

Annex II

Caribbean regional seminar on the implementation of the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: first quarter review of developments and trends, held in Quito from 28 to 30 May 2013

I. Introduction

1. In its resolution [65/119](#), the General Assembly declared the period 2011-2020 the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and called upon Member States to intensify their efforts to continue to implement the plan of action for the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism^a and to cooperate with the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in updating it as necessary, with a view to using it as the basis for a plan of action for the Third Decade.
2. In its resolution [67/134](#), the General Assembly approved the programme of work of the Special Committee envisaged for 2013, which included the holding of a seminar in the Caribbean region to be organized by the Special Committee and attended by the representatives of all the Non-Self-Governing Territories.
3. The purpose of the seminar was to enable the Special Committee to obtain the views of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, experts, members of civil society and other stakeholders in the process of decolonization, who can assist the Special Committee in identifying policy approaches and practical ways that can be pursued in the United Nations decolonization process. The discussions at the seminar would assist the Special Committee in making a realistic analysis and evaluation of the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, on a case-by-case basis, as well as the ways in which the United Nations system and the international community at large could enhance programmes of assistance to the Territories.
4. The seminar was also aimed at a first quarter review of developments and trends with regard to the implementation of the Third Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, as well as expected accomplishments of the Special Committee during the Decade.
5. The respective contributions of the participants would be further considered by the Special Committee at its substantive session, to be held in New York in June 2013, with a view to submitting proposals to the General Assembly concerning the fulfilment of the objectives of the Third Decade.

II. Organization of the seminar

6. The seminar was held in Quito from 28 to 30 May, 2013. It held five meetings, in which the representatives of States Members of the United Nations, Non-Self-Governing Territories, administering Powers and non-governmental organizations,

^a A/56/61, annex.

as well as experts took part (see appendix II). The seminar was organized in such a way as to encourage an open and frank exchange of views.

7. The seminar was conducted by Diego Morejón, Deputy Permanent Representative of Ecuador to the United Nations and Chair of the Special Committee, with the participation of the following members of the Committee: Chile, China, Cuba, Ecuador, Fiji, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, and United Republic of Tanzania. Three administering powers, New Zealand, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, participated as observers. Other Member States participating as observers were Algeria, Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Morocco, Peru and Spain.

8. At the 1st meeting, on 28 May 2013, Namita Khatri (Fiji) and Anna M. Evstigneeva (Russian Federation) were appointed Vice-Chairs of the seminar. José Antonio Cousiño (Chile) was appointed Rapporteur. The Chair established an informal drafting Group and appointed the Rapporteur as its facilitator.

9. The agenda of the seminar was as follows:

1. Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: first quarter review — the role of the Special Committee:
 - (a) Assessing prospects for advancing the decolonization process;
 - (b) Fresh options for communication and cooperation on a case-by-case basis among the Special Committee, the administering Powers and the Non-Self-Governing Territories;
 - (c) Synergies and partnerships in moving the decolonization process forward.
2. Third International Decade: first quarter review — views of the administering Powers and territorial Governments as well as of experts and civil society:
 - (a) Caribbean region's Non-Self-Governing Territories;
 - (b) Pacific region's Non-Self-Governing Territories;
 - (c) Other regions' Non-Self-Governing Territories.
3. The role of the United Nations system in providing assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories.
4. Third International Decade: first quarter review — recommendations.

III. Proceedings of the seminar

A. Opening of the seminar

10. On 28 May 2013, Diego Morejón (Ecuador) opened the seminar in his capacity as Chair, and acknowledged the annual Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories.

11. At the same meeting, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Trade and Integration of Ecuador, Ricardo Patiño, addressed the seminar.

12. Also at the same meeting, the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Quito, read out a message from the Secretary-General (see appendix I).

B. Statements and discussion^b

13. At the 1st meeting, on 28 May, the Chair made a statement. The representatives of the British Virgin Islands, Western Sahara and Argentina also made statements, as did two experts.

14. At the 2nd meeting, in 28 May, statements were made by Salesio Lui (Tokelau) and Edward Alvarez (Guam), and by the representatives of New Zealand and Fiji.

