**Committee:** **Special Political and Decolonization****(SPECPOL)**

**Country: Russian Federation**

**Agenda Item: Neocolonialism in the 21st**

**Century in the West African Region**

Neo-colonialism is using economic and political means to perpetuate or extend influence over underdeveloped nations as a major power. Basically meaning dominance over weak nations by strong nations, not by direct political control as in traditional colonialism but achieving this in a more roundabout way. The major problem being that neo-colonialism operates through the various imperialist links earlier put in place by the colonial powers before and during the era of colonialism. It is possible because, in most cases, the major political economic and socio-cultural ideas, belief, norms, values, practices, structures and institutions introduced by the respective colonial imperialist powers were not dismantled at independence. This causes various countries to have problems during their development. As Russian Federation, we are strictly against harming countries with people living in it like this and believe that this is a problem which needs to be discussed upon and solved in this conference.

It can be seen that Russian Federation has been against this issue even in the past from the fact that during the Soviet period, our country adhered to anti-colonial positions and assisted with national liberation movements. Thanks to our active diplomatic participation on December 14, 1960, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Decleration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. After the proclamation of political independence, all African states were still efectively dependent on various developed countries, which controlled all the key ares of politics, economics and culture in former colonies and protectorates. The countries of sub-Saharan Africa which had formally joined the “family of civilized nations” before World War II were in the same position. The Soviet Union sought to develop friendly relations with the independent states of Africa; the fight against neocolonialism was one of the oficially declared goals of Soviet aid to African countries.

All the ideas, belief, norms, values, practices, structures and institutions introduced by the respective colonial imperialist powers in Africa before independence, should be dismantled since the colonial days is over in Africa. This will enable the African continent to gain compete economic and political independence and attain real freedom, living as human beings all should. Another problem is that all this while, African continent is deeply entrenched in debt to the developed Western countries, much of these debts were acquired to fight the economic hardship, enhance development and minimize dependency, but they have obviously failed to make any remarkable improvement in the situation. In order to try and solve this situation, African countries should cease from receiving aids from these Western countries and organizations for them to desist from being dependent on the Western imperialist countries.

**References:**

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