What the UN Can Do To Assist Non-Self Governing Territories
“Today, 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories across the globe remain under the purview of this Committee [Special Committee on Decolonization]. I call on the international community to address the issue of self-government and find innovative and practical ways to implement the decolonization process. In this endeavour, we shall be guided by the principles enshrined in the United Nations Charter and the relevant General Assembly resolutions.”

—United Nations Secretary-General
February 2015
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<td>Europe</td>
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### Territories to Which the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples Continues to Apply (as of 2016)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Territory</th>
<th>Listing As NSGT</th>
<th>Administering Power</th>
<th>Land Area (Sq.Km.)</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Africa</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Sahara</td>
<td>Since 1963</td>
<td></td>
<td>266,000</td>
<td>586,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Atlantic and Caribbean</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anguilla</td>
<td>Since 1946</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>15,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bermuda</td>
<td>Since 1946</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>63.35</td>
<td>65,187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British Virgin Islands</td>
<td>Since 1946</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>28,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cayman Islands</td>
<td>Since 1946</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>264</td>
<td>58,238</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Falkland Islands (Malvinas)</td>
<td>Since 1946</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>12,173</td>
<td>2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montserrat</td>
<td>Since 1946</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saint Helena</td>
<td>Since 1946</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>310</td>
<td>5,765</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turks and Caicos Islands</td>
<td>Since 1946</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>948.2</td>
<td>36,689</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States Virgin Islands</td>
<td>Since 1946</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>352</td>
<td>105,080</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Europe</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gibraltar</td>
<td>Since 1946</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>5.8</td>
<td>33,140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pacific</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Samoa</td>
<td>Since 1946</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>55,170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French Polynesia</td>
<td>1946-1947 and since 2013</td>
<td>France</td>
<td>3,600</td>
<td>271,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guam</td>
<td>Since 1946</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>540</td>
<td>159,358</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Caledonia</td>
<td>1946-1947 and since 1986</td>
<td>France</td>
<td>18,575</td>
<td>268,767</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pitcairn</td>
<td>Since 1946</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>35.5</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tokelau</td>
<td>Since 1946</td>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>12.2</td>
<td>1,411</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. All data is from United Nations Secretariat 2016 Working Papers on Non-Self-Governing Territories (NSGTs), and for Western Sahara, from UN data (http://data.un.org), a database by the United Nations Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations.
2. On 26 February 1976, Spain informed the Secretary-General that as of that date it had terminated its presence in the Territory of the Sahara and deemed it necessary to place on record that Spain considered itself thenceforth exempt from any responsibility of any international nature in connection with the administration of the Territory, in view of the cessation of its participation in the temporary administration established for the Territory. In 1990, the General Assembly reaffirmed that the question of Western Sahara was a question of decolonization which remained to be completed by the people of Western Sahara.
3. 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) (see ST/CS/SER.A/42).
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). The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.
HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

When the United Nations was established in 1945, 750 million people—almost a third of the world’s population—lived in Territories that were non-self-governing, dependent on colonial Powers. Today, fewer than 2 million people live in such Territories.

The Charter of the United Nations established, in Chapter XI (Articles 73 and 74), the principles that continue to guide United Nations decolonization efforts, including respect for self-determination of all peoples.

The United Nations Charter also established the International Trusteeship System in Chapter XII (Articles 75-85) and the Trusteeship Council in Chapter XIII (Articles 86-91) to monitor certain Territories, known as “Trust” Territories. Those Territories, each subject to separate agreements with administering States, were formally administered under Mandates from the League of Nations, or were separated from countries defeated in the Second World War, or were voluntarily placed under the system by States responsible for their administration. Eleven Territories were placed under this system.

Since the creation of the United Nations, more than 80 former colonies have gained their independence. Among them, all eleven Trust Territories have achieved self-determination through independence or free association with an independent State. There are 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories remaining today.

The Charter binds administering Powers to recognize that the interests of the inhabitants of the dependent Territories are paramount, to agree to promote social, economic, political and educational progress in the Territories, to assist in developing appropriate forms of self-government and to take into account the political
aspirations and stages of development and advancement of each Territory. Administering Powers are also obliged under the Charter to convey to the United Nations information on conditions in the Territories. The United Nations monitors progress towards self-determination in the Territories.

Hoping to speed the progress of decolonization, the General Assembly adopted, in 1960, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. Known as the Declaration on decolonization, it stated that all people have a right to self-determination and proclaimed that colonialism should be brought to a speedy and unconditional end.