15. At the same meeting, presentations were made by two experts: Peter Clegg (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) and Wilma Reveron-Collazo (Puerto Rico), and the seminar heard statements from the representatives of Cuba and Chile. Further statements were made by three experts: Richard Ariihau Tuheiava (French Polynesia), Sergei Cherniavsky (Ukraine) and Alejandro Betts (Argentina). A statement was also made by the representative of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas).^c

16. At the 3rd meeting, on 29 May 2013, the seminar heard further presentations by four experts, including Stephanie Graff, through a Skype connection (on behalf of Roch Wamytan, New Caledonia), Michael Lujan Bevacqua (Guam), Sergei Cherniavsky (Ukraine) and Richard Ariihau Tuheiava (French Polynesia). Statements were made by the representatives of Fiji, Cuba and Russian Federation. An expert, Wilma Reveron-Collazo (Puerto Rico), also made a statement.

17. Also at the 3rd meeting, the seminar heard further statements by the representatives of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas),^c Gibraltar and the Frente Popular para la Liberación de Saguía el-Hamra y de Río de Oro (Frente Polisario). It also heard a presentation by an expert, Alejandro Betts (Argentina).

18. At the 4th meeting, on 29 May 2013, statements were made by the representatives of Argentina, Spain, Morocco, Algeria, Sierra Leone, United Republic of Tanzania, Cuba, China, Brazil and Ecuador. The representatives of Morocco, the Frente Polisario, Algeria and Gibraltar made statements in the exercise of the right of reply. An expert, Wilma Reveron-Collazo (Puerto Rico), and the representative of Fiji made further statements.

19. At the 5th meeting, on 30 May, the members of the Committee present at the seminar held informal consultations on the draft conclusions and recommendations of the seminar.

C. Closing of the seminar

20. Also at the 5th meeting, on 30 May, the Rapporteur presented the draft report of the seminar.

^b All statements and discussion papers of the seminar are available on the United Nations decolonization website, www.un.org/Depts/dpi/decolonization.

^c A dispute exists between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty over the Falklands Islands (Malvinas).

21. At the same meeting, the participants adopted by acclamation a draft resolution expressing appreciation to the Government and the people of Ecuador (see appendix III).

22. Also at the same meeting, the Vice Minister for Multilateral Affairs of Ecuador, Mauricio Montalvo, made closing remarks. The Chairman of the Special Committee also made a closing statement.

IV. Conclusions and recommendations

23. Members of the Special Committee participating in the seminar recalled the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), and the role of the Special Committee to examine the application of the Declaration, to make suggestions and recommendations on the progress in and extent of the implementation of the Declaration, and to report to the General Assembly.

24. Participating members reaffirmed the continuing relevance of the conclusions and recommendations of the previous seminars.

25. In addition, pursuant to rule 9 of the rules of procedure of the seminar ([A/AC.109/2013/17](#), annex), participating members present the conclusions and recommendations set out below to the Special Committee at its substantive session.

A. Implementation of the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: first quarter review of developments and trends, and assessment of the decolonization process, including current realities and prospects in the Third Decade

26. As their concluding observations, participating members:

(a) Noted that the period 2011-2020 was proclaimed by the General Assembly as the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism. Participants assessed the progress achieved, reviewed existing methods of work and garnered renewed momentum with a view to completing the Special Committee's historic task;

(b) Identified a number of issues in the process of decolonization during the Third Decade, including the impact of climate change, especially in Non-Self-Governing Territories, the global economic and financial crisis, the role of regional cooperation, education and public awareness, the role of civil society, the role of women, the empowerment of vulnerable people, and the capacity for full self governance;

(c) In view of the cross-cutting nature of many of the challenges faced by some Non-Self-Governing Territories in the dynamics of today's interconnected world, underlined that efforts must be made, through the involvement of relevant stakeholders and on a case-by-case basis, for the continued strengthening of administrative capacity, good governance and economic sustainability of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, which would allow the Territories to address the cross-cutting issues in a holistic manner;

(d) Acknowledged that climate change had exposed many of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to even greater environmental and economic vulnerability, and that the ongoing global economic and financial crisis had highlighted the importance of the economic sustainability and diversification of the economic base in the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

(e) Recognized the important role played by regional organizations and regional arrangements in assisting many Non-Self-Governing Territories in coping with various emerging challenges;

(f) Underlined that education and public awareness, including of the indigenous people, remain crucial elements for decolonization and, in this connection, recalled the responsibility of the administering Powers to ensure that the peoples concerned would be in a position to make an informed decision regarding their Territories' future political status in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions;

(g) Welcomed calls for joint projects for the enhancement of public education about the nature of the constitutional relationship in some Territories involving the United Nations, the Non-Self-Governing Territories and the administering Powers, in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions;

