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**Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of
Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the
specialized agencies and the international institutions
associated with the United Nations**

Information submitted by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system on their activities with regard to the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

Report of the President of the Council

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I. Introduction

1. In its resolution [2018/18](#), the Economic and Social Council requested the President of the Council to continue to maintain close contact with the Chair 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 on the matters considered in that resolution and to report thereon to the Council.

2. In paragraph 7 of its resolution [73/105](#), the General Assembly requested the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and international and regional organizations to examine and review conditions in each Non-Self-Governing Territory, so as to take appropriate measures to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of the Territories. In paragraph 21 of the resolution, the Assembly commended the Council for its debate and its resolution on the question and requested the Council to continue to consider and intensify its cooperation with the Special Committee, with the aim of developing appropriate measures for the further coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in implementing the relevant resolutions of the Assembly. The Assembly, in paragraph 12 of its resolution [73/104](#), encouraged the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and regional organizations to continue to provide assistance to the Non-Self-Governing Territories affected by hurricanes, natural phenomena or other extreme weather events and to formulate appropriate programmes to support emergency response and recovery and rebuilding efforts, and requested the Secretary-General to report to the Assembly on this matter.

3. The following 17 Territories are under the purview of the Special Committee: American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Falkland Islands (Malvinas),¹ French Polynesia, Gibraltar, Guam, Montserrat, New Caledonia, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, Tokelau, Turks and Caicos Islands, United States Virgin Islands and Western Sahara. Information submitted in response to a request to the specialized agencies and the international organizations associated with the United Nations to provide an account of their activities in relation to those Territories is set out below.

II. Support provided to Non-Self-Governing Territories by the specialized agencies and international organizations associated with the United Nations

4. Responses were received from nine United Nations entities and one international organization. Of these nine entities, the World Trade Organization indicated that it did not have any information to submit on the issue. According to the information received, during the period under review, the eight organizations indicated below continued to provide support to the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories, pursuant to the relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Special Committee. Information submitted by one international organization is also set out below.

A. Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

5. The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) provided the information presented below in the context of paragraph 12 of General

¹ A dispute exists between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) (see [ST/CS/SER.A/42](#)).

Assembly resolution 73/104, entitled “Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories” and paragraphs 7, 9 and 10 of Economic and Social Council resolution 2018/18, entitled “Support to Non-Self-Governing Territories by the specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations”.

6. ECLAC is committed to supporting its associate members, including the Caribbean Non-Self-Governing Territories, to accelerate their economic and social progress. A 2017 study entitled *Assessing Opportunities for Enhanced Integration of the Associate Members of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean*, served to identify the common development challenges confronting the Territories and explore opportunities to further integrate them into the Commission’s development support programmes and international and regional development mechanisms.²

7. One of the development challenges identified was the high vulnerability of the Territories to hurricanes, natural phenomena and other extreme weather events. The subregion is still recovering from Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria, two category 5 hurricanes which in September 2017 devastated the countries of the northern Caribbean, including the Non-Self-Governing Territories of Anguilla, the British Virgin Islands, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands. These events further exposed the vulnerability of the Territories to external shocks, because of their limited economic resources, their inability to influence prices and global demand for their goods and the high transportation costs endured by their fragile economies.³

8. Following the passage of these extreme weather events, and in response to requests for technical cooperation support, ECLAC carried out damage and loss assessment missions in Anguilla, the British Virgin Islands and the Turks and Caicos Islands in October 2017. The evaluations resulted in sector-specific recommendations, which were based on the analyses of sectoral experts and are intended to inform progressive national disaster risk management strategies and promote multisectoral collaboration in risk management processes.

9. In 2018 and 2019, ECLAC conducted follow-up training activities in these Territories on the use of damage and loss assessment methodology. The training sessions, which were well received, were designed to present the results of the evaluations, provide clarity and transparency regarding the methodology used in the evaluations and support the efforts of the Territories to incorporate disaster prevention, estimation and risk reduction into public investment plans and development programmes.

10. In addition to supporting the Territories to build resilience and manage disaster risk, the ECLAC provided other forms of technical assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories. From 26 to 30 March 2018, it carried out a workshop with the British Virgin Islands on the integration of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development into the development planning process. The focus of the workshop was on assisting the British Virgin Islands in building an evidence-based implementation process for the Sustainable Development Goals, supported by official statistics. This was part of a project supported by the German Agency for International Cooperation for which ECLAC provided diagnostic assessment of the state of implementation of Goals and made recommendations on institutional arrangements for their implementation and

² Available at www.cepal.org/en/publications/41868-assessing-opportunities-enhanced-integration-associate-members-economic.

