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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF
INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 2nd MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Friday, 24 March 2000, at 3 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. RODRÍGUEZ PARRILLA (Cuba)
(Acting Chairman)

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The meeting was called to order at 3.40 p.m.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1. The agenda was adopted.

PACIFIC REGIONAL SEMINAR (A/AC.109/2000/1)

2. The CHAIRMAN said that the Marshall Islands had offered to host the Pacific Regional Seminar, which would be held in its capital, Majuro, from 16 to 18 May 2000. He drew attention to document A/AC.109/2000/1, which had been circulated to members. He would take it that the Special Committee wished to adopt the draft guidelines and rules of procedure for the Seminar as contained in that document.

3. It was so decided.

4. The CHAIRMAN said that, in accordance with established practice and within the available financial resources, the Special Committee would be represented at the Seminar by six members, including the Chairman, unless the Committee took a specific decision to the contrary. He recalled that, at his suggestion, at the informal meeting of 10 March 2000 the Special Committee had established two open-ended working groups, one of which would conduct consultations relative to participation in the seminar. That Working Group had reported that it had made progress but that consultations on the representation of the Special Committee were continuing. The Working Group had given careful consideration to a list of experts from non-governmental, intergovernmental and regional organizations and had prepared a "short list", which had been circulated to members for their consideration. The Working Group had recommended that invitations should be extended to all the listed individuals. He reminded members that the United Nations would only cover costs for five experts from the region and six representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories. He would take it that the Special Committee wished to accept the recommendation of the Working Group.

5. It was so decided.

6. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Special Committee should also extend invitations to the administering Powers, members of the Special Committee and other interested Member States, on the understanding that no funding was available for their participation. The United Nations would cover the costs of participation for one elected official from each Non-Self-Governing Territory of the region. In addition, he suggested that the following organizations should receive an invitation: the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), the Organization of American States (OAS), the Commonwealth Secretariat, the South Pacific Forum and the Secretariat of the South Pacific Forum. Invitations should also be extended to all the organizations in the United Nations system.

7. He would take it that the Special Committee agreed with those suggestions and would authorize the Chairman, in consultation with the Bureau, to complete the arrangements for the Seminar.

8. It was so decided.

OTHER MATTERS

9. The CHAIRMAN suggested that, in view of the short time remaining before the Seminar, the Committee should commemorate the Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of All Colonial Territories Fighting for Freedom, Independence and Human Rights in conjunction with the Seminar, as it had done in the past.

10. It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 3.50 p.m.