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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

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(ULU 0 Tokelau)

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IMPLEMENTA1"ION OF THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR THE ERADICATION OF COLONIALISM: ASSESSMENT OF DECOLONISATION PROCESS IN TODAY'S WORLD

Chairman
Distinguished Members of this Seminar
Excellencies
Ladies and Gentlemen

I thank the Almighty for His guidance and protection to all of us here this morning. Through you Mr Chairman I would like to convey our appreciation to the Government and people of New Caledonia for hosting us in the"ir beautiful home. Thank you for the kind support and hospitality - Malo ma fakafetai! I would also like to take this moment to thank the French High Commissioner for the fine Reception last night which we did enjoy. Merci beaucoup!

As the Ulu 0 Tokelau I convey warm greetings from the Council of Elders of each of the 3 villages of Tokelau, the General Fono, and the Council for the Ongoing Government and the people of Tokelau.

Mr Chairman, like you, we are very much aware that the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism is about to end and likewise the fiftieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial
2nd Countries and Peoples. The Decade in regard to the Eradication of
Colonialism witnessed 2 Referendum for Tokelau which the Government of New Zealand provided

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partnership provides a firm foundation for ongoing and constructive dialogue between the partners.

Mr Chairman, as most of you are familiar with Tokelau has twice organised an
exercise of its right to self-determination but did not achieve a final act of decolonisation. The first Referendum took place in February 2006 and the
second in October 2007. In February 2006, 60% of registered Tokelauan voters
voted in favour of self-government in free association with New Zealand. That
percentage, however, was not sufficient not registqui

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change, waste and disaster risk management, and the pressing issues pertaining
to our young people, women and children.

Mr Chairman and Members of the Special Committee Tokelau remains on your
list. Tokelau is very conscious of its right to df-de554ovalu0059 Tc 1.77 0 Td 89the 4and l5

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In conveying our needs I also wish to acknowledge the contribution of the UNDP Office in Samoa for their continuous support for Tokelau in the decolonisation process and its development needs under the emblem of collaboration, cooperation and understanding.

Thank you again Mr Chairman, to you and the Committee, for your support and understanding to Tokelau and all