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Biographical Note



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FRANK O. ABDULAH (TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO) IS NEW DECOLONIZATION COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Frank Owen Abdulah, Permanent Representative of Trinidad and Tobago to the United Nations, who was today elected Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with Regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, became Permanent Representative in 1975. He has served as a Vice-Chairman of the Special Committee in 1972-1973 and 1976-1980.

Born in Port of Spain, Trinidad, on 8 November 1928, he was educated at Queen's Royal College in Port of Spain and at Magdalen College, Oxford. He began his career in the Teaching Service of Trinidad and Tobago.

He later joined the West Indies Federal Diplomatic Service and was transferred to the Trinidad and Tobago Diplomatic Service shortly before independence in 1962. He served in various diplomatic posts including London, Ottawa and New York. From 1970 to 1973 he was Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations. On his return to Trinidad in 1973 he was appointed to act as Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, a post which he held until his reassignment to the United Nations.

While Vice-Chairman of the Special Committee, he represented the Committee on several occasions, including its Visiting Mission to Niue in 1972. He also represented Trinidad and Tobago on the Special Committee against Apartheid.

Since 1976, Mr. Abdulah represented his country at numerous United Nations conferences in Geneva (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT)), Rome (Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)), London (International Sugar Conference and International Coffee Agreement), Nairobi (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)) and at Non-Aligned Conferences in Colombo, Belgrade and Havana.

Mr. Abdulah is married and has four daughters.

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