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Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report is mandated by General Assembly resolution 66/85 and is a compilation of replies from Member States related to scholarships and training facilities made available to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories.

* A/67/50.





I. Introduction

1. By General Assembly resolution 845 (IX), Member States were invited to extend to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories offers of facilities not only for study and training of university standard but also for study at the post-primary level, as well as technical and vocational training of immediate practical value.

2. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 1696 (XVI), offers extended under resolution 845 (IX) are communicated by the Secretariat to the administering Powers to enable them to give appropriate publicity to the offers in the Territories under their administration.

3. Information on scholarships offered by Member States under the programme is made available to prospective applicants. Reference to the programme has been included in successive editions of the guide entitled *Study Abroad*, published by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

4. Under the terms of resolution 845 (IX) and subsequent resolutions,¹ the Secretary-General submits to the General Assembly each year a report containing detailed information on the offers made and the extent to which they were utilized.² The present report, which covers the period from 8 March 2011 to 16 March 2012, is submitted in accordance with paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 66/85.

II. Scholarship offers and awards

A. Offering States

5. Over the years, the 60 States Members of the United Nations listed below have offered to make scholarships available for the use of inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories in response to the relevant General Assembly resolutions:

Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Egypt, Finland, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Libya, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russian Federation, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Yugoslavia.

6. One non-member State has also offered scholarships:

Holy See.

¹ The most recent resolution adopted by the General Assembly on this question is resolution 66/85.

² The most recent report is contained in document A/66/68.

B. Offers and awards

Member States

Argentina

7. In a note verbale dated 8 February 2012, the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations requested that the following paragraphs be included in the present report:

The United Nations General Assembly, in its resolution 2065 (XX) and in subsequent resolutions, and the Special Committee on decolonization, have described the question of the Malvinas Islands as a special and particular colonial situation involving a sovereignty dispute between the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, have established that the way to put an end to that situation is the peaceful and negotiated solution of the sovereignty dispute, and have requested both Governments to continue without delay the bilateral negotiations recommended by the General Assembly and the Special Committee.

Despite the illegal British occupation, the Malvinas Islands, South Georgia Islands and South Sandwich Islands are part of the Argentine national territory, and their inhabitants therefore have equality of access with the rest of the Argentine population to the Argentine public education system. This includes free education at the primary, secondary and tertiary/university levels, as well as the benefits of the national scholarship programme offered by the Ministry of Education of the Argentine Republic.

New Zealand

8. In a note verbale dated 22 February 2012, the Permanent Mission of New Zealand to the United Nations informed the Secretariat of the following:

New Zealand offers one scholarship each year to Tokelau through the New Zealand Pacific Scholarships scheme, as part of the Joint Commitment for Development. The New Zealand Pacific Scholarships scheme recognizes the very close personal, cultural and economic ties that New Zealand enjoys with Pacific countries. A particular focus of the scheme is to increase the number of young students and high academic achievers studying in New Zealand and to build a new generation of Pacific leadership with strong links to New Zealand.

Tokelau offers regional scholarships to its students through funding supplied as budget support by the New Zealand Aid Programme to Tokelau. As New Zealand citizens, Tokelauans are also eligible for a range of domestic scholarships as well as Government-subsidized access to New Zealand educational facilities.

New Zealand offers 14 short-term training awards to the people of New Caledonia. These awards assist people in the workforce to gain knowledge and skills that will help the development of their home country. They play an important and growing role in addressing the human resource and development needs of developing countries. Short-term training awards are funded by the New Zealand Government's international aid and development programme.

III. Applications made through the United Nations

9. In accordance with the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolution 1696 (XVI), applications for scholarships received by the United Nations Secretariat from inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories are transmitted simultaneously to the offering States for consideration and to the administering Powers for information.

10. From 8 March 2011 to 16 March 2012, no requests for information on the availability of scholarships were received by the Secretariat.

IV. Conclusion

11. Scholarships and training facilities offered by Member States to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories represent a valuable contribution to their educational advancement.