In 1962 the General Assembly established the Special Committee on Decolonization (formally the Special Committee on the Situation with Regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples) to monitor implementation of the Declaration and to make recommendations on its application.

In 1990, the General Assembly proclaimed 1990-2000 as the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism and adopted a Plan of Action. In 2001, the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism was proclaimed. In 2011, the General Assembly proclaimed 2011-2020 as the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism.
Under Article 73 of the Charter of the United Nations, the administering Powers of the Non-Self-Governing Territories have the obligation to promote to the utmost the well-being of the inhabitants of these Territories, further constructive measures of development and cooperate with the United Nations and other associated international bodies in this endeavour, when and where appropriate. The following is a select list of United Nations bodies that offer assistance to the Non-Self-Governing Territories.
in Non-Self-Governing Territories under review; (ii) provides information on territorial developments; (iii) facilitates Territory-specific decolonization processes under way; (iv) offers advice on the decolonization options under the Declaration; (v) conducts annual regional seminars for face-to-face discussion with territorial and civil society representatives as well as experts; and (vi) dispatches fact-finding and advisory visiting missions to Territories.

**The Department of Political Affairs, Decolonization Unit,** provides substantive support to the Special Committee on Decolonization, as well as to the General Assembly, including in its deliberations on the situation in the remaining 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories at the annual sessions; during the preparation and conduct of its seminars held alternately in the Caribbean and the Pacific regions; during visiting missions; and in any other activity carried out to implement the mandated programme of work of the Committee. Assistance is also provided in improving the Committee’s cooperation with the administering Powers, maintaining contacts with the representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and developing relations with the organizations and agencies of the United Nations system, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions, aimed at achieving further progress in decolonization and bringing a complete end to colonialism. Supportive actions include closely following the developments in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, conducting research and preparing working papers, reports and analytical and briefing materials.

The Department’s **Electoral Assistance Division** can provide technical advice on a referendum to decide on the future status of a Territory or to observe the referendum process, should such a request come from the administering Power and the people of the Territory. For example, an electoral expert of the Electoral Assistance Division was invited in February 2006 and October 2007, along with members of the Special Committee on Decolonization, to monitor the referendum in Tokelau on self-government in free association with New Zealand.
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

http://www.un.org/undpa/elections

DECOLONIZATION UNIT—DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS
United Nations Secretariat
New York, NY 10017 U.S.A.
dpadecolonizationunit@un.org

ELECTORAL ASSISTANCE DIVISION—DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS
United Nations Secretariat
New York, NY 10017 U.S.A.
tel: + 1-212-963-8737
fax: +1-212-963-2979
ead@un.org

The Department of Public Information (DPI) compiles and disseminates information on the decolonization process using both traditional as well as new information and communications technologies. Furthermore, the Department, including through its United Nations information centers worldwide, utilizes all of its communications platforms to disseminate information on and to the Non-Self-Governing Territories. It works closely with the Decolonization Unit of the Department of Political Affairs to update and maintain the United Nations website on decolonization in the UN six official languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish).

The UN General Assembly marks 50th anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. 14 December 2010, United Nations, New York © UN Photo/Evan Schneider

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) has accepted several Non-Self-Governing Territories as associate members. As associate members of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC), which is the permanent subsidiary body of ECLAC, Non-Self-Governing Territories can participate in United Nations global conferences as official observers, receive technical and advisory services, and benefit from training workshops and seminars. The following Territories enjoy associate

The UN General Assembly marks 50th anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. 14 December 2010, United Nations, New York © UN Photo/Evan Schneider
member status: Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Montserrat, Turks and Caicos Islands and United States Virgin Islands.\(^1\)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
http://www.cepal.org/en

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (ECLAC)
Av. Dag Hammarskjöld 3477
Vitacura, Santiago de Chile
Tel: (56-2) 2471 2000 • 2210 2000
Postal address: Casilla 179-D, Santiago de Chile
Postal code: 7630412 \(^2\)

The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) has accepted American Samoa, French Polynesia, Guam and New Caledonia as associate members of its Special Body on Pacific Island Developing Countries. \(^3\) The Special Body, which meets every two years, provides a focused forum for addressing the special issues and problems facing this group of countries and associate members in the spirit of regional cooperation. Through their status with ESCAP, they can participate in United Nations global conferences as official observers, receive technical and advisory services, and benefit from training workshops and seminars. ESCAP also undertakes advisory missions to Non-Self-Governing Territories in economic and social areas.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
www.unescap.org

ESCAP SUBREGIONAL OFFICE FOR PACIFIC
Level 5, Kadavu House
414 Victoria Parade
PMB, Suva, Fiji
Tel: +679 323 7700
E-MAIL: registry.epo@un.org\(^4\)

The Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (OHRLLS) can assist relevant Non-Self-Governing Territories through its mandate to provide coordination in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (SIDS). The Programme of Action focuses on seven areas of commitment aimed at reducing poverty and the promotion of sustainable development. The OHRLLS can provide coordinated follow-up, undertake appropriate advocacy work, mobilize resources and provide support to group consultations of Small Island Developing States.

