



Republic, Timor-Leste and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). One administering Power, France, participated as an observer. Other Member States participating as observers were Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Belize, the Comoros, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Gabon, the Gambia, Mexico, Morocco, Pakistan, Senegal, South Africa, Spain, Suriname and Zimbabwe.





of Anguilla to host the 2026 regional seminar of the Special Committee.<sup>3</sup> The decision on the venue and timing would be made by the Special Committee.

**A. Implementation of the Fourth International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: pursuing goals and addressing needs of the Non-Self-Governing Territories**

29. In their concluding observations, the participating members of the Special Committee:

(a) Recalled that the period 2021–2030 was proclaimed by the General Assembly as the Fourth International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, assessed the progress achieved, reviewed existing methods of work and garnered renewed momentum with a view to completing the Special Committee’s historic task;

(b) Recognized that the eradication of colonialism was one of the priorities of the United Nations and continued to be one of its priorities for the Fourth International Decade that had begun in 2021, and stressed the need to allocate adequate financial support to the Decolonization Unit of the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs of the Secretariat in order to fully implement the mandates entrusted to it by Member States;

(c) Reaffirmed the role of the Special Committee as the primary vehicle for fostering the process of decolonization and for expediting the implementation of it

the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, the role of regional cooperation, education and public awareness, the role of civil society, the role of women, the empowerment of vulnerable people and the need for capacity-building for full self-governance;

(h) Took into account General Assembly resolution 1803 (XVII) regarding the sovereignty of peoples over their natural wealth and resources, in accordance with the Charter and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

(i) In view of the cross-cutting nature of many of the challenges faced by some Non-Self-Governing Territories in the dynamics of today's interconnected world, underlined the fact that efforts must be made, through the involvement of relevant stakeholders and on a case-by-case basis, for the continued strengthening of administrative capacity, good governance and economic sustainability of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, which would allow the Territories to address the cross-cutting issues in a holistic manner;

(j) Acknowledged that climate change had exposed many of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to even greater environmental and economic vulnerability, and that the ongoing global economic, financial and health crises, in particular the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, had highlighted the importance of the economic sustainability and diversification of the economic base in the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

(k) Recognized the important role played by United Nations agencies, regional organizations and regional arrangements in assisting many Non-Self-Governing Territories in coping with various emerging challenges and making progress towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, and in that regard called upon them to accelerate their engagement with the work of the Special Committee, including through participation in the regional seminars on decolonization, upon the invitation of the Committee and through the regular session of the Committee under the relevant agenda items, and called upon the Special Committee to develop programmes of collaboration with the relevant United Nations bodies pursuant to relevant General Assembly resolutions;

(l) Underlined the fact that education and public awareness, including of the indigenous people, remain crucial elements for decolonization and, in this connection, recalled the responsibility of the administering Powers to ensure that the peoples concerned would be in a position to make an informed decision regarding the future political status of their Territories, in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions and bearing in mind relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, in which the Assembly called upon the administering Powers, in cooperation with the territorial Governments and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territories in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination;

(m) Welcomed calls for joint projects for the enhancement of public education about the nature of the constitutional relationship in some Territories involving the United Nations, the Non-Self-Governing Territories and the administering Powers, in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions;

(n) Stressed the important role of women in the process of decolonization, including in education, poverty eradication and community empowerment;

(o) Recognized the role of and the need for increased dialogue with civil society in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions;



(d) Further noted the town hall meetings held in 2021 to discuss the draft Constitution, the feedback from which had confirmed the desire of the people to improve the level of democratic representation and to have adequate safeguards and protections to ensure good governance and to promote high standards of integrity in public life;

(e) Noted the commitment of Anguillans to formulating a Constitution which would set the path towards the realization of their dreams and aspirations as a free people.

With regard to the situation in the British Virgin Islands,

(a) Welcomed the participation of a representative of the British Virgin Islands in the seminar and expressed their appreciation for the information provided;<sup>6</sup>

(b) Noted the statement made by the representative providing an update on the progress made in the implementation of the reforms following the adoption of a governance reform framework, which in the view of the territorial Government were a vehicle for the Territory to become more self-determined and achieve a full measure of self-government;

(c) Also noted the statement that the Order in Council in reserve, which would suspend the Constitution if triggered, continued to hang over the Territory, pending full implementation of the governance reform framework and that the territorial Government would continue to engage the administering Power on lifting the Order as soon as possible;

(d) Further noted the statement that the Special Committee had been commended for its renewed focus on the Caribbean region and that some measures of international accountability in the relationship between the administering Powers and the Territories were crucial;

(e) Noted the statement



(d) Further noted the statements made by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Cuba, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Nicaragua, the Plurinational State of





result of the administering Power unilaterally opening voter rolls, making the Kanak people feel ignored and overturning the positive progress of the past few years;

(q) Noted the request by the representative for the deployment of an urgent international mission of mediation;

(r) Also noted the statement by the representative of Papua New Guinea



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the auspices of the Secretary-General without preconditions and in good faith, with a view to achieving a just, lasting and mutually acceptable political solution that would provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara in the context of arrangements consistent with the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations.

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

33. In their concluding observations, the participating members of the Special Committee:

(a) Welcomed the participation of the representatives of ECLAC and WHO, noted the information provided and expressed gratitude to the Chair, who had sent invitations, in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions, including General



- (i) Holding a special meeting of the Special Committee, specifically devoted to the Week of Solidarity, with invitations extended to the Secretary-General, the President of the Security Council, the President of the General Assembly, the President of the Economic and Social Council and the President of the Trusteeship Council;
- (ii) Organizing an exhibit of documentaries at the Dag Hammarskjöld Library on the history of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;
- (iii) Organizing, at Headquarters, a photo exhibit devoted to the history of the Special Committee, which should feature photographs and other audiovisual material from the archives of the Department of Global Communications;
- (iv) Organizing, at Headquarters, a screening of documentaries and an







## Appendix I

### List of participants

#### Members of the Special Committee

Antigua and Barbuda	Clarence Pilgrim
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Diego Pary Rodríguez Sebastián Rodrigo Michel Hoffman Carmen Rosa Rios
Chile	Javiera Villarroel Miguel Meneses
China	Yu Yang
Côte d'Ivoire	Yassi Maximin Brou <sup>a</sup>
Cuba	Yusnier Romero Puentes <sup>a</sup> Rodolfo Benítez Verson Gretter Alfonso Guzmán
Dominica	Kelver Dwight Darroux
India	P.K. Ashok Babu Yukesh Kumar Mari Cruz
Indonesia	Arrmanatha Christiawan Nasir <sup>a</sup> Mariska Dwianti Dhanutirto Basana Mangihuttua Sidabutar
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Zahra Ershadi Hamid Roshanaei







South Africa  
Spain

Murray Duncan Marshall Sterley

	Carlos Escalante
	Johanna Briones
Melanesian Spearhead Group	Gregoire Nimbtik
	Ilan Kiloë
Latin American and Caribbean Economic System	Clarems Endara Vera

**Experts**

Carlyle Corbin  
Antony Geros  
Nina Julié  
Annette Marie Martínez-Orabona  
Facundo Rodríguez  
Levay Roy  
Magalie Tingal  
Julien Tran-Ap  
Richard Tuheiava  
Marie-Laure Ukeiwë  
Naïa Wateou

<sup>a</sup> Member of the official delegation of the Special Committee.

<sup>b</sup> A dispute exists between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas).





