





12. Also at the same meeting, the Chief of the Disarmament and Peace Affairs Branch, Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of the United Nations Secretariat, read out a message from the Secretary-General (see appendix I).

## **B. Statements and discussion<sup>b</sup>**

13. At the 1st meeting, on 30 May, the Chair made a statement. The representatives of Gibraltar, the Falkland Islands (Malvinas),<sup>c</sup> the Frente Popular para la Liberación de Saguía el-Hamra y de Río de Oro (Frente Polisario) and Morocco made statements.

14. At the same meeting, the seminar heard statements by the representatives of American Samoa and Guam and presentations by two experts, Edward Wolfers







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a partnership with the administering Power where all interests are respected and considered;

(j) With regard to New Caledonia, took note of the information provided by the representative of the Agence kanak de développement highlighting the importance of the approaching referenda provided for by the Nouméa Accord, and the need for education in human rights through community-based training programmes enabling people to fully participate in the self-determination consultations.

### **C. Current realities and prospects concerning the Non-Self-Governing**

(g) Welcomed the Territory's membership in the Caribbean Overseas Countries and Territories Council, where it plays an important role chairing two working groups on small and medium enterprise development and sustainable leadership in the Caribbean;

(h) With regard to Montserrat, took note of the statement of the Premier of Montserrat that the current relationship with the administering Power was one made by free choice and the Territory should be removed



population of the Islands, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

(c) With regard to the question of Gibraltar, noted that, owing to certain difficulties, there were no meetings of the Forum for Dialogue in 2011.

## **E. Role of the United Nations system in providing assistance to the Non-Self-Governing Territories**

32. As their concluding observations, participating members:

(a) Encouraged the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, and other organizations of the United Nations system to intensify their engagement with the work of the Special Committee, including participation at the forthcoming regional seminars on decolonization, upon the invitation of the Special Committee;

(b) Supported the role of United Nations regional commissions in enhancing and expanding the involvement of Non-Self-Governing Territories in their activities as associate members, in particular the Caribbean Development Cooperation Committee of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in accordance with their mandates and the relevant United Nations resolutions on decolonization.

## **F. Suggestions and proposals for the Third Decade**

33. As their recommendations, participating members:

(a) Reaffirmed that all peoples have the right to self-determination, and by virtue of that right to freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development;

(b) Also reaffirmed that any attempt aimed at the partial or total disruption of the national unity and the territorial integrity of a country is incompatible with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

(c) Reconfirmed that the United Nations had a valid ongoing role in the process of decolonization, that the mandate of the Special Committee was a major programme of the Organization, and that United Nations support should be provided until all outstanding decolonization issues and related follow-up matters have been resolved in a satisfactory manner in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions;

(d) Reaffirmed the role of the Special Committee as the primary vehicle for fostering the process of decolonization as well as for monitoring the situation in the Territories;

(e) Underlined the importance for the Special Committee to develop a proactive and focused approach, in fulfilment of the goal of decolonization vis-à-vis the Non-Self-Governing Territories on the United Nations list. The Special

Committee needed to continue to approach each case with an open mind, to build on the available options and to bring about more dynamism in the decolonization process in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions;

(f) In view of the contribution of various regional organizations and regional arrangements to the capacity-building of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, advised that their effective participation in relevant regional organizations and regional arrangements needed to be facilitated, in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions and through the appropriate mechanisms, along with the strengthening of concrete regional functional cooperation in various areas, such as



(u) Within the context of calls for a Third Decade, the Special Committee should continue to take stock of current challenges and opportunities for the decolonization process and draw up a pragmatic plan of action for the Third Decade with a view to advancing the decolonization process.

## Appendix I

### **Message of the Secretary-General to the Pacific regional seminar on implementation of the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: current realities and prospects**

I am pleased to greet the participants in the 2012 Pacific regional seminar on decolonization held in the context of the United Nations Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism.

I thank the Government and people of Ecuador for hosting this important event.

## Appendix II

### List of participants

#### Members of the Special Committee

Chair	Diego Morejón (Ecuador) <sup>a</sup>
Chile	José Antonio Cousiño
China	Zhang Tao Sun Youyang
Cuba	Oscar León Gonzalez <sup>a</sup>
Ecuador (host country)	Ricardo Patiño Marco Albuja Mauricio Montalvo Monica Martinez Fernando Luque José Eduardo Proaño
Indonesia	Elleonora Tambunan
Nicaragua	Jaime Hermida Castillo <sup>a</sup>

**Specialized agencies**

United Nations Development Programme	Patricio Jarrin
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**Non-Self-Governing Territories**

American Samoa	Toetasi Fue Tuiteleleapaga
Anguilla	Josephine Gumbs-Connor
Bermuda	Kim Ninette Wilson Judith Hall-Bean
British Virgin Islands	Delores Christopher
Falkland Islands (Malvinas) <sup>b</sup>	Roger Edwards
Gibraltar	Joseph J. Bossano Ernest Gomez
Guam	Lisa Linda Natividad
Montserrat	Reuben Theodore Meade
Western Sahara	Mohamed Yeslem Beisat Deich

**Non-governmental organizations**

Agence Kanak de développement (New Caledonia)	Sarimin Jacques Boengkih
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### Appendix III

#### **Resolution expressing appreciation to the Government and the people of Ecuador**

*The participants in the Pacific regional seminar,*

*Having met* from 30 May to 1 June 2011 in Quito, to assess current realities and prospects of the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,

*Having heard* an important statement by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Trade and Integration of Ecuador,

*Taking note* of the important statements by the representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories,

*Express their profound gratitude* to the Government and the people of Ecuador for providing the Special Committee with the necessary facilities for its seminar, for the outstanding contribution they have made to the success of the seminar and, in particular, for the very generous and kind hospitality and the warm and cordial reception accorded to the participants throughout their stay in Ecuador.