1 Source: http://www.cepal.org/en/estados-miembros
2 Source: http://www.cepal.org/en
3 Source: http://www.unescap.org/about/member-states
4 Source: http://www.unescap.org/subregional-office/pacific/contact-us
The United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) was established by Security Council resolution 690 (1991) of 29 April 1991 in accordance with settlement proposals accepted on 30 August 1988 by Morocco and the Frente Popular para la Liberación de Saguia el-Hamra y de Río de Oro (Frente POLISARIO). The settlement plan, as approved by the Security Council, provided for a transitional period for the preparation of a referendum in which the people of Western Sahara would choose between independence and integration with Morocco. While the organization of the referendum has not been possible to date, other requirements of the Mission’s mandate have been pursued. Currently, MINURSO continues to be engaged in a number of activities in the Territory that include monitoring the cease-fire, reducing the threat of mines and unexploded ordnances, and supporting the confidence-building measures.

United Nation Children’s Fund (UNICEF)

The UNICEF Office for the Eastern Caribbean Area covers eight countries and four Non-Self-Governing Territories: Anguilla, the British Virgin Islands, Montserrat, and the Turks and Caicos Islands. The programme focuses on early childhood development, education, system reforms including child-friendly schools, strengthening data systems, child protection, social and economic policy reforms; and on advocacy and capacity-building within the context of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC).
The UNICEF Pacific Office covers fourteen Pacific Island countries and Territories, including Tokelau. The overall goal of the programme is to work with partners to ensure a better outcome for Pacific children and women as reflected in improved policies and legislation, greater access to quality social services and more accurate data for planning and monitoring. In addition, the UNICEF Pacific multi-country programme focuses on: early childhood development; education; health including HIV/AIDS; nutrition; water and sanitation; child protection; rights advocacy and behavior change communication; and collection and analysis of data related to children and women. UNICEF facilitates Tokelau’s participation in Pacific regional meetings related to the above programme areas.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

www.unicef.org

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) can provide technical assistance and policy advice in the areas of macroeconomic, financial and fiscal management, production and management of economic statistics, disaster mitigation and resettlement and recovery programmes, and capacity-building in environmental sustainability.

Through its Caribbean Regional Technical Assistance Centre (CARTAC) project, established in 2002, UNDP provided Anguilla with assistance in financial sector supervision and development of risk management guidelines. It has also assisted Montserrat through the project “Disaster Mitigation, Capacity-building and Institutional Strengthening in Support of Montserrat’s Post-Emergency Resettlement Programme.” UNDP’s assistance to Tokelau has been focused on strengthening the overall capacity for self-government, including funding support for public administration reform, capacity-building and telecommunications, and on addressing critical environmental management challenges with the necessary funding and projects, such as sustainable natural resources management and disaster mitigation measures.

UNDP also provides non-project support to a number of initiatives and activities in the Non-Self-Governing Territories.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

www.unicef.org

United Nations
Development Programme
(UNDP)

Tomasi Ta’a, General Manager of Energy, explains how the solar generated power is converted to electricity in the pilot renewable energy project, supported by UNDP, in Fakaofo, Tokelau. © UN/Ariane Rummery
In a world facing unprecedented environmental challenges and opportunities, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) works to provide leadership and encourage partnership in caring for the environment by inspiring, informing and enabling nations and peoples to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations.

UNEP Medium-term Strategy (2014-2017) focuses efforts on seven thematic areas to enable UNEP to work more efficiently and effectively to achieve its goals: climate change; disasters and conflicts; ecosystem management; environmental governance; chemical and waste; resource efficiency; and environment under review.

Through six Regional Offices for: Africa in Nairobi, Kenya; Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok, Thailand; Europe in Geneva, Switzerland; Latin America and the Caribbean in Panama City, Panama; North America in Washington D.C., U.S.A. and West Asia in Manama, Bahrain, UNEP promotes intergovernmental policy dialogue and regional cooperation; increases national capacity for environmental management and emergency response; raises awareness and enhances information exchange; and translates global policies into regional and country action.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

www.unep.org

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

In a world facing unprecedented environmental challenges and opportunities, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) works to provide leadership and encourage partnership in caring for the environment by inspiring, informing and enabling nations and peoples to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations.

