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Distr. RESTRICTED
PRS/201 O/CRP.l 5

ORIGINAL: English

SECOND INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR THE ERADICATION OF COLONIALISM 

Pacific regional seminar on the Implementation of the Second International Decade for  the Eradication of Colonialism: assessment of decolonization process in today's world 

Noumea, New Caledonia
18 to 20 May 2010

STATEMENT 

BY 

Mr. Hery Saripudin 

(Representative of Indonesia) 

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STATEMENT BY 
THE DELEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA 

at the 
Pacific Regional Seminar on the Implementation of the Second 
International Decade for the Eradication of the Colonialism  Noumea, New Caledonia 
18-20 May 2010 

Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, my delegation would like to extend its sincere gratitude to the government and the people of New Caledonia for their kindness and hospitality since the first day we arrived at this beautiful city, Noumea. The relationship between Indonesia and New Caledonia can be traced back to the year 1896 when the first group of Indonesian countrymen were brought in by the colonial rulers to work as nickel mining labors here. Now they regard this land, the land in which they live, they work and they die for, as their homeland.

I would also like to extend our appreciation to the government of New Caledonia for hosting this important Regional Seminar this year, marking the closure of the second international decade for the eradication of the colonialism.

Indonesian delegation also wishes to commend the Chairman for being able in navigating the seminar to such a productive and successful one. In addition, allow me also to congratulate the Secretariat of thme

Having participated attentively and learned thoroughly some recommendations raised during the deliberation, Indonesia would like to reiterate three pOints on how we should take way forward in advancing the self-determination and decolonization process.

First, Given that the Second International Decade for the eradication of colonialism, as declared by the GA Resolution No. 55/146 adopted on 8 December 2000, comes to a closure at the end of this year and the remaining 16 Non-Self-Governing Territories are still not yet delisted, the promotion of self-determination process should be further intensified. In this regard, Indonesia fully supports the idea to have a Third International Decade for Self-determination process, which is a "decade of more work", and not a "decade of continuing talk", as our Chairman wisely and properly suggested at the beginning of our seminar.

In doing so, the time frame for having comprehensive, pragmatic and realistic self-determination process and option of the remaining NSGTs should be considered, taking into account the specific circumstances of each NSGTs.

Conscious of the three self-determination options available to NSGTs, as stipulated in GA resolution 1514 (XV) of 15 December 1960, namely: sovereign independent state, free association with an independent state, or integration with an independent state, we have to be very clear that whatever choice of self-determination process taken should be the manifestation of the political will of the peoples of the respective territories. And they should have the capability to self govern effectively.

Second, since the process of self-determination and decolonization should involve actively the people of the territories, we strongly support the initiatives of promoting education and public outreach programs to enable the people in the territories concerned to make an informed decision regarding their own future final political
status.

In addition, we should also not neglect the social and economic welfare as well as the personal dignity of the people of the territories. Therefore, the specific social economic and development programs should also be promoted and enhanced

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transparent and constructive ways. It is now the task of the member states of the Special Committee to formulate the conclusion and recommendation reflecting the
rich and constructive ideas and initiatives raised in the discussion.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, we underline the commitment of Indonesia to continue to uphold the central role of the Special Committee in the United Nations decolonization process. Indonesia will continue to work closely with the Committee to fulfill its mandate.

We encourage all member states of the United Nations, particularly the administering powers, as well as the specialized agencies and other institutions within the United Nations system, to lend their full support to the work of the Special Committee.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.