(h) Stressed the important role of women in the process of decolonization, including in education, poverty eradication and community empowerment;

(i) Recognized the role of and the need for increased dialogue with the civil society in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions;

(j) Recognized the role of civil society, including the business community and non-governmental organizations, in the development process and in facilitating the achievement of economic sustainability and the well-being of the peoples in the Territories;

(k) Underlined the fact that status-related and/or constitutional review exercises in some of the Non-Self-Governing Territories were delicate processes that should meet certain expectations towards accomplishing their decolonization, on a case-by-case basis and where appropriate, including through informal, working-level communication and dialogue among all concerned;

(l) Reiterated that enhanced interactions and cooperation between the Special Committee and the administering Powers remain crucial to the implementation of the United Nations decolonization mandate and would be beneficial to all stakeholders, including the administering Powers themselves, in accordance with General Assembly resolution [67/134](#) and all other relevant resolutions, and in this connection welcomed the participation of New Zealand, the United States of America and the United Kingdom at the seminar;

(m) Recognized also the importance of active engagement from other States Members of the United Nations which are not members of the Special Committee in the work of the Committee, and in that connection welcomed the participation of Algeria, Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Morocco, Peru and Spain in the seminar.

B. Implementation of the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: first quarter review of developments and trends, and assessment of the decolonization process in the Caribbean, including follow-up to the 2012 Pacific regional seminar

27. As their concluding observations, participating members:

(a) Welcomed the participation in the Caribbean regional seminar of the representative of British Virgin Islands, and the information provided as well as the participation of experts and civil society representatives, who shared their views on the process of decolonization in the Caribbean region, in particular on the application of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), and the resolutions and decisions adopted by the Committee on all Caribbean Non-Self-Governing Territories, and the colonial situation in Puerto Rico;

With regard to the situation in the British Virgin Islands:

(b) Noted the information furnished by its representative that while the Territory's relationship with the administering Power is stable and not problematic, it can be enhanced. The representative also suggested that the Special Committee should set specific goals that are achievable on a case-by-case basis, in order to further advance the decolonization process in all the Territories;

With regard to the situation in Puerto Rico:

(c) Took note of the statement made by the representative of the Colegio de Abogados de Puerto Rico, which noted that since the adoption of resolution 748 (VIII), Puerto Rico has held four consultations on its political status, and that education under the direction of the United Nations should be a precondition to any exercise of self-determination;

(d) Noted the view, expressed by the representative of the Colegio de Abogados de Puerto Rico that "the deficiencies observed in past plebiscitary processes do not promote a true exercise of self-determination in accordance with international law and are manifestations of the administering Power's unwillingness to guarantee the Puerto Rican people access to the right of self-determination. The recognition of the people of Puerto Rico as a nation should be the starting point of any consultation. To that end, all necessary procedural steps should be taken to ensure that the future political status of Puerto Rico is chosen by its own people".

C. Implementation of the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: first quarter review of developments and trends, and assessment of the decolonization process, in the Pacific, including follow-up to the 2012 Pacific regional seminar

28. As their concluding observations, participating members:

With regard to the situation in Guam:

(a) Noted the statement made by the representative of the Governor presenting an update on Guam's efforts towards decolonization over the past year;

(b) Noted with appreciation the engagement of the Guam Commission on Decolonization in reinforcing the public awareness, finding creative ways to raise money for the education programme and completing the arduous task of formatting the three position papers of the Task Force so that they are easy to compare, contrast and understand by voters;

(c) Noted the proposal made that the Electoral Assistance Division of the Department of Political Affairs begin to supply information on the political status options;

(d) Expressed concern over the Federal mandates imposed by the United States Congress on Guam, which had no representation at the time these mandates were discussed and decided upon;

(e) Stressed again the need for continued close monitoring of the situation in the Territory, especially in relation to the funding needs of the public education programme on options for self-determination;

With regard to the situation in French Polynesia:

(f) Recognized the importance of the Territory's reinscription as a positive means providing a framework for the peaceful progress of the Territory to self-determination;

(g) Requested France's cooperation in preparing the Territory for a free and genuine act of self-determination in accordance with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations and with United Nations principles and practices;

With regard to the situation in New Caledonia:

(h) Took note of the information presented to the Committee that preparations for the referendum on self-determination to be held between 2014 and 2018 are currently under way through the completion and review of the electoral rolls constituting the special electorates;