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

www.unep.org

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
The mandate of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) is to provide international protection and assistance to those who flee their countries of origin because of war or a well-founded fear of persecution due to their race, religion, nationality, political opinion or membership in a particular social group and who cannot or do not want to return. In accordance with its mandate, UNHCR provides protection and assistance to the Sahrawi refugees in the camps near Tindouf, Algeria.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
www.unhcr.org

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) can provide assistance in capacity building to Non-Self-Governing Territories in logistics, forecasting and management of reproductive health commodities, as well as in planning and questionnaire design for reproductive censuses. It can also provide reproductive health commodities.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
www.unfpa.org

Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)
The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) can promote coordinated (and locally owned and led) responses to AIDS. Its focus areas are: leadership and advocacy; strategic information and technical support; tracking, monitoring and evaluation; civil society engagement; and mobilization of resources. It brings together the efforts and resources of ten UN system organizations to the global AIDS response.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
www.unaids.org
To name a few examples, UNESCO assigned a consultant, who was an expert in the area of Memory of the World, to visit eight Caribbean countries and Territories, including Anguilla and the British Virgin Islands (December 2014 –January 2015), to identify and select documentary heritage and prepare nominations for registering these documents in national, regional and international Memory of the World Registers.

In addition, American Samoa Community College has been participating in a regional project for the safeguarding of the Pacific Tapa as a focal point at the American Samoa for the Association Tapa du Pacifique (ATAPAC) based in Tahiti, French Polynesia, within the framework of the Intangible Cultural heritage (ICH) Safeguarding Programme in the Pacific.

And in French Polynesia, the authorities have been working closely with UNESCO on the development of nomination files on Taputapuatea/Te Po, Opoa valley and the Marqueses Island for inscription on the World Heritage List.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

www.unesco.org

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

Five Non-Self-Governing Territories have the status of Associate Members to the United Nations.

UNESCO employs every opportunity to engage with Non-Self-Governing Territories in any platform of action, information and cooperation established, or capacity-building activity organized at the regional, sub-regional and national levels.


Satellite image acquired by NASA on 24 April 2003 of the Turks and Caicos Islands © UN Photo/USGS/NASA

Five non-Self-Governing Territories have the status of Associate Members to the United Nations:

Anguilla
British Virgin Islands
Cayman Islands
Montserrat
Tokelau

UNAIDS OFFICE IN KINGSTON
Officer-in-Charge
The Towers, 25 Dominica Drive, 3rd Floor
Kingston 5
Jamaica
Tel: 1 (876) 630 5300
Fax: +1 (876) 630 5325
r.parua@unesco.org (12)

UNAIDS OFFICE IN APIA
P.O. Box 615
Matautu-uta
Api°, Samoa
Tel: + 685 242 76
Fax: + 685 265 93
apia@unesco.org (13)
The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) provides support for sustainable rural development policies and practices in agriculture, forestry, fisheries and food security and nutrition. One of the priority areas of work is increasing food security and nutrition resilience to the impacts of disasters and climate change. FAO’s assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories is facilitated by its field offices, including the Sub-Regional Office for the Caribbean located in Barbados and the Sub-Regional Office for the Pacific Islands located in Samoa. Among the Non-Self-Governing Territories, Tokelau is an associate member of the FAO Sub-Regional Office for the Pacific Islands.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

www.fao.org

SUB-REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE CARIBBEAN, BARBADOS
Sub-Regional Representative for the Caribbean
FAO-SLAC
P.O. Box 631-C
Bridgetown
BB11000 Barbados

World Health Organization (WHO)

The World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Office for the Western Pacific coordinates WHO’s technical assistance and collaboration with other health partners in responding to the specific needs of the Pacific countries and areas.

In addition, the World Health Organization Regional Office for the Americas/Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) provides technical cooperation to countries of the Americas for their national health development. For over 110 years, PAHO also serves as the specialized organization for health of the Inter-American System.

