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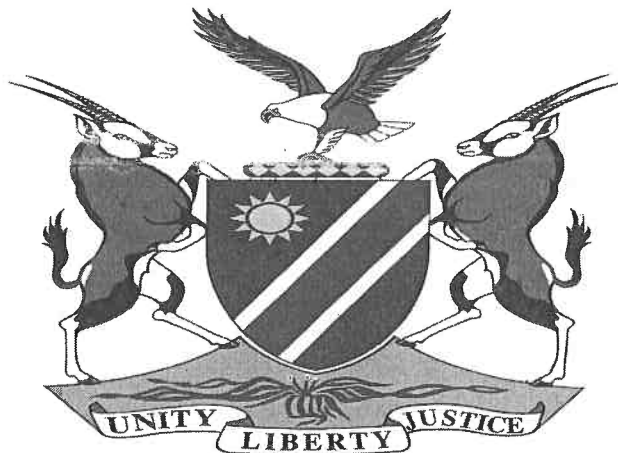
**FOURTH INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR THE ERADICATION OF COLONIALISM**

**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  
NAMIBIA**





**STATEMENT**

**BY**

**H.E MR. PULE DIAMONDS**

**AMBASSADOR OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA TO TIMOR-LESTE**

**AT THE**

**PACIFIC REGIONAL SEMINAR ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FOURTH  
INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR THE ERADICATION OF COLONIALISM HELD  
UNDER THE THEME: "PATHWAYS TO A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE – ADVANCING  
SOCIOECONOMIC AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE NON-SELF-GOVERNING  
TERRITORIES"**

**21-23 MAY 2023**

**DILI, TIMOR LESTE**

Madam Chairperson,

1. **From the onset I wish to thank you for your continued able stewardship of this Special Committee and assure you of my delegation's full support and cooperation.**
2. **I equally wish to extend my delegation's gratitude to the Government of Timor-Leste for their generous offer to host this seminar and for the warm hospitality extended to us since our arrival in Dili.**

**Madam Chair,**

3. **The agenda of the United Nations continues to prioritise the sustainable development agenda, alongside efforts to foster peace and security and advance human rights. As we reflect on the theme of this seminar "Pathways to a sustainable future – advancing socioeconomic and cultural development of the Non-Self-Governing Territories " we are reminded that the quest to leave no one behind applies equally, everywhere, including to the people who find**

**themselves in the 17 Non Self Governing Territories (NGSTs).**

**Madam Chair,**

- 4. Historically, Namibia has a strong connection with the Special Decolonisation Committee, a connection grounded in a time that the Committee played an integral role in legitimizing and amplifying the Namibian People's right to self-determination and independence. It is for this reason that Namibia continues to attach high importance to the work of this Committee, most especially in the 4<sup>th</sup> decade of the Eradication of Colonialism, extending our solidarity to countries and peoples who remain under occupation and colonial subjugation. Since our removal from the list of NGST's in 1990, only four other countries were delisted. The last of them being Timor-Leste in 2002. It is therefore historic that we find ourselves in Dili today to continue to do for others what was done for us.**

5. This year marks 80 years since the formation of the United Nations and 80 years since the adoption of the United Nations Charter. In September last year, world leaders adopted the Pact for the Future, clearly reaffirming their “unwavering commitment to act in accordance with international law, including the Charter of the United Nations and its purposes and principles”.
6. Enshrined in the Charter is the inalienable right to self-determination. A right that underpins the freedoms and liberties for the full enjoyment of human, economic, civil and political rights. These are rights that sadly are not fully across the world and most especially not in non-self governing territories.

**Madam Chair,**

7. On the African continent, we continue to see, in violation of international law, the continued occupation of Western Sahara. This remains a decolonisation issue of primary interest to Namibia and Namibia reiterates her longstanding solidarity and support for the inalienable right of the people of Western Sahara to self-determination and

**independence in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and its principles.**

**8. The mandate of this Special Committee on Decolonisation is to ensure the finalization of the process of decolonisation, with impetus given by the decades to eradicate colonialism in fulfilment of the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples which prioritizes the need to bring to a speedy and unconditional end, colonialism in all its forms and manifestations.**

**9. The Question of Western Sahara has been on the agenda of the Security Council for 50 years and it is for this reason that Namibia calls for a scale up in efforts to facilitate a just and lasting political solution. Namibia will continue to advocate for efforts to meaningfully break down barriers and remove impediments to negotiations.**

**10. Namibia ascribes to the principle that there is a "passionate yearning for freedom in all dependent peoples and the decisive role of such peoples in the attainment of their independence". For this reason, Madam Chair, we continue to dream of a world where**

**colonialism in all its manifestations and vestiges is relegated and this is the basis upon which we chart forward in a common future, aware of the common responsibility we have to one another, in keeping with our aspirations for harmonious co-existence in a world where we leave no one behind.**

**I thank you.**