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

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Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report is submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution [73/106](#) and is a compilation of replies from Member States relating to scholarships and training facilities made available to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories.

* [A/74/50](#).



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 at the 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, 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. The previous report on the subject is contained in document [A/73/73](#). The present report, which covers the period from 5 March 2018 to 25 March 2019, is submitted in accordance with paragraph 5 of resolution [73/106](#).

II. Scholarship offers and awards

A. Offering States

5. Over the years, the 64 Member States 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, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Egypt, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Libya, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay.

6. One non-member State, the Holy See, has also offered scholarships.

B. Offers and awards

Argentina

7. In a note verbale dated 22 February 2019, the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations informed the Secretariat of the following:

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, as it involves 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 proceed without delay with bilateral negotiations.

Despite the illegal British occupation, because the Malvinas Islands, South Georgia Islands and South Sandwich Islands are part of the Argentine national territory, their inhabitants 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.

France

8. In a communication dated 4 February 2019, the Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations informed the Secretariat of the following:

State scholarships are awarded for higher education in metropolitan France and the territory of New Caledonia on the basis of financial need and of merit.

In 2018, there were 4,798 students in New Caledonia, of whom 1,914, or 40.1 per cent, received a State scholarship.

49 per cent of the recipients are enrolled at universities, 44 per cent are studying for the *brevet de technicien supérieur* (two-year technical certificate) and 7 per cent are taking other courses for holders of a *baccalauréat* (secondary-school diploma).

The Cadres for the Future programme, launched in 1989 as 400 Cadres, is specifically intended to support secondary, tertiary and vocational study. A political programme aimed at rebalancing, it is 90 per cent funded by the French State and 10 per cent by New Caledonia. It provides educational support for people with several years of professional experience who are seeking to obtain middle or senior management positions that are vital to the economic development of New Caledonia, and who wish to pursue higher education in metropolitan France.

Since 2006, the administering Power has maintained its financial commitment at 644 million Pacific francs (approximately \$5.63 million), while New Caledonia provides 59 million Pacific francs (approximately \$516,000).

From the programme's inception to 31 January 2018, 1,716 students received funding and support from the 400 Cadres or Cadres for the Future programmes. The proportion of women students rose from 41 per cent in 2012 to 43 per cent in 2017. The proportion of trainees of Kanak origin has remained constant since the beginning of the programme, at 71 per cent, in line with the objectives set. New initiatives have been undertaken to identify and train individuals for positions in specialized fields, including public secondary school teaching, medicine and high-level health-sector occupations, the judiciary and legal and judicial occupations, senior management and, in general, occupations relating to the exercise of sovereign powers.

Malaysia

9. In a communication dated 26 February 2019, the Permanent Mission of Malaysia to the United Nations informed the Secretariat of the following:

We wish to inform you that, as part of Malaysia's efforts, the Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme has trained more than 33,000 participants and been extended to 144 recipient countries, including the Non-Self-Governing Territories, since its establishment in 1980.

Of the 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories, 4 are recipients of the Programme, namely, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Montserrat, and the Turks and Caicos Islands. Since becoming recipients of the Programme in 1983, a total of five officials from the Non-Self-Governing Territories had participated in various short-term courses in order to assist them with their own national development agendas and towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals by the year 2030. As of 2019, there are not any international students from the Non-Self-Governing Territories that have been offered a scholarship under the Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme.

Mexico

10. In a communication dated 27 February 2019, the Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations informed the Secretariat of the following:

Merit-based scholarship programme of the Government of Mexico for foreign students

The scholarship programme allows foreign students to undertake complete courses of study in a specialized area or for a master's degree or doctorate, or in medical specialties or subspecialties. Bachelor's degrees are offered only to citizens of Belize and Haiti. The scholarship programme also provides opportunities for students to carry out postgraduate research in Mexico, and mobility programmes for undergraduates and postgraduates (short fellowships equivalent to one academic term).

Scholarships are awarded in accordance with the educational and cultural cooperation agreements and programmes between Mexico and its partner countries, on a reciprocal basis, except in such cases as Bolivia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Paraguay and Uruguay; and the scholarships available to countries in the Caribbean, Asia-Pacific, African and Middle East regions.

Scholarship holders receive the following benefits:

- Payment of registration and tuition fees, as established by the programme of each institution
- Health insurance through the Mexican Social Security Institute (for scholarship holders who are taking part in academic mobility programmes or research fellowships, or studying at private higher education institutions)
- Monthly stipend (equal to four *unidades de medida y actualización* (the unit used to determine payments of liabilities established in Mexican federal law) for full courses of study, research fellowships or mobility programmes for bachelor's or master's degrees or in specialized areas; or five units for medical specialties and subspecialties, doctorates and postdoctoral programmes).

The 2019 stipends are:

- Four units: 10,274 Mexican pesos
- Five units: 12,842 Mexican pesos

- Transport from Mexico City to the host institution and back

The following Non-Self-Governing Territories were eligible for the 2019 scholarships (the list can be consulted at: https://www.gob.mx/cms/uploads/attachment/file/382589/2019_Mexican_Government_Scholarship_Program_for_International_Students.pdf):

- American Samoa
- Anguilla
- Bermuda
- British Virgin Islands
- Cayman Islands
- Gibraltar
- Montserrat
- New Caledonia
- Pitcairn
- Saint Helena
- Tokelau
- Turks and Caicos Islands
- United States Virgin Islands
- Western Sahara

This programme also includes regional scholarships, for which students from some Non-Self-Governing Territories are eligible:

- Students from Montserrat are eligible for up to 15 scholarships, including extensions of existing scholarships, available annually to nationals of countries of the Caribbean Community.
- Students from the Non-Self-Governing Territories in Asia and the Pacific, Africa and the Middle East are eligible for up to 15 scholarships, including extensions of existing scholarships, available annually to nationals of countries in those regions.
- Students from the Non-Self-Governing Territories administered by the United Kingdom are eligible for up to 20 scholarships, including extensions, available to nationals of that country.