³ See ECLAC, *Handbook for Disaster Assessment*, p. 19. Available at www.cepal.org/en/publications/36823-handbook-disaster-assessment.

on the statistical capacity gaps that need to be filled to support an evidence-based sustainable development process.

11. ECLAC also continued to provide a platform for policy dialogue for the Territories to engage in high-level discussions aimed at addressing the development challenges of the subregion. Anguilla, the British Virgin Islands and Montserrat participated in the fifth meeting of the Caribbean Development Roundtable on 26 April 2018 and in the twenty-seventh session of the Caribbean and Development Cooperation Committee on 27 April 2018. At the Pacific regional seminar on the implementation of the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, held by the Special Committee on Decolonization in Saint George's from 9 to 11 May 2018, ECLAC presented its assistance programmes for Caribbean Non-Self-Governing Territories. It reiterated its commitment to expand the coverage of its interventions, technical assistance, research and flagship publications in order to more fully support the development aspirations of the Territories.

12. The Territories also actively participated in other regional meetings and capacity-building initiatives convened by ECLAC and its development partners, as indicated in the table below.

<i>Date and venue</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Participating Territories</i>
24–26 July 2018, Guyana	Caribbean Forum on Population, Youth and Development, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caribbean preparatory meeting for the Third Session of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean • Meeting on the implementation of the Lisbon Declaration on Youth Policies and Programmes 	Anguilla, British Virgin Islands and Montserrat
30–31 July 2018, Chile	Fifty-seventh meeting of Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean	Montserrat
7–9 August 2018, Peru	Third session of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean	Montserrat
Sessions scheduled periodically at the beginning of November 2018	Online preparatory sessions towards the fourteenth Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean	Anguilla, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Montserrat and Turks and Caicos Islands

13. In addition, ECLAC continues to include detailed coverage of the Territories in its publications, including data on the economic performance of Anguilla and Montserrat in *Economic Survey of the Caribbean*,⁴ published annually, and the *Preliminary Overview of the Economies of the Caribbean*.⁵ It is working towards expanding the scope of these publications to include other Territories. Additional recent publications that contain data and analysis regarding the Territories include *The Caribbean Outlook, 2018*,⁶ *Disability, Human Rights and Public Policy in the*

⁴ Available at www.cepal.org/en/publications/44478-economic-survey-caribbean-2018.

⁵ Available at www.cepal.org/en/publications/44479-preliminary-overview-economies-caribbean-2017-2018.

⁶ Available at www.cepal.org/en/publications/43581-caribbean-outlook.

*Caribbean*⁷ and *Planning for the 2020 Round of Population Censuses in the Caribbean*.⁸

B. International Civil Aviation Organization

14. The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) provided the information set out below.

15. In 2018, the Non-Self-Governing Territories of Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Montserrat and the Turks and Caicos Islands participated in the ICAO regional technical cooperation project for the Caribbean Region on the theme “Implementation of performance-based air navigation systems for the Caribbean Region” (RLA/09/801). The objective of the project is to provide assistance to States, Territories and organizations of the Caribbean region in the effective implementation of ICAO standards and recommended practices and safety improvements and performance-based navigation services/systems, in order to achieve a safe, efficient and sustainable aviation system in harmonization with the Global Air Navigation Plan, the Global Aviation Safety Plan, the Caribbean/South American regional air navigation plan and the regional performance targets for air navigation and aviation safety, and in support of the ICAO “No country left behind” initiative. The project is funded by Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Canada, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, France, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, the Netherlands, Nicaragua, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, the Caribbean Aviation Safety and Security Oversight System, the Central American Corporation for Air Navigation Services and the Eastern Caribbean Civil Aviation Authority.

16. Achievements of the project in 2018 included the updating and approval of a performance-based navigation regional plan for all Caribbean States and Territories. The implementation of performance-based navigation will help to reduce the susceptibility of the airspace in Caribbean States and Territories to disruptions in the event of natural disasters and will increase the efficiency of operations.

17. In 2018, French Polynesia participated in the Asia-Pacific Flight Procedure Programme (RAS09801), a regional Asia-Pacific technical cooperation project. The objective of the programme is to assist States and Territories in developing sustainable capability in instrument flight procedure design, in line with ICAO Assembly resolution A36-23 on performance-based navigation implementation and with the obligations of States to ensure the quality of their instrument flight procedures, which was reinforced in ICAO Assembly resolution A37-11. The programme is funded by Australia, China, France, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand and is co-located with the ICAO Asia and Pacific Regional Sub-Office in Beijing.

