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**STATEMENT BY THE DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA**

H.E. AMBASSADOR INA H. KRISNAMURTHI

**At the Pacific Regional Seminar On The Implementation Of The Third
International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: towards the
achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in the Non-Self-Governing
Territories: social, economic and environmental challenges**

Saint George's, Grenada, 9 May 2018

**Mr. Chairman,
Excellencies,
Distinguished colleagues,**

It is a great pleasure for the delegation of Indonesia to be here in St. George's, Grenada, for this very important meeting of the Special Committee this week. I would like to begin by thanking the Government and the people of Grenada, especially Ambassador McGuire and her team, for graciously taking on the task of hosting this meeting.

Before I go forward, I wish to express our deep appreciation to Ambassador Walton Alfonso Webson (or as we dearly call Aubrey), the Chairman of the Special Committee, members of the C-24 Bureau, the Secretariat of C-24, the Decolonization Unit and all those who contributed to the preparation of this seminar.

The theme of this regional seminar: **towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in the Non-Self-Governing Territories: social, economic and environmental challenges**, is of tremendous interest to my delegation.

It is our hope that all stakeholders, including Member States, the representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories (NSGTs) present with us, as well as relevant UN agencies, will give constructive inputs and make concrete positive contributions so that we can assemble the best ideas, proposals, and recommendation on this subject, as well as for the future works of the Committee.

For us in Indonesia, the motivating objective is the principle of leaving no one behind. This means that as we continue to make efforts to move forward on the political track, we should also make the necessary efforts on the development track, which involves economic, social and environmental matters. The same spirit goes to those living in the 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories.

In this regard, we believe that it is essential to put in place, mechanisms that will enable the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), so that economic development is not held hostage to the failure to make political progress, even as we seek to make such progress according to the established case-by-case procedures and practices, within the framework of the Special Committee's mandates.

Mr. Chairman,

As the Special Committee continues to make progress in advancing the decolonization agenda, and as we approach the end of the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, we believe that it is important now to think of the SDGs in parallel with decolonization itself. To this end, we restate the need for collaboration and cooperation on the part of all stakeholders.

In this connection, we urge the enthusiasm of the administering Powers, recognizing that their lead is the surest road to success.

Mr. Chairman,

Through its persistent works, the Special Committee has indeed shown tireless efforts and provided valuable contribution in supporting the decolonization process. Considering all sensitivity and political dynamics to territories listed, the works are not the easy ones.

The Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, which is drawing closer to its end, clearly stipulates the fulfillment of the objective of eradicating decolonization as part of the mandate of the Committee. Our common endeavors, which evidently require constructive engagement, sustained efforts, and political will, should be further strengthened. Moreover, it is important to underline that all efforts taken should be in accordance with the UN Charter and relevant UN resolutions. And this Special Committee has been working with the spirit of consensus, something that we should continue to hold dear.

Mr. Chairman,

The Committee needs to continue its rigorous efforts in pursuing the Committee's mandates. My delegation welcomes all efforts taken so far, including the recent Visiting Mission to New Caledonia last March in which my delegation is actively participating, as the follow up of the previous mission in 2014. Moreover, consultations with the Administering Powers are something we need to continue reinforcing.

With regard to this Seminar, my delegation continues to encourage the discussion of the theme, on possible measures in a pragmatic and realistic manner, on a case-by-case basis, in accordance with prevailing rules of procedures and established practices.

The latest information and development in the Non-Self-Governing Territories should be carefully and comprehensively observed and we believe this Seminar will serve as the ideal avenues for that. Only with that, the Committee can conduct a careful, balanced, and thorough assessment of the particular condition and situation in each of the seventeen Non-Self-Governing Territories.

Mr. Chairman,

Allow me to highlight the importance of constructive engagement with the administering Powers and the relevant stakeholders. Needless to say that mutual understanding and consent between the Special Committee and the Administering Powers is a prerequisite to take further steps. We can move the process along through consultation process as well as intensified communication with relevant parties.

Finally, **Mr. Chairman**, rest assure that my delegation will keep its unremitting support to this Special Committee and I would like to reiterate Indonesia's commitment to continue its contributions to the works of the Committee.

Look forward to an enlightened and fruitful discussion during the course of our Seminar here in Grenada.

I thank you.