(i) Expressed concern over the problems encountered recently in the electoral review process, stemming from issues with the interpretation of the relevant texts, procedural flaws and lack of training;

(j) Noting the concern expressed by the expert from New Caledonia, reaffirmed General Assembly resolution [67/125](#), which inter alia stated "that, in the absence of a decision by the General Assembly itself that a Non-Self-Governing Territory has attained a full measure of self-government in terms of Chapter XI of the Charter of the United Nations, the administering Power concerned should continue to transmit information under Article 73 *e* of the Charter with respect to that Territory";

(k) Reiterated the call to all the parties involved, in the interest of all the people of New Caledonia, to maintain, within the framework of the Nouméa Accord, their dialogue in a spirit of harmony;

(l) Stressed the need for continued close monitoring by the United Nations of the situation in the Territory in the final phase of the Nouméa Accord;

With regard to the situation in Tokelau:

(m) Expressed their appreciation for the statement made by the Ulu-o-Tokelau and the positive cooperation with the administering Power;

(n) Noted Tokelau's substantial degree of autonomy in the management of its own affairs and the view expressed by the Ulu on its resolve that, for the time being, self-determination considerations must take second place to pressing infrastructure and development needs;

(o) Encouraged the Territory and the administering Power to continue their close cooperation based on the Joint Commitment for Development plan 2011-2015, which would focus on a viable transportation arrangement, infrastructure development, human resources capacity and the strengthening of governance;

(p) Noted Tokelau's desire to be able to gain access to resources from international organizations such as the Global Environment Facility, the Alliance of Small Islands States (AOSIS) and the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA).

D. Implementation of the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: first quarter review of developments and trends, and assessment of the decolonization process in the other regions, including follow-up to the 2012 Pacific regional seminar

29. As their concluding observations, participating members:

With regard to the situation in Western Sahara:

(a) Recalled the mandate of the Special Committee towards self-determination for the people of Western Sahara, and reaffirmed all relevant General Assembly resolutions, including resolution 67/129, and supported Security Council resolutions 1754 (2007), 1783 (2007), 1813 (2008), 1871 (2009), 1920 (2010), 1979 (2011), 2044 (2012) and 2099 (2013) and the commitment of the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy for Western Sahara to finding a solution to the question of Western Sahara in this context. They called on the parties to continue to show political will and work in an atmosphere propitious for dialogue in order to enter into a more intensive and substantive phase of negotiations, thus ensuring implementation of the above-mentioned resolutions and the success of the negotiations. They reiterated the call made at previous regional seminars to the parties to continue such negotiations under the auspices of the Secretary-General without preconditions and in good faith, taking into account efforts made since 2006 and subsequent developments, with a view to achieving a just, lasting and mutually acceptable political solution, that would provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara in the context of arrangements consistent with the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations;

With regard to the situation in Falkland Islands (Malvinas):

(b) Recalled the relevant General Assembly and Special Committee resolutions and decisions on that question, which encouraged the resumption of negotiations between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom with the aim of finding a lasting solution to the sovereignty dispute, taking into account the interests of the population of the Islands, in accordance with the relevant

resolutions of the United Nations and requested the Secretary-General to continue his mission of good offices in compliance with the General Assembly and Special Committee resolutions on that question;

With regard to the situation in Gibraltar:

(c) Noted that, owing to certain difficulties, there have not been meetings of the Forum for Dialogue and acknowledged that Spain has proposed a new regional cooperation framework in which different topics are addressed by the competent authorities.

E. Role of the United Nations system in providing assistance to the Non-Self-Governing Territories

30. As their concluding observations, participating members:

(a) Encouraged the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, and other organizations of the United Nations system to intensify their engagement with the work of the Special Committee, including participation at the forthcoming regional seminars on decolonization, upon the invitation of the Special Committee;

(b) Supported the role of United Nations regional commissions in enhancing and expanding the involvement of Non-Self-Governing Territories in their activities as associate members, in particular the Caribbean Development Cooperation Committee of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in accordance with their mandates and the relevant United Nations resolutions on decolonization.