18. Achievements of the programme in 2018 included the continued provision of flight procedure design training, validation and implementation to member States and Territories of the Asia-Pacific Flight Procedure Programme. Four training courses involving 66 participants from 13 States and Territories were conducted in China, in support of the implementation of the priorities of the Asia-Pacific Flight Procedure

⁷ Available at www.cepal.org/en/publications/43306-disability-human-rights-and-public-policy-caribbean-situation-analysis.

⁸ Available at www.cepal.org/en/publications/43361-planning-2020-round-population-censuses-caribbean.

Programme Steering Committee. The courses covered initial procedure design, performance-based navigation procedure design, performance-based navigation flight procedure refresher training and helicopter point-in-space procedures. Phase III of the Flight Procedure Programme was focused on the provision of advanced courses to accommodate the requirements of States and other training on new procedures to follow up amendments to ICAO procedure design criteria. The training was held in Beijing from 3 to 6 December 2018 and was attended by 18 participants. The implementation of performance-based navigation will help to reduce the susceptibility of the airspace to disruptions in the event of natural disasters and will increase the efficiency of operations.

C. International Fund for Agricultural Development

19. The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) indicated that it provides its developing member States with loans for projects. The 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories are not IFAD member States and are therefore not eligible for IFAD financing for smallholder agriculture and rural development programmes.

20. However, IFAD implicitly supports the Territories through its global policy engagement efforts, by advocating better global policies and more investment in rural transformation at key international and regional forums (e.g. the high-level political forum on sustainable development and regional sustainable development forums), particularly those related to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Moreover, IFAD performs analytical and knowledge-based work on topics of concern to the 17 Territories, such as climate change, youth employment, agricultural productivity, gender equality and women's empowerment, and related topics. IFAD knowledge products are widely available for the development of evidence-based agriculture and rural development policies and programmes. IFAD has also funded many agricultural research grants (e.g. through the Consortium of International Agricultural Research Centers) on topics of importance to the 17 Territories, such as banana planting, coconut hydroponics and water management. The research findings are publicly available to all Non-Self-Governing Territories.

D. Pacific Islands Forum

21. The Pacific Islands Forum secretariat provided the information presented below.

Status within the Pacific Islands Forum

22. French Polynesia and New Caledonia are full members of the Pacific Islands Forum. Tokelau is an associate member, and American Samoa and Guam are observers.

23. The Pacific Islands Forum, at the invitation of the French High Commissioner of New Caledonia and under the auspices of the United Nations, deployed the Pacific Islands Forum Ministerial Committee to New Caledonia and acted as observer for the referendum of New Caledonia on full sovereignty and independence, conducted on 4 November 2018.⁹ At the time of writing, the Ministerial Committee's report was being considered by the Government of New Caledonia.

⁹ A media statement from the mission is available at www.forumsec.org/interim-statement-from-the-pacific-islands-forum-ministerial-committee-to-the-new-caledonia-referendum/.

Environmental and climate-related issues

French Polynesia

24. Rising sea levels threaten coastal populations. Most of the city of Papeete has an elevation ranging from zero to 15 metres and is surrounded by a shallow lagoon, with coastal beaches along the outer edge. Tahiti is a volcanic island with mountainous peaks, several of which are over 2,000 metres high. The rough terrain and mountainous features have resulted in a small amount of land being inhabitable for French Polynesians.

25. The Tuamotu archipelago, one of several land masses with an elevation of one to two metres above sea level, could disappear in the coming decades. With oceans expected to rise by about 50 centimetres at the current rate, the rise in sea levels will have a large impact on habitation and topography of the archipelago.

26. Coral bleaching threatens fisheries and undermines natural barriers against heavy storms, and yet French Polynesia has experienced seven episodes of coral bleaching over the past 20 years. The most damaging episode occurred in 1991, when about 20 per cent of coral colonies perished. The damage to the Territory's coral reefs has led to a decline in the number of lagoon fish and the overall ocean food chain. This has an impact on the Territory's subsistence fishing but also fishery exports. The degradation of coral as a result of bleaching and acidification may undermine the Territory's natural physical barriers against heavier storms. The islands are surrounded by reefs, which are made of coral and enclose lagoons. With heavy storms expected to become more frequent and the coral damage caused by bleaching, the natural protection of the islands could be lost, leaving the land vulnerable to weather events.