The PAHO/WHO Office of Eastern Caribbean Countries, located in

Second Floor
UN House, Marine Gardens
Christ Church, Bridgetown
BB11000 Barbados
Tel: +1 [246] 426 7110
FAO-SLC@fao.org


SUB-REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE PACIFIC ISLANDS, SAMOA
Sub-Regional Representative for the Pacific
FAO Private Mail Bag
Apia, Samoa
Tel: (+685) 2217
FAO-SRO-Pacific@fao.org

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION


"Lady Naomi", a ferry-boat sailing between Samoa and American Samoa, anchored off Atafu, one of the three atolls that make up Tokelau. © UN Photo/Denise Cook

World Health Organization (WHO)
Barbados; the PAHO/WHO Office in Jamaica; and the PAHO/WHO Office in The Bahamas collaborate closely to support the Non-Self-Governing Territories in a coherent and coordinated manner, in order to create efficiencies, foster common understanding and enable a unified position in their responses to the health challenges of these Territories. They cover Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Montserrat, and the Turks and Caicos Islands.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

http://www.who.int/en/

THE DIVISION OF PACIFIC TECHNICAL SUPPORT OF THE WHO REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE WESTERN PACIFIC—THE WHO REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC
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Downtown Boulevard, 33 Ellery Street
(P.O. Box 113)
Suva, Fiji
who.sp@wpro.who.int
www.wpro.who.int/southpacific

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PAHO/WHO OFFICE OF EASTERN CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES
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Tel: + 246 426 3860, + 246 426 3865
Fax: + 246 436 9779
eccpwr@paho.org
http://www.paho.org/ecc

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Kingston 7, Jamaica
Tel: + 876-970-0016
Fax: + 876-977-1393
e-mail@jam.paho.org
http://www.paho.org/jam

PAHO/WHO REPRESENTATION FOR THE BAHAMAS AND TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS
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Tel: + 242-326-7299
Fax: + 242-326-7012
e-mail@bah.paho.org
http://www.paho.org/bah

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

http://www.ilo.org

The International Labour Organization (ILO) offers assistance in the application and promotion of international labour standards. It provides Non-Self-Governing Territories with technical and advisory services on labour matters. It also invites them, where possible, to participate in ILO-sponsored subregional meetings, seminars and workshops. In some cases, the Organization carries out missions to provide technical assistance and advice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

http://www.ilo.org

International Labour Organization (ILO)

Dr. Carissa Etienne, WHO Regional Director for the Americas addresses delegates at the technical briefing on “Health in the post-2015 sustainable development goals”. ©WHO/Violaine Martin
**AFRICA**

**WESTERN SAHARA**

**BASIC FACTS**
- **Population**: 586,000
- **Land area**: 266,000 km²

**LISTING AS A NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORY**

Western Sahara has been on the United Nations list of Non-Self-Governing Territories since 1963 following the transmission of information on Spanish Sahara by Spain under Article 73(e) of the Charter of the United Nations. See: A/5514, annex III.

**ADMINISTERING POWER**

**UNITED NATIONS-RELATED ACTION**

The General Assembly adopts on an annual basis a resolution devoted to Western Sahara. See: General Assembly resolution 70/98 of 9 December 2015.


**LINKS**


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**ATLANTIC AND CARIBBEAN**

**ANGUILLA**

**BASIC FACTS**
- **Population**: 15,700 (2013 estimate)
- **Land area**: 96 km²
- **Exclusive economic zone**: 92,178 km²

**LISTING AS A NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORY**

Anguilla has been on the United Nations list of Non-Self-Governing Territories since 1946, following the transmission of information on the Leeward Islands (which had included Anguilla) by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland under Article 73(e) of the Charter of the United Nations. See: General Assembly resolution 66 (I) of 14 December 1946.

**ADMINISTERING POWER**

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

**UNITED NATIONS-RELATED ACTION**

The General Assembly adopts on an annual basis a resolution with a section specifically devoted to Anguilla. See: Section II of General Assembly resolution 70/102 B of 9 December 2015


**LINKS**


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* Data is from UNdata (http://data.un.org), a database by the United Nations Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations.

** On 26 February 1976, the Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations informed the Secretary-General that “the Spanish Government, as of today, definitely terminates its presence in the Territory of the Sahara and deems it necessary to place the following on record: … (a) Spain considers itself henceforth exempt from any responsibility of an international nature in connection with the administration of the said Territory, in view of the cessation of its participation in the temporary administration established for the Territory …” (A/31/56-S/11997).

