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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: assessment of decolonization process in today's world**

**Nouméa, New Caledonia  
18 to 20 May 2010**

**STATEMENT**

**BY**

**Mr. Steve A. McField**

**(Representative of the Cayman Islands)**

**United Nations Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the  
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to  
Colonial Countries and Peoples: Pacific Regional Seminar 18-20 May 2010**

**Statement by the Government of the Cayman Islands to the UN Special  
Committee**

- 1.1 The above Seminar is to take place in Noumea, New Caledonia.
- 1.2 The theme of the Seminar is *"Implementation of the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: assessment of decolonization process in today's world."*
- 2.1 Mr. Steve McField has been appointed as honorary representative of the Cayman Islands Government at the Seminar.
- 2.2 The following is the text to be carried by Mr. McField as a Statement of the position of the Government of the Cayman Islands with regard to the business of the Special Committee, which is better known locally as the 'Committee on Decolonization':
  - A. The Government of the Cayman Islands wishes to inform the Committee that a new Constitution was formally promulgated in the Cayman Islands on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2009. That Constitution establishes the post of Premier for the first time, and makes a number of other changes which are considered 'advancements' on the former Constitution. The new Constitution was approved by a large majority in a special Referendum.
  - B. During the extensive consultations carried out in relation to this Constitution, and during the General Elections of May 2009, it was again affirmed that the Government of the Cayman Islands has no mandate from its people to pursue full political independence.
  - C. Accordingly, the attendance by the Cayman Islands at this Seminar should in no way be construed to suggest that the Cayman Islands is in fact pursuing such interests; rather, it is more appropriate to say that we are attending in order to make our position clear and distinct. We would also wish to be fully informed in regards to the position of our fellow British Overseas Territories; in particular, whether there have been any discussions with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, whether or not directly involving this Special Committee of the United Nations, in regards to these Territories' constitutional position.
  - D. The Government of the Cayman Islands reiterates its distinct position in these matters; nonetheless, we would wish to avail ourselves of the opportunity to convey its very best wishes to all participants, and to wish the Committee well in its deliberations at this Seminar. This concludes the Statement of the Cayman Islands Government at this time.