F. Suggestions and proposals for the Third Decade

31. As their concluding observations, participating members:

(a) Reaffirmed that all peoples have the right to self-determination, and by virtue of that right to freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development;

(b) Also reaffirmed that any attempt aimed at the partial or total disruption of the national unity and the territorial integrity of a country is incompatible with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

(c) Reconfirmed that the United Nations had a valid ongoing role in the process of decolonization, that the mandate of the Special Committee was a major programme of the Organization, and that United Nations support should be provided until all outstanding decolonization issues and related follow-up matters have been resolved in a satisfactory manner in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions;

(d) Reaffirmed the role of the Special Committee as the primary vehicle for fostering the process of decolonization as well as for monitoring the situation in the Territories;

(e) Underlined the importance for the Special Committee to develop a proactive and focused approach, in fulfillment of the goal of decolonization vis-à-vis the Non-Self-Governing Territories on the United Nations list. The Special Committee needed to continue to approach each case with an open mind, to build on the available options and to bring about more dynamism in the decolonization process in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions;

(f) In view of the contribution of various regional organizations and regional arrangements to the capacity-building of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, advised that their effective participation in relevant regional organizations and regional arrangements needed to be facilitated, in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions and through the appropriate mechanisms, along with the strengthening of concrete regional functional cooperation in various areas, such as governance, natural disaster preparedness, climate change and community empowerment;

(g) Also in view of the important role of regional organizations and regional arrangements in providing assistance to the relevant Non-Self-Governing Territories in support of the process of decolonization, suggested that the Special Committee, in accordance with its mandate and the relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions, strengthen its interactions and collaboration with relevant regional and subregional organizations;

(h) On the issue of public outreach to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories on decolonization issues, advised the Special Committee, in collaboration with the Department of Public Information, actively to engage and seek new and innovative ways to promote a public awareness campaign aimed at fostering an understanding among the people of the Territories of the options for self-determination in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions on decolonization, including to complement their ongoing efforts and ensure that the information provided effectively reaches the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

(i) On the issue of education, suggested that the relevant territorial Governments and the administering Powers consider incorporating decolonization issues into the school curriculum of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

(j) On the status-related and/or constitutional review exercises and the overall process of decolonization, stressed that such processes should be approached on a case-by-case basis and in a way that is respectful of human rights, transparent, accountable, inclusive and participatory, with the involvement of the people concerned, in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions on decolonization and the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

(k) On the relationship with administering Powers, advised that interactions and cooperation between the Special Committee and the administering Powers should continue to be nurtured and strengthened through various possible platforms and means, including informal, working-level dialogue, and reaffirmed that all

administering Powers, particularly those which have not done so, needed to engage effectively with the Special Committee;

(l) In this connection, underlined the crucial importance of enhancing communication and cooperation between the Special Committee and the administering Powers, and urged the Special Committee to explore and seek possible concerted interaction in that regard, in formal and informal settings, with a view to make progress in decolonization during the Third Decade, on a case-by-case basis;

(m) In addition, underlined the crucial importance of enhancing relations between the Special Committee and civil society in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, particularly in the information and education areas in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions;

(n) In view of the valuable contribution of the representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the seminar, reiterated that the Special Committee, through the proper mechanism and with the assistance of the Secretariat, should continue to work towards full participation of the representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in future seminars. The administering Powers should facilitate the participation of the elected representatives of the Territories in the seminars in conformity with the relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations;

(o) Underlined the importance of enhancing relations between the Non-Self-Governing Territories, particularly in sharing information about their territories, in this regard took note of the proposal made by a representative of the Non-Self-Governing Territory on the creation of a network among the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

(p) In this connection, the Special Committee should continue to retool its methods of work and hone its capacity to conduct the seminars in an innovative manner to ensure a higher degree of United Nations-funded participation of its members in the regional seminars in order to allow the Committee to better hear the views of the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions on decolonization;

(q) On the role of the United Nations system in providing assistance to the Non-Self-Governing Territories, stressed that the relevant United Nations bodies and specialized agencies needed to engage with the work of the Special Committee and strengthen their efforts, in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions and through the appropriate mechanism, in providing assistance to the Non-Self-Governing Territories; in that regard, the Special Committee needed to develop ways and means to encourage the participation of those agencies and bodies;

(r) Advised the Special Committee that it needed to develop ways and means through which it could make a better assessment, on a case-by-case basis, of the current stage of decolonization and self-determination in each Non-Self-Governing Territory in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations, which could serve as a checklist of the progress achieved and things to be done, and, in that connection, invited the Special Committee to consider the suggestion to develop a specific project proposal such as the holding of an informal, working-level dialogue with the administering Powers;

(s) Reiterated that the Special Committee needed to continue working towards sending visiting missions to the Non-Self-Governing Territories, with the involvement of the relevant territorial Government and administering Power, on a case-by-case basis, and in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions, and, in that regard, noted the interest expressed at the seminar by representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in such visiting and special missions;

(t) Reaffirmed that the process of decolonization was incomplete until all the outstanding decolonization issues and related follow-up matters were resolved in a satisfactory manner in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions;

(u) Within the context of calls for a Third Decade, the Special Committee should continue to take stock of current challenges and opportunities for the decolonization process and draw up a pragmatic plan of action for the Third Decade with a view to advancing the decolonization process.

