



Good day, Your Excellency Ambassador Kiesha Mcguire Chair of the United Nations C 24

Good day Distinguished Delegates

I send greetings on behalf of the Government and People of the most northern Caribbean outpost.

The Islands of Bermuda.

For far too long, others have spoken on our behalf and painted a picture that all is well in paradise.

In the last 4 years, world events, have shown that all is not well.

In 2017 Hurricanes Irma and Maria decimated not one but three OTs.

Anguilla

Turks and Caicos Islands

Virgin Islands

Hurricane Maria did extensive damage to our host country Dominica.

As OTs, we once again banded together to assist.

Bermuda sent Troops to Turks and Caicos and Police officers to the Virgin Islands

Cayman Islands sent their Helicopter to assist in TCI.

The sad reality is that climate change can render anyone of the OTs inoperable in a matter of hours.

Through it all, we have each other to rely upon through natural disasters.

History has also shown that in February 2019, we faced unnatural disasters, in the form of a Foreign Affairs Committee of the UK Parliament attempting to dictate to the peoples of the Overseas Territories.

Recommendations that would adversely affect us; economically, socially, and politically.

It is only when the peoples, and leaders, of the respective OTs stood together and wholeheartedly rejected those proposals did the administrative power put those plans on pause.

I say pause, as in subsequent meetings those same suggestions have surfaced again and again.

This leads us in the

If ever there was a definition of neo-colonialism, this would be it.

-day colonialism i