BERMUDA

BASIC FACTS
Land area: 53.35 km²
Exclusive economic zone: 450,370 km²

LISTING AS A NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORY
Bermuda has been on the United Nations list of Non-Self-Governing Territories since 1946, following the transmission of information by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland pursuant to obligations under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations. See: General Assembly resolution 66 (I) of 14 December 1946

ADMINISTERING POWER
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

UNITED NATIONS-RELATED ACTION
The General Assembly adopts on an annual basis a resolution with a section specifically devoted to Bermuda. See: Section III of General Assembly resolution 70/102 B of 9 December 2015


LINKS


BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

BASIC FACTS
Population: 28,200 (2010 census)
Land area: 153 km²
Exclusive economic zone: 80,117 km²

LISTING AS A NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORY
The British Virgin Islands has been on the United Nations list of non-Self-Governing Territories since 1946, following the transmission of information on the Leeward Islands (which had included the British Virgin Islands) by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations. See: General Assembly resolution 66 (I) of 14 December 1946

ADMINISTERING POWER
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

UNITED NATIONS-RELATED ACTION
The General Assembly adopts on an annual basis a resolution with a section specifically devoted to the British Virgin Islands. See: Section IV of General Assembly resolution 70/102 B of 9 December 2015


LINKS
CAYMAN ISLANDS

BASIC FACTS
Population: 58,238 [2014 estimate]
Land area: 264 km²
Exclusive economic zone: 119,137 km²

LISTING AS A NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORY
The Cayman Islands has been on the United Nations list of Non-Self-Governing Territories since 1946, following the declaration of the intention by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to transmit information on Jamaica (under which the Cayman Islands had fallen) under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations. See: General Assembly resolution 66 (I) of 14 December 1946

ADMINISTERING POWER
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

UNITED NATIONS-RELATED ACTION
The General Assembly adopts on an annual basis a resolution with a section specifically devoted to the Cayman Islands. See: Section V of General Assembly resolution 70/102 B of 9 December 2015


LINKS

FALKLAND ISLANDS (MALVINAS)*

BASIC FACTS
Population: 2,500
Land area: 12,173 km²

LISTING AS A NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORY
The Falkland Islands (Malvinas) has been on the United Nations list of Non-Self-Governing Territories since 1946, following the transmission by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland of information under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations.** See: General Assembly resolution 66 (I) of 14 December 1946

ADMINISTERING POWER
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

UNITED NATIONS-RELATED ACTION
The General Assembly’s subsidiary organ, the Special Committee on Decolonization (a.k.a. C-24), has been considering the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) since 1964. Following the C-24’s recommendation, in 1965, the General Assembly adopted resolution 2065 (XX).

The C-24 adopts on an annual basis a resolution devoted to the Falkland Islands (Malvinas). See: C-24 resolution of 23 June 2016 (A/71/23, para. 206)

* 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).
** At the 25th meeting of the Fourth Committee in the 1st session of the General Assembly, held on 6 December 1946, the delegation of Argentina made a reservation to the effect that the Argentine Government did not recognize British sovereignty in the Falkland Islands [Malvinas]. The delegation of the United Kingdom made a parallel reservation, not recognizing Argentine sovereignty in these islands.


**SAINT HELENA**

**BASIC FACTS**

Population: 5,765 [4,580 on Saint Helena (September 2015 estimate); 917 on Ascension; and 268 on Tristan da Cunha (November 2015 estimates)]

Land area: 310 km²

Exclusive economic zone: 1,641,294 km²

**LISTING AS A NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORY**

Saint Helena has been on the United Nations list of Non-Self-Governing Territories since 1946, following the declaration of the intention by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to transmit information on St. Helena and Dependencies under Article 73 of the Charter of the United Nations. See: General Assembly resolution 66 (I) of 14 December 1946

**ADMINISTERING POWER**

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

**UNITED NATIONS-RELATED ACTION**

The General Assembly adopts on an annual basis a resolution with a section specifically devoted to Saint Helena.

See: Section IX of General Assembly resolution 70/102 B of 9 December 2015


**LINKS**


**MONTSERRAT**

**BASIC FACTS**

Population: 5,000 (2012 estimate)

Land area: 103 km²

Exclusive economic zone: 7,582 km²

**LISTING AS A NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORY**

Montserrat has been on the United Nations list of Non-Self-Governing Territories since 1946, following the transmission of information on the Leeward Islands (which had included Montserrat) under Article 73 of the Charter of the United Nations. See: General Assembly resolution 66 (I) of 14 December 1946

**ADMINISTERING POWER**

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

**UNITED NATIONS-RELATED ACTION**

The General Assembly adopts on an annual basis a resolution with a section specifically devoted to Montserrat.

