

FORUM: Special Political and Decolonization Committee (GA4)

QUESTION OF: Discussing the status of non-self-governing territories in the Caribbean

SUBMITTED BY: Canada

CO-SUBMITTED BY: Brazil, Belgium, Costa Rica, Egypt, Finland, Germany, India, Italy, Malta, Qatar, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden

THE SPECIAL POLITICAL DECOLONIZATION COMMITTEE,

Acknowledging the urgency of administering Non-Self-Governing Territories' representation, especially in the international community,

Aware that Non-Self-Governing Territories (NSGTs) are defined as territories whose people have not yet attained a full measure of self-government and under this category fall seventeen territories located all around the world,

Deeply disturbed by past instances of borderline crimes against humanity, similar to those committed in colonialistic-era Africa, in NSGTs,

Emphasizing the importance of aiming towards sovereignty for nations in the Caribbean in order to combat colonization in those regions,

Guided by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the International Covenants on Human Rights, and recalling the inherent right of all nations to sovereignty and self-determination,

Noting that all seventeen territories need to attain full measure of self-government (and not be under the administering authority of the UK, USA, France and the Netherlands),

Pointing out that the nations holding the power in NSGTs, aren't always intending the benefit of the locals,

Recalling resolution 1514 (XV), in which the General Assembly both admitted and considered admitting nations to the United Nations after close consultation with the committee, namely, Mali, Nigeria, and Congo,

Recognizing the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States (GRULAC) and the crucial part they play in strengthening bonds between nations and supporting efforts towards sovereignty and self-determination of Caribbean nations,

Reaffirming the C-24 mandate, in tandem with n 1654 (XVI), in which this committee “was mandated to” look into the application of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, in accordance with GA resolution 1514 (XV),

1. Encourages member states to organize internationally supervised referendums in Caribbean Non-Self-Governing Territories to determine whether these Caribbean territories should remain under their current administration or seek independence, through methods such as but not limited to:
 - a) assigning an impartial organization, such as the United Nations or a third-party nation to oversee the development and conduct of these democratic referendums, ensuring fairness and preventing corruption,
 - b) conducting public awareness campaigns to educate citizens on the referendum’s importance for their political future where every eligible citizen would have the right to vote,
 - c) organizing educational campaigns to inform the public about their voting rights and the significance of these referendums for the political future of their territories to emphasize the importance of participation;

2. Urges the provision of financial resources to the self-governing territories, to ensure the development of an independent economy, through ways such as but not limited to:
 - a) creation of dedicated financial mechanisms, to support infrastructure development, public services, and economic diversification,
 - b) using funds to improve public services, such as:
 - i. healthcare,
 - ii. education,
 - iii. employment opportunities;
 - c) access to international financial markets and bodies, such as the World Bank or the International Monetary Fund (IMF), in order to secure funding for infrastructure projects like transportation and communication networks,
 - d) promoting the introduction of financial incentives and focus aid on agricultural development and the development of a primary sector, such as:
 - i. providing the funds necessary for the equipment and covering machinery costs,
 - ii. introducing tax incentives for farmers and other primary sector workers;

3. Calls for the creation of a committee to be called the Committee for Caribbean Sovereignty (CCS), to include the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States (GRULAC), the Organisation of Eastern States (OES), as well as representatives from the C-4, which will entail the establishment of a monitoring and advisory body under the UN GA4, that will:
 - a) provide nations with the resources necessary to no longer rely on independent nations, to be funded by the World Bank,
 - b) receive input from nations and their government on what their country desires from independence,
 - c) act as a monitoring and advisory body, with a role to:
 - i. assess the evolution and development of the political structures, such as constitutions, legal systems, and governance frameworks, of non-self-governing territories,
 - ii. help the self-governing states to align their legal system with international human rights standards and democratic principles,
 - iii. provide assistance for the drafting or reform of constitutions, laws, and other political documents, ensuring that they reflect the will of the people and comply with internationally recognized norms of governance and rule of law;

4. Suggests drafting new constitutions for NSGT to give the opportunity to the local population to have a constitution that is based on its own demands and desires, through ways such as but not limited to:
 - a) creating platforms for citizens to share their ideas about changes needed in the old constitution and suggestions for the new one in ways such as:
 - i. organizing public forums to gather input from diverse groups within the community,
 - ii. developing online portals and surveys to allow broader participation and ensure accessibility for those unable to attend in person,
 - iii. encouraging workshops and focus groups with experts and community leaders to facilitate informed discussions;
 - b) involving local governments and experts to ensure the constitution aligns with democratic principles,
 - c) encouraging administering powers to grant self-governing territories the ability to make independent political decisions by:
 - i. requesting that intervention by administering powers only occur when absolutely necessary,

- ii. suggesting that such interventions focus on supervising actions to ensure regional stability and well-being,
 - iii. ensuring that the right to self-determination is upheld by respecting the autonomy of trust territories;

- 5. Recommends the development of a productive and favorable relationship between the self-governing territories and the administering powers, through means such as but not limited to:
 - a) negotiating fair and transparent economic partnerships that prioritize:
 - i. the sustainable development and economic resilience of the territories,
 - ii. equitable trade agreements,
 - iii. investment initiatives,
 - iv. access to regional and international markets,
 - b) collaborating on infrastructural development, with a focus on enhancing within and beyond the territories:
 - i. connectivity,
 - ii. transportation,
 - iii. digital access,
 - c) facilitating cultural and educational exchanges to strengthen mutual understanding and build capacity in fields such as governance, technology, and climate resilience;

- 6. Emphasizes the need for developing democratic governance in self-governing territories, and establishing anti-corruption measures, by:
 - a) implementing free and fair elections, that for a period will be organized and monitored by UN bodies,
 - b) promoting human rights and combating censorship of media through governing bodies or the administering power to encourage free speech and transparency,
 - c) promoting civic education to raise awareness about democratic rights and responsibilities, empowering the population to engage in the political process and hold governments accountable,
 - d) assigning a neutral examination of the justice courts, assessing the livelihoods of the civilians, to check for corruption.

