



Committee: SPECPOL – Special Political and Decolonization Committee

Agenda Item: Review of the Political Status of the Disputed and Non-Self-Governing Territories

Country: Republic of Colombia

Delegate: Beril Çelik

The Republic of Colombia considers this item on the agenda significant to international peace, cooperation, and stability. Even today, there are still territories that remain in dispute or are not self-sufficient; their political status remains blurred in many instances. Many of such situations have originated from history and colonization and have remained a source of disputes among nations ever since. Therefore, taking into account the magnitude and sensitivity of such situations, Colombia believes it necessary to discuss the current thematic issue within SPECPOL with the aim of finding peaceful and legal solutions through the collaboration of the United Nations.

Colombia does not accept that any solution with regard to the aforementioned territories should be imposed by the use of force or pressure; rather, it is the result of political will, dialogue, diplomacy, and respect for international law. While Colombia respects territorial integrity, it also believes in the voices of the people that live there. If local communities are listened to with open ears, it will avoid conflict and establish trust between states. The United Nations, therefore, can guide this process in a fair and unbiased manner.

Colombia seeks peaceful solutions for its own benefit and that of the other party in conflict, because a conflict can further damage the situation by creating more problems. In this case, the most optimal solution is to raise a peaceful voice regarding the disputed territory and seek to find a solution in regard to the problem at hand by negotiation. The fewer misunderstandings there are, the more countries talk to each other and share information. Colombia has shown that even little steps toward agreement are better than nothing, even if it takes more time.

Colombia also believes that decolonization is not something that stopped in the past. Some territories still face issues attached to old decisions and they need the support of international cooperation in order to reach a status that stabilizes their existence. Colombia expects from SPECPOL to be an instance that helps countries better understand each other, and takes decisions safeguarding the protection of human rights, safety, and dignity. The goal should not only be about political outcomes, but about the well-being of those who inhabit these territories. In conclusion, it is ready, through its Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to collaborate with other delegations and support peaceful communication. Colombia expects this committee will advance toward a position of fair and respectful solution. With cooperation, diplomacy, and patience, states can, according to Colombia, help the international community offer disputed and non-self-governing territories a future that is clearer and more stable.