See: Section VII of General Assembly resolution 70/102 B of 9 December 2015


**LINKS**

Government of Montserrat: http://www.gov.ms/


**SAINT HELENA**

**BASIC FACTS**

Population: 5,765 [4,580 on Saint Helena (September 2015 estimate); 917 on Ascension; and 268 on Tristan da Cunha (November 2015 estimates)]

Land area: 310 km²

Exclusive economic zone: 1,641,294 km²

**LISTING AS A NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORY**

Saint Helena has been on the United Nations list of Non-Self-Governing Territories since 1946, following the declaration of the intention by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to transmit information on St. Helena and Dependencies under Article 73 of the Charter of the United Nations. See: General Assembly resolution 66 (I) of 14 December 1946

**ADMINISTERING POWER**

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

**UNITED NATIONS-RELATED ACTION**

The General Assembly adopts on an annual basis a resolution with a section specifically devoted to Saint Helena.

See: Section IX of General Assembly resolution 70/102 B of 9 December 2015


**LINKS**


**TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS**

**BASIC FACTS**
- Population: 36,689 (2015 estimate)
- Land area: 948.2 km²
- Exclusive economic zone: 154,068 km²

**LISTING AS A NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORY**
The Turks and Caicos Islands has been on the United Nations list of Non-Self-Governing Territories since 1946, following the transmission of information on Jamaica (under which the Turks and Caicos had fallen) by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Island under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations. See: General Assembly resolution 66 (I) of 14 December 1946.

**LINKS**

**ADMINISTERING POWER**
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

**UNITED NATIONS-RELATED ACTION**
The General Assembly adopts on an annual basis a resolution with a section specifically devoted to the Turks and Caicos Islands. See: Section X of General Assembly resolution 70/102 B of 9 December 2015.


**UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS**

**BASIC FACTS**
- Population: 105,080 (2012 data)
- Land area: 352 km²
- Exclusive economic zone: 33,744 km²

**LISTING AS A NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORY**
The United States Virgin Islands has been on the United Nations list of Non-Self-Governing Territories since 1946, following the transmission of information by the United States of America under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations. See: General Assembly resolution 66 (I) of 14 December 1946.

**LINKS**
- Government of the United States Virgin Islands: [https://www.vi.gov/](https://www.vi.gov/)
- Office of Insular Affairs of the Department of Interior of the United States of America: [https://www.doi.gov/oia/](https://www.doi.gov/oia/)

**ADMINISTERING POWER**
United States of America

**UNITED NATIONS-RELATED ACTION**
The General Assembly adopts on an annual basis a resolution with a section specifically devoted to the United States Virgin Islands. See: Section XI of General Assembly resolution 70/102 B of 9 December 2015.

**PACIFIC**

**AMERICAN SAMOA**

**BASIC FACTS**
- Population: 55,170 (2013 estimate)
- Land area: 200 km²
- Exclusive economic zone: 404,391 km²

**LISTING AS A NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORY**
American Samoa has been on the United Nations list of Non-Self-Governing Territories since 1946, following the transmission of information by the United States of America under Article 73 of the Charter of the United Nations. See: General Assembly resolution 70/102 B of 9 December 2015

**ADMINISTERING POWER**
United States of America

**UNited nations-related action**
The General Assembly adopts on an annual basis a resolution with a section specifically devoted to American Samoa. See: Section I of General Assembly resolution 70/102 B of 9 December 2015

**LINKS**

**FRENCH POLYNESIA**

**BASIC FACTS**
- Land area: 3,600 km²
- Exclusive economic zone: 4,767,242 km²

**LISTING AS A NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORY**
French Polynesia has been on the United Nations list of Non-Self-Governing Territories since 1946, following the transmission of information by the United States of America under Article 73 of the Charter of the United Nations. See: General Assembly resolution 86 (I) of 14 December 1946

**ADMINISTERING POWER**
French Polynesia

**UNited nations-related action**
The General Assembly adopts on an annual basis a resolution with a section specifically devoted to French Polynesia. See: Section I of General Assembly resolution 86 (I) of 14 December 1946

**LINKS**

**EUROPE**

**GIBRALTAR**

**BASIC FACTS**
- Land area: 5.8 km²

**LISTING AS A NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORY**
Gibraltar has been on the United Nations list of Non-Self-Governing Territories since 1946, following the transmission of information by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations. See: General Assembly resolution 66 (I) of 14 December 1946

**ADMINISTERING POWER**
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

**UNited nations-related action**
The General Assembly adopts on an annual basis a decision on the question of Gibraltar. See: General Assembly decision 70/520 of 9 December 2015

