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SECOND INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR THE ERADICATION OF COLONIALISM

Guidelines for the implementation of the Second International Decade

STATEMENT

BY

THE HONORABLE GALMO W WILLIALMS, MP

PREMIER OF THE TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS

TO THE UNITED NATIONS

SECOND INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR THE

ERADICATION OF COLONIALISM,

CARIBBEAN REGIONAL SEMINAR

ST KITTS AND NEVIS

12 - 14 MAY 2009

CHAIRMAN OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

H.E .THE GOVERNOR OF ST. KITTS & NEVIS

PRIME MINISTER DOUGLAS AND MEMBERS OF HIS GOVERNMENT

**HEADS OF STATE FROM ALL THE TERRITORIES REPRESENTED HERE TODAY
OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVE**

DISTINGUISHED DELEGATES

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

GOOD MORNING.

I would like to thank the organizers of this important seminar for their warm

invitation for me to speak here today. I am humbled and encouraged by the work this body has been able to accomplish with the collective input of all the non-self governing territories acting as partners in progress for our native lands. I also

I assume this position at a critical time in our Island's and the world's history, and a crucial time in the relationship between Britain and the Turks and Caicos Islands.

My 11 years of experience as a politician and businessman has equipped me well to

provide the strong, mature leadership that is necessary to guide our country through the political, economic, and social issues that the country is currently facing. It is going to be a tough challenge, but it is one that I embrace.

Looking at the topic for discussion today, I am well aware of the continued challenges and opportunities that we face in the Turks and Caicos Islands and the

At this moment in my country's development, the issue of preparedness with regard to self-governance is a lively debate that is occurring. I can only speak of my

position and what I see as its implications for the future.

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Under the Declaration of 1960 that began this movement and the reason why we are here today, it stated that "All peoples have the right to self-determination."

In closing, I want to stress that together as a region and together as a body here

On Sunday, May 10th 2000, the United States Vice President said: "For the