New Caledonia

27. The New Caledonian barrier reef is the second-longest double-barrier coral reef in the world. While most of the reefs are in good health, in January 2002, the administering Power proposed listing the reef as a World Heritage Site of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization because of the threat posed to its marine species. The reef is monitored by 13 local management committees to ensure that the health of the reef continues. However, intensified erosion as a result of cyclone-based flooding is continuing on account of rising sea temperatures and the loss of coastal habitats.

28. New Caledonia faces the challenge of building both resistance and resilience to violent storms. In May 2017, Vanuatu and New Caledonia were both hit by Cyclone Donna, which struck outside the so-called normal Pacific cyclone season. There was also the unusual phenomenon of Cyclone Ella forming at the same time. The archipelago has long been affected by these kinds of storms, which have the potential to cause irreversible damage, but are now generally stronger and occur outside the normal cyclone season. Increasing vulnerabilities in these areas can have long-lasting consequences for recovery and overall development.

Tokelau

29. Rising seas threaten human habitation and subsistence agriculture. Human habitation on the low-lying flat landscape of Tokelau is especially vulnerable to rising sea levels. Smaller islets have already disappeared, and now the larger islets are at risk. There is no higher ground for the people of Tokelau to move to as the sea rises; in addition, the soil is a mixture of coral and sand that can support only limited crops such as breadfruit, coconut, pandanus, giant swamp taro and banana. The larger islets

are at risk from rising sea levels as the ocean encroaches and increases the salinity of the already poor soil. Several species of plants have disappeared owing to soil erosion.

30. Rising temperatures threaten human health and the water supply. Warmer global temperatures have increased the already hot climate of Tokelau to the point where human health is impacted. Those with respiratory ailments, as well as the young and the elderly, are especially at risk of increased health issues owing to higher temperatures. The warmer climate is also exacerbating drought periods, during which fresh water, which is already in scarce supply, is increasingly hard to find. The lack of hydration compounds the potential health issues of the people of Tokelau.

31. Coral health has an impact on subsistence fishing. The coral population in the lagoons surrounding the islands of Tokelau has declined owing to higher ocean temperatures, coral bleaching and ocean acidification. This has affected the quantity and quality of the fish upon which the people of Tokelau rely for subsistence. In addition, extreme weather conditions have contributed to the disappearance of some species of lagoon fish.

Regional security and transnational crime

32. As members of the Pacific Islands Forum, French Polynesia and New Caledonia are party to existing Forum security declarations and arrangements. The most recent Forum security declaration, the Boe Declaration on Regional Security, addresses an expanded concept of security that includes transnational security issues such as drug trafficking and money-laundering. French Polynesia and New Caledonia benefit from arrangements under this new security declaration, including training and advice on policy development and capacity development, and the exchange of information on drug trafficking, money-laundering and other illegal and criminal activities within the region.

33. French Polynesia and New Caledonia are both members of the Pacific Islands Chiefs of Police and as such are aware of ongoing discussions and advice on drug issues, money-laundering and other illegal criminal activities within the region.

34. A major initiative of the Pacific Islands Chiefs of Police is the Pacific Transnational Crime Network, a proactive, police-led criminal intelligence and investigative network to combat transnational crime in the Pacific through a multi-agency and regional approach. A significant number of its discussions are centred on drug trafficking, money-laundering and other illegal criminal activities within the region. Discussions for New Caledonia and French Polynesia to consider formally joining the Pacific Islands Chiefs of Police are continuing. Membership benefits include:

(a) The ability to attend the Transnational Crime Conference as a full member and to collaborate and share information with other Pacific law enforcement agencies and regional forums on detecting and combating drug trafficking, money-laundering and other illegal criminal activities;

(b) The ability to access capacity development initiatives to enhance intelligence skills and capabilities through professional development activities contextualized to the Pacific region.

35. French Polynesia and New Caledonia are also members of the Pacific Immigration Development Community, which provides access to capacity development initiatives for border management and related transnational crime issues such as drug trafficking and money-laundering.

36. French Polynesia and New Caledonia are also members of the Oceania Customs Organization, under whose law enforcement and border security programme, there is

continuous dialogue among members to address pertinent law enforcement and border security issues affecting the region as a whole.

37. More specifically, the programme is aimed at increasing end-to-end international supply-chain security by introducing a balanced approach to security measures in order to safeguard shipments entering or leaving a customs territory from manipulation or interference by criminals; provide compliant traders with greater facilitation; increase the level of protection achieved by customs controls; and improve cooperation in customs and trade.

38. These activities support broader efforts to combat organized crime, given that customs organizations possess information and expertise on goods and cargo movements, and the greater transparency ensures that the international supply chain and its stakeholders refrain from illegal, criminal and terrorist misuse.

39. While French