

**Distr. RESTRICTED**  
**PRS/2023/CRP.47**  
**ORIGINAL: ENGLISH**

**FOURTH INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR THE ERADICATION OF COLONIALISM**

**Pacific regional seminar on the implementation of the Fourth International  
Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism:  
innovative steps to ensure the attainment of the Sustainable Development  
Goals in the Non-Self-Governing Territories**

**Bali, Indonesia**  
**24 to 26 May 2023**

**STATEMENT BY THE REPRESENTATIVE**  
**OF BELIZE**

### Intervention on BVI

Madam Chair, congratulations on your election to the chair of the C24. I thank you for hosting last year's successful seminar in St Lucia.

I thank the Government and people of the Republic of Indonesia for hosting this year's seminar. I note that Bali has not lost any of the warmth and hospitality it demonstrated when I was last here in 2007 for COP 13.

I thank the Special Envoy of the British Virgin Islands for its update on the developments since we last met in Saint Lucia last year and congratulate the people of the BVI for its successfully conducting its elections on April 24<sup>th</sup>. Belize fully supports the call for the UK's order to be lifted. The Caribbean is presently struggling with the impacts of climate change and the challenge of the upcoming hurricane season. The people of the BVI do not need another challenge hanging over their heads.

Belize's transition from self-government to full independence took a little over 20 years. It was through the support of the UN and this body that over aspirations were fulfilled.

Belize fully supports the call for a C24 mission to the British Virgin Islands. I regret that I did not hear the other 3 proposals the distinguished Special Envoy would deliver. However, I look forward to receiving and reading the submission.

Thank you.