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THIRD INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR THE ERADICATION OF COLONIALISM  
Pacific regional seminar on the implementation of the Third International Decade for  
the Eradication of Colonialism: accelerating action

Denarau, Nadi, Fiji  
21 to 23 May 2014

STATEMENT BY

THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Remarks of the Russian Federation  
2014 Pacific Seminar  
21-23 May 2014

Mr.Chairman,

First of all allow me to warmly greet you and all distinguished participants of the 2014 Pacific Seminar here in the beautiful land of Fiji. Let me also avail of this opportunity to thank our dear host, the Government of Fiji, for organizing this Seminar – as at has been already stated by distinguished Prime Minister of Fiji, for the forth time. I also would like to warmly thank you, Mr.Chairman, for honoring my country to serve as Vice-Chair of our seminar. We consider it as recognition of the active position of the Russian Federation in supporting the role and activity of the Special Committee.

Mr. Chairman,

Allow me to underline that my country, the Russian Federation, has an active position on assisting the implementation of the Declaration on granting independance to colonial countries, that has been adopted with active support of the Soviet Union back in 1960. It's a pity that today, after more than 50 years from its adoption, there are still territories in the world whose peoples have not realized their right for self-determination.

Russia who participates in the work of this Special Committee from the very beginning, attaches great importance to its role and practical activity. We are of the strong view that neither the size of the territory nor the geograflcal isolation or lack of rессources should affect the right of these territories for self-determination. Administering Powers should create such conditions in these territories that would allow their people to exercise this right in free and without external influence.

While colonial countries and territories still exist, the UN activity on the track of decolonization in general and of this Special Committee in particular is still in demand and remain useful. Principals concerning non-self governing territories that are reflected in the UN Charter as well as in the Declaration and other relevant UN resolutions and decisions are still valid, just as they were at the beginning of the UN work.

The Russian Federation stands ready to further assist promotion of eradication of last remains of colonialism on our planet. The Third Decade is almost in its middle. It's time to act. In this regard we welcome the participants of the Seminar and looking forward for their active involvement in fruitful exchange of views.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.