateral acts of exploration and exploitation of natural resources, and to refrain from promoting military exercises in the area where sovereignty is under dispute.

We reaffirm that the South Atlantic is a Zone of Peace and Cooperation, based on harmony and full respect for the peaceful resolution of conflicts. This Zone - it should be recalled - was created in 1986 under resolution 41/11 of the General Assembly, following a Brazilian proposal.

Brazil acknowledges and supports the efforts made by Argentina and the United Kingdom to strengthen their bilateral relationship and settle practical arrangements. The improvement of their bilateral relations may hopefully bring about the resumption of negotiations on the recovery by Argentina of the full sovereignty over those territories and their surrounding maritime spaces, in accordance with international law and the relevant United Nations resolutions.

Finally, I thank Saint Lucia's Government for hosting this seminar in this beautiful island where I have the pleasure to be the Ambassador of Brazil.

Thank you.