





Rear Admiral J. V. Bainimarama, CF(Mil) OSt I MSD 1999 2000

Prime Minister and Minister for Finance, Strategic Planning, National  
Development and Statistics, Public Service, Peoples Charter for Change and  
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Resources

STATEMENT AT THE PACIFIC REGIONAL SEMINAR ON THE UN SPECIAL  
COMMITTEE ON DECOLONISATION

Sofitel Resort

Wed 21st May 2014

Chairman of the Special Committee His Excellency  
Xavier Lasso Mendoza,  
Vice Chairpersons,  
Distinguished Representatives and Observers of the  
Special Committee on Decolonisation,  
Excellencies,



freedom to determine its own future.

This regional seminar provides an opportunity for you as delegates and members of the Special Committee to gain a deeper understanding of the issues that face the 17 territories listed on the UN List of Non-Self-Governing Territories.

The Special Committee will then convene in New York next month, where it will address progress in the efforts for self-determination - together with other developments within the region.

structures; infrastructure; institutions; political

legacies; and natural resources, to name just a few.

All these areas must be

decision on self-determination

we have faced over the past quarter century, so I will not linger on them in detail.

Suffice it to say that we have only recently emerged from this era of turmoil and strife after a period of reforms and bold leadership, which is a

to the New Caledonian authorities as per the  
roadmap set out by the Noumea Accord.

As would be expected, a number of challenges have

emerged, but Fiji will continue to encourage both  
sides to work positively within the spirit of the  
Agreement towards a result that is seen as legitimate

indulging in rhetoric and rituals." Such fresh and creative approaches must come from you, the delegates and representatives on the Committee.

Having said that, I hope that you will find a little time to enjoy the hospitality and friendliness of the Fijian people, and to explore our country and all it has to offer its guests.

With these few



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officially open the 2014 Pacific Regional Seminar on Decolonisation.

Vinaka vakalevu. Thank you.