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SECOND INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR THE ERADICATION OF COLONIALISM

Pacific Regional Seminar on the implementation of the Second
International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism:
priorities for the remainder of the Decade

Bandung, Indonesia
14 to 16 May 2008

Closing remarks

by

H.E. R. M. Marty M. Natalegawa,

Permanent Representative of Indonesia

to the United Nations,

Chairman of the Special Committee

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**Special Committee on Decolonization
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Permanent Representative of Indonesia,
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Excellencies,
Distinguished participants,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

As we have now come to the end of our deliberation, allow me, on behalf of the Special Committee, to deliver this statement of appreciation to those who have made the success of this seminar possible.

First of all, the Committee would like to extend its most sincere appreciations to the representatives of and experts from the Non-Self-Governing Territories who have shared their valuable insights with us at this seminar. As this forum is first and foremost about these Territories, your presence with us is highly appreciated.

We also thank all other participants for their engagement and contributions to our discussions.

We would also like to offer our special thanks to our host, the Government of Indonesia, and most sincerely to the National Organizing Committee from the Department of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, for their excellent support throughout the organization of the Seminar.

Our appreciation also extends to the Provincial Government and the people of West Java, particularly of Bandung, as well as to the Merdeka Building for the warm hospitality extended to us.

We would also like to thank the staff members and management of the Savoy Homann Bidakara Hotel for their invaluable contribution for the success of this Seminar.

Last, but not least, I would like to thank our support team from the United Nations Secretariat:

1. Ms. Freda Mackay, Chief of Decolonization Unit, Department of Political Affairs
2. Ms. Lone Jessen, Political Affairs Officer, Decolonization Unit, Department of Political Affairs
3. Mr. Sergei Cherniavsky, Secretary of the Special Committee, Department of General Assembly and Conference Management
4. Ms. Sharon Hercules, Administrative Officer, Department of General Assembly and Conference Management
5. Ms. Maria San Agustin, Meeting Services Assistant, Department of General Assembly and Conference Management
6. Mr. Adila Arieg, Press Officer, UNIC Jakarta
7. Mr. Ari Gaitains, Press Officer, ESCAP

I believe all of us have had a pleasant stay in Bandung, and I do hope our discussions during the seminar have further enriched our perspectives in moving the process of decolonization forward.

I wish you a safe and pleasant journey back home.