New Zealand

11. In a note verbale dated 24 January 2019, the Permanent Mission of New Zealand to the United Nations informed the Secretariat of the following:

The Government of New Zealand provides budget support to the Government of Tokelau for the delivery of education services ranging from early childhood education to foundation courses for tertiary study. The Government of New Zealand has a contract with the Centre for Educational Development of Massey University to work closely with the Department of Education of Tokelau and its schools to improve the education system in Tokelau. In 2018, the Education Review Office of New Zealand conducted a national evaluation of the provision of education in Tokelau. The Office's recommendations were

accepted by the Government of Tokelau, and a workplan to implement them has been developed.

The Government of New Zealand offers access to short-term training scholarships to assist Tokelauans in the workforce in gaining relevant knowledge and skills.

Residents of Tokelau are also able to benefit from workshops and customized training delivered through various programmes that are funded by the Government of New Zealand.

The Administrator of Tokelau has encouraged the Government of Tokelau to ensure that such opportunities are realized by suitable candidates.

As New Zealand citizens, Tokelauans who are residents of New Zealand are eligible for a range of domestic scholarships, as well as Government-subsidized access to education facilities in New Zealand.

The Government of Tokelau provides scholarships for students to attend tertiary institutions, primarily in the Pacific region.

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

12. In a communication dated 28 January 2019, the Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations informed the Secretariat of the following:

Education in the British overseas territories is a domestic issue and, therefore, under their constitutions, is the responsibility of the locally elected Government. It is a matter of domestic policy for the Government of each overseas territory to determine what proportion of its national budget is spent on study and training.

Citizens of the overseas territories, who are also British citizens, have access to institutions for further and higher education in the United Kingdom. Students from the overseas territories are charged the home fee rate for further education and higher education courses at colleges and universities in the United Kingdom. This means that students from the overseas territories are on an equal footing with students from the United Kingdom.

In addition, in 2018/2019, the United Kingdom offered 10 Chevening Scholarships – covering studies in good governance, financial management, public administration and law, commercial and economic development and the environment – to students from the overseas territories, as set out in the table below.

Chevening Scholarships awarded in 2017/2018

<i>Territory</i>	<i>Number of scholarships</i>
Anguilla	2
Bermuda	1
British Virgin Islands	3
Montserrat	1
Saint Helena	1
Turks and Caicos Islands	2

United States of America

13. In a communication dated 4 February 2019, the United States Mission to the United Nations provided information to the Secretariat, as set out below.

Project scholarships and grants offered by the United States of America^a

(United States dollars)

<i>Project title</i>	<i>Applicant</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Description of project</i>
Close Up Insular Area Program	Close Up Foundation	900 000	Provides funding for the Close Up Insular Area Program, which offers experiential civic education programmes to students and teachers from the United States territories and freely associated State. Principal components include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Close Up Washington: for 190 high school and middle school students and educators from American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the United States Virgin Islands – late spring/summer 2018; (b) Local youth summits: to examine local government and policy issues. Close Up staff to travel to each summit to assist in fall of 2018; (c) Community action project programme mini-grants: fall/winter of 2018; (d) Programme evaluation: pre- and post-surveys.
Junior Statesman Program for Insular Students	Junior Statesman Association	400 000	Junior Statesman Program for Insular Students: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Junior Statesman Association summer school (2019): three-week courses at Georgetown University, Princeton University or Stanford University, with final examination and essay; Junior Statesman Association debate workshop and speakers' programme. Twenty-eight students will be participating from American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the United States Virgin Islands; (b) Academic preparatory and community project boot camp (summer of 2018): one preparatory week and pre- and post-community project boot camp for 65 students enrolled in the Program; (c) Program follow-up (July and August 2019) and Junior Statesman Association chapter development (school year 2018/19): students engage with peers in community change and political education and develop Junior Statesman Association chapters.
Guam Contractors Association Trades Academy scholarships	Government of Guam	498 225	Provide 103 students with the opportunity to obtain skills in trade work at the Guam Contractors Association Trades Academy
Guam Community College tourism programme scholarships	Government of Guam	498 272	Provide 92 students with first-year tuition at Guam Community College for the tourism and travel management programme or the culinary arts programme. Tourism is one of the two economic pillars of Guam.

Note: Citizens of the United States are eligible to apply for the Critical Language Scholarship programme and the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship programme. Citizens and nationals of the United States are eligible to apply for Fulbright teacher exchange programmes, the Fulbright Teaching Excellence and Achievement programme, the Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching Short-Term programme and the Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching semester programme.

^a Grants issued by the Office of Insular Affairs of the United States Department of the Interior.

III. Applications made through the United Nations

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

15. From 5 March 2018 to 25 March 2019, no requests for information on the availability of scholarships were received by the Secretariat.

IV. Conclusion

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