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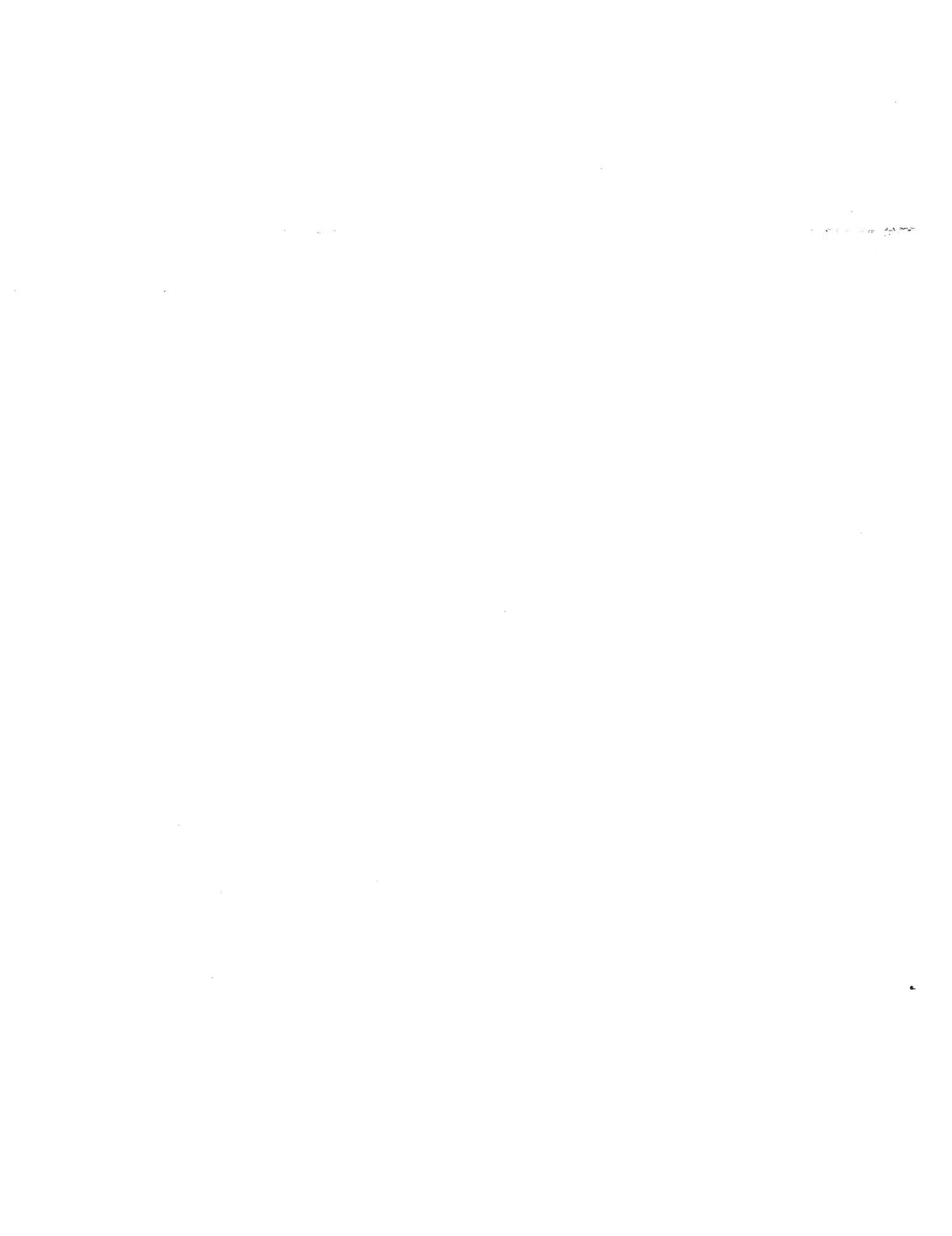
FOURTH INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR THE ERADICATION OF COLONIALISM

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

**Dili, Timor-Leste
21 to 23 May 2025**

STATEMENT BY THE REPRESENTATIVE OF

SAINT LUCIA



STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF SAINT LUCIA

ON

FALKLAND ISLANDS (MALVINAS) AND WESTERN SAHARA

Chair,

On the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas), I wish to take this opportunity to reiterate that Saint Lucia supports the holding of dialogue between Argentina and the United Kingdom, with the aim of resuming negotiations to achieve a peaceful solution in accordance with Resolution 31/49. Moreover, it is to be recalled that Resolution 2065 encourages negotiations for a just solution in the interests of the people.

Saint Lucia maintains very good relations with both Argentina and the United Kingdom and it is for this reason that to make progress on this issue, we encourage the Parties to resume negotiations in accordance with the relevant resolutions and the principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

Chair,

On the question of Western Sahara, I wish to express once again my delegation's support for the UN Secretary General's efforts to facilitate the ongoing political process and in this regard, we welcome and support the efforts undertaken by Mr. Staffan De Mistura, Personal Envoy of the UN Secretary General.

My delegation reiterates that dialogue must be part of the equation in addressing this issue. It is in this spirit that my delegation encourages Morocco, Algeria, Mauritania and Polisario to remain engaged in the political process, in order to reach a realistic, practicable, lasting political solution based on compromise to the regional dispute. Furthermore, we encourage the resumption of the roundtable process to be undertaken in a similar format as had been done prior.

My delegation also welcomes the momentum garnered in support of the Moroccan Autonomy Initiative, which is supported by more than 100 countries. In that connection, we

encourage the parties to build upon it to achieve a just, lasting, and mutually acceptable political solution as called for by the Security Council in its resolution 2756.

Furthermore, my delegation welcomes Morocco's efforts as it relates to the cease-fire, and their full and continued cooperation with MINURSO. We therefore encourage the Polisario to return to the ceasefire and avoid any acts that may jeopardize the political process, as called for by the UN Security Council resolution 2756.

Additionally, it is worth underscoring the importance of the security and stability of the region, as well as MINURSO's ability to implement its ceasefire supervision mandate, in optimal conditions.

Chair,

Saint Lucia remains committed to the pursuit of the mandate of our Committee including the evaluation of the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, on a case-by-case basis as is observed in the regional seminars. We therefore reiterate the importance of dialogue as a key element in finding solutions to any regional dispute.

Thank you.