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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF  
INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

Letter dated 26 February 1979 from the Permanent Representatives  
of France and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern  
Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In a letter of 13 April 1978 (A/33/80), we indicated to you that, during the period of full internal self-government in the New Hebrides, which began with the elections of 23 November 1977, the British and French Governments were determined to do everything in their power to facilitate a reconciliation between all the parties.

In this spirit, the two administering Powers subsequently worked out a set of proposals which M. Dijoud, French Secretary of State for Overseas Departments and Territories, presented publicly in Port-Vila in August 1978. These were, in outline, brought to the attention of Members of the United Nations in a statement made by the representative of France in the Fourth Committee on 5 December 1978 (A/C.4/33/SR.32, paras. 49-54).

We now have the pleasure to inform you that, taking into consideration the suggestions which were made, the various parties in the condominium have decided to form a Government of National Unity. This has been in place since 21 December 1978 and consists of:

Mr. Gérard Leymang	Premier	Tan Union
Mr. Walter Lini	Deputy Premier, Minister of Social Affairs	Vanuaaku Pati
Mr. Guy Prévot	Minister of Finance	Tan Union
Mr. Maxime Carlot	Minister of Internal Affairs	Natatok

\* A/34/50.

Mr. Donald Kalpokas	Minister of Education	Vanuaaku Pati
Mr. John Naupa	Minister of Health	Vanuaaku Pati
Mr. Georges Kelkoa	Minister of Public Administration	Vanuaaku Pati
Mr. Aimé Malère	Minister of Commerce, Industry and Tourism	Manh Na Gri Amel
Mr. Luke Dini	Minister of Transport, Communication and Civil Aviation	Manh Na Gri Amel
Mr. Thomas Ruben	Minister of Natural Resources	Vanuaaku Pati

Without belittling the obstacles which remain to be overcome, we consider that the installation of this Government is a decisive step in guaranteeing a peaceful and harmonious accession for the territory to independence, scheduled for the beginning of 1980.

We should be grateful if you would distribute this letter as a document of the General Assembly under item 18 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Jacques LEPRETTE  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

(Signed) Ivor RICHARD  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative