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Pacific regional seminar on the implementation of the Fourth International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: pathways to a sustainable future – advancing socioeconomic and cultural development of the Non-Self-Governing Territories

Palm Springs Hotel, Timor-Leste 21 - 23 May 2025

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME OF WORK

Tuesday, 20 May

15:00 – 18:00 Registration (Palm Springs Hotel, Lobby)

Wednesday, 21 May

8:30 – 9:30 Continuation of registration at the Lobby of

the Palm Springs Hotel

OPENING

10:00 - 10:30

Opening of the seminar by the Chair of the Special Committee, Permanent Representative of Saint Lucia to the United Nations, H.E. Ms. Menissa Rambally

Message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations, H.E. Mr. António Guterres

Statement by the President of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, H.E. Mr. José Ramos-Horta

Official Group Photo

10:30 – 10:45 Coffee break

FIRST MEETING

10:45 - 11:00

Organization of the Seminar:

- Agenda of the Seminar
- Officers of the Seminar
- Programme of work

11:00 – 12:15 Role of the Special Committee:

- (a) Advancing socioeconomic and cultural development of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;
- (b) Strengthening cooperation with the administering Powers and relevant stakeholders.

(agenda item 1 (a) and (b)).

- Chair of the Special Committee

Discussion

12:15 - 13:00

Perspectives of the administering Powers, the Non-Self-Governing Territories and other stakeholders:

Political developments in the Non-Self-Governing Territories: In the Pacific region

(agenda item 2 (a) (i)).

- Mareva Lechat-Kitalong (French Polynesia)
- Melvin Won Pat-Borja (Guam)
- Alcide Ponga (New Caledonia)
- Carlyle Corbin, expert

Discussion

13:00 - 15:00

Lunch break

SECOND MEETING

15:00 - 16:30

Perspectives of the administering Powers, the Non-Self-Governing Territories and other stakeholders:

Political developments in the Non-Self-Governing Territories: In the Pacific region

(agenda item 2 (a) (i) - continued).

Discussion

16:30 - 16:45

Coffee break

16:45 - 18:00

Perspectives of the administering Powers, the Non-Self-Governing Territories and other stakeholders: Political developments in the Non-Self-Governing Territories: In the Caribbean region

(agenda item 2 (a) (ii)).

- Eliezer Benito Wheatley (British Virgin Islands)
- Tregenza A. Roach (United States Virgin Islands)

Discussion

Thursday, 22 May

THIRD MEETING

10:00 - 11:15

Perspectives of the administering Powers, the Non-Self-Governing Territories and other stakeholders: Political developments in the Non-Self-Governing Territories: In other regions

(agenda item 2 (a) (iii)).

- Teslyn Barkman (Falkland Islands (Malvinas))*
- Joseph Bossano (Gibraltar)
- Sidi Mohamed Omar (Frente POLISARIO) (Western Sahara)
- Ghalla Bahiya (Western Sahara)

Discussion

11:15 - 11:30 Coffee break

11:30 - 13:00

Perspectives of the administering Powers, the Non-Self-Governing Territories and other stakeholders:

 Building a sustainable future in the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

(agenda item 2 (b)).

Discussion

13:00 - 15:00 Lunch break

^{*} 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).

FOURTH MEETING

15:00 - 16:00

Role of the United Nations system in supporting the Non-Self-Governing Territories, in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions

(agenda item 3).

- Resident Coordinator Timor-Leste a.i.
- the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)

Discussion

16:00 - 16:15 Coffee break

16:15 – 18:00 Recommendations for action and for practical and achievable results

(agenda item 4).

Discussion

Friday, 23 May

10:00 – 11:00 Informal consultations on Seminar's conclusions and recommendations

[Closed] - Attendance limited to C-24 members

FIFTH MEETING

- Adoption of the resolution on expression of appreciation to the Government and people of Timor-Leste

 11:20 11:30

 Adoption of the draft report of the Seminar

 11:30 12:00

 Closing statements
 - Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste
 - Chair of the Special Committee

- Welcome Dinner hosted by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Timor-Leste on 21 May (19:00-22:00)
- Visit to the National Museum on 23 May (approx. 14:45-15:45 h)
- Quick tour to the Statue of "Cristo Rei" on 23 May (approx. 16:00-16:30 h)
- Depart to Tibar's Port in Tibar (approx. 16:40 h)
- Quick tour in Tibar's Port (approx. 17:00 h)
- Visit to Lauhata Beach in Liquiça: Dinner will be served during this event. There will also be Traditional Dances and Musical Performance during the event. (approx. 18:00 h)