**LINKS**
LISTING AS A NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORY

French Polynesia was on the United Nations list of Non-Self-Governing Territories from 1946 to 1947, following transmission of information on French Establishments in Oceania by France under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations. In 2013, the General Assembly re-inscribed French Polynesia, by recognizing that “French Polynesia remains a Non-Self-Governing Territory within the meaning of the Charter”. See: General Assembly resolutions 66 (I) of 14 December 1946 and 67/265 of 17 May 2013

ADMINISTERING POWER
France

UNITED NATIONS-RELATED ACTION
The General Assembly adopts on an annual basis a resolution devoted to French Polynesia. See: General Assembly resolution 70/100 of 9 December 2015


LINKS
Ministry of Overseas Territories of France: http://www.outre-mer.gouv.fr/

GUAM

BASIC FACTS
Population: 159,358 [2010 census]
Land area: 540 km²
Exclusive economic zone: 214,059 km²

LISTING AS A NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORY
Guam has been on the United Nations list of Non-Self-Governing Territories since 1946, following the transmission of information by the United States of America under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations. See: General Assembly resolution 66 (I) of 14 December 1946

ADMINISTERING POWER
United States of America

UNITED NATIONS-RELATED ACTION
The General Assembly adopts on an annual basis a resolution with a section specifically devoted to Guam. See: Section VI of General Assembly resolution 70/102 B of 9 December 2015


LINKS
Office of Insular Affairs of the Department of Interior of the United States of America: https://www.doi.gov/oia/

NEW CALEDONIA

BASIC FACTS
Population: 268,767 [2014 census]
Land area: 18,575 km²
Exclusive economic zone: 1,422,543 km²

LISTING AS A NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORY
New Caledonia was on the United Nations list of Non-Self-Governing Territories from 1946 to 1947, following transmission of information on French Establishments in Oceania by France under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations. In 1986, the General Assembly re-inscribed New Caledonia, by considering that “New Caledonia is a Non-Self-Governing Territory within the meaning of the Charter”. See: General Assembly resolutions 66 (I) of 14 December 1946 and 67/265 of 17 May 2013

ADMINISTERING POWER
France

UNITED NATIONS-RELATED ACTION
The General Assembly adopts on an annual basis a resolution with a section specifically devoted to New Caledonia. See: General Assembly resolution 66 (I) of 14 December 1946


LINKS
Government of New Caledonia: http://www.gouvernement.nc/
Office of Insular Affairs of the Department of Interior of the United States of America: https://www.doi.gov/oia/
 Territory within the meaning of the Charter”. See: General Assembly resolutions 66 (I) of 14 December 1946 and 41/41 of 2 December 1986

**ADMINISTERING POWER**

France

**UNITED NATIONS-RELATED ACTION**
The General Assembly adopts on an annual basis a resolution devoted to New Caledonia. See: General Assembly resolution 70/99 of 9 December 2015


**LINKS**

Government of New Caledonia: http://www.gouv.nc/portal/page/portal/gouv/

Ministry of Overseas Territories of France: http://www.outre-mer.gouv.fr/


**PITCAIRN**

**BASIC FACTS**


Land area: 35.5 km²

(Pitcairn Island: 4.35 km²)

Exclusive economic zone: 800,000 km²

**LISTING AS A NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORY**

Pitcairn has been on the United Nations list of Non-Self-Governing Territories since 1946, following the declaration of the intention by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Island to transmit information on the High Commission Territories of the Western Pacific (which had included the Pitcairn Islands) under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations. See: General Assembly resolution 66 (I) of 14 December 1946

**ADMINISTERING POWER**

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

**UNITED NATIONS-RELATED ACTION**
The General Assembly adopts on an annual basis a resolution with a section specifically devoted to Pitcairn. See: Section VIII of General Assembly resolution 70/102 B of 9 December 2015


**LINKS**

Government of Pitcairn: http://www.government.pn/


**TOKELAU**

**BASIC FACTS**

Population: 1,411

(October 2011 census)

Land area: 12.2 km²

Exclusive economic zone: 318,990 km²

**LISTING AS A NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORY**

Tokelau has been on the United Nations list of Non-Self-Governing Territories since 1946, following the declaration of the intention by New Zealand to transmit information on the Tokelau Islands under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations. See: General Assembly resolution 66 (I) of 14 December 1946

**ADMINISTERING POWER**

New Zealand
UNITED NATIONS-RELATED ACTION

The General Assembly adopts on an annual basis a resolution specifically devoted to Tokelau. 
See: General Assembly resolution 70/101 of 9 December 2015


LINKS


Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of New Zealand: https://www.mfat.govt.nz/

www.un.org/en/decolonization

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