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THIRD INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR THE ERADICATION OF COLONIALISM

**Caribbean regional seminar on the implementation of the Third International
Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: the future for decolonization in
the Non Self-Governing Territories: what are the prospects?**

**Kingstown, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
16 to 18 May 2017**

STATEMENT BY

THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

STATEMENT

**By the representative of the Russian Federation
at the 2017 Caribbean regional Seminar on the implementation of the
Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism**

16-18 May 2017

Mr. Chairman,

First of all allow me to officially but warmly greet you and all the distinguished participants of the 2017 Caribbean regional seminar here in beautiful Kingstown.

I would like to use this opportunity to sincerely thank the Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines for hosting our seminar again. I would also like to thank you Mr. Chairman for honoring my country by extending our vice-chairmanship of the regional seminars for this year.

We consider it as recognition of the role of Russia not only as one of the creators of the Special Committee on Decolonization, but also as a constant supporter of this very important UN body.

Mr. Chairman,

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 will remain useful. Principles concerning non-self governing territories that are reflected in the UN Charter as well as in the

Declaration on granting independence to colonial countries and other relevant UN resolutions and decisions are still valid, just as they were at the beginning of the UN work.

We are of the strong view that neither the size of a territory nor geographical position nor the amount of natural resources should affect the rights of people for self-determination. And we need to remember that administering powers are obliged under the international law to create conditions that would allow these territories to exercise this right in a free way and with no external interruption.

My country, being a permanent member of the UN Security Council, a member of the Trusteeship Council, the Committee of 24 and all other UN bodies which deal with matters related to realization of the Goals and Principles of the UN Charter and the Declaration on granting independence, will continue to be actively engaged in efforts aimed at full and final liquidation of colonialism.

Finally, Mr. Chairman,

And I hope this will help to strengthen our work.

We express deep regret that the work of our Committee has been hampered by rhetorics over the issues we disagree upon.

We want to remind that not being in an agreement is very natural within the United Nations system. That is why “we the peoples” decided to create it as a forum where we could peacefully talk over all our diversities.

While recognizing that Security Council is exercising its duties inscribed in the UN Charter towards specific issues which have been on this Committee's agenda long before, we here are supposed to support this process by providing a positive background in full compliance with the Council's decisions.

So, we call the Committee to be calm and constructive. We cannot allow the spirit of our work fall as a victim of complicated issues, as our common goal is to negotiate and come to sustainable solutions.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

(Mr. Stanislav Aleksaev)