Appendix I

Message of the Secretary-General to the Caribbean regional seminar on implementation of the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: first quarter review of developments and trends

I am happy to greet the participants in this Caribbean regional seminar on decolonization.

I thank the Government and people of Ecuador for again hosting this important seminar, which is being held in the context of the United Nations Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism.

This year, you have gathered to review recent developments as well as trends that are likely to influence developments in the upcoming period.

First and foremost, you will focus on the Special Committee's role in advancing the United Nations decolonization process.

Enhanced dialogue and communication among the Special Committee, the elected representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and the administering Powers are essential.

When I addressed the Special Committee in February, I suggested that it identify possibilities for change and promote priorities for decolonization.

Your gathering in Quito is designed to facilitate informal exchanges and brainstorming to help the Committee to accomplish this important task at its substantive session less than a fortnight away.

I encourage you to use this seminar to show how statements of principle can be transferred into action. Let us build on the many successes of decolonization. Let us also retool and rejuvenate our methods of work and become true "enablers" of the decolonization process.

Please accept my best wishes for a productive seminar.

Appendix II

List of Participants

Members of the Special Committee

Ecuador (Chair)	Diego Morejón ^a Helena Yáñez Alexandra Haro José Eduardo Proaño ^a
Chile	José Antonio Cousiño
China	Zhang Tao
Cuba	Oscar León González ^a
Fiji	Namita Khatri ^a
Russian Federation	Anna M. Evstigneeva ^a
Sierra Leone	Franklyn Brima Fawundu ^a
United Republic of Tanzania	Maura Mwingira ^a

States Members of the United Nations

Algeria	Idris Latreche
Argentina	Gerardo Díaz Bartolome Daniela Beatriz Jaite
Brazil	Cristina Vieira Machado Alexandre
Mexico	Bárbara Magaña
Morocco	Abderrahman Leibek Khaddad El Moussaoui
Peru	Elmo Vargas Chacon
Spain	Francisca M. Pedrós-Carretero

Administering Powers

New Zealand (observer)	Peter Wright
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (observer)	Joanne Neenan
United States of America (observer)	William Mozdierz

Specialized agencies

United Nations Development Programme	Diego Zorrilla
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^a Member of the official delegation of the Special Committee.

Non-Self-Governing Territories

British Virgin Islands

Kedrick D. Pickering

Falkland Islands (Malvinas)^b

Michael Victor Summers

Gibraltar

Joseph J. Bossano

Albert A. Poggio

Guam

Edward A. Alvarez

Tokelau

Salesio Lui

Jovilisi V. Suveinakama

Turks and Caicos

Sean Astwood

Western Sahara

Ahmed Boukhari

Non-governmental organizationsColegio de Abogados de Puerto Rico
(Puerto Rico)

Wilma E. Reveron-Collazo

Nasion Chamoru/The Chamorro

Michael Lujan Bevacqua

Information Activists and Famoksaiyan
(Guam)**Experts**

Alejandro Betts (Argentina)

Sergei Cherniavsky (Ukraine)

Peter Clegg (United Kingdom)

Richard Ariihau Tuheiava (French Polynesia)

^b 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).

Appendix III

Resolution expressing appreciation to the Government and the people of Ecuador

The participants in the Caribbean regional seminar,

Having met from 28 to 30 May 2013, in Quito, to consider the challenges and opportunities in the process of decolonization in today's world,

Having heard an important statement by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Trade and Integration of Ecuador,

Taking note of the important statements by the representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Express their profound gratitude to the Government and people of Ecuador for providing the Special Committee with the necessary facilities for its seminar, for the outstanding contribution they have made to the success of the seminar and, in particular, for the very generous and kind hospitality and the warm and cordial reception accorded to the participants throughout their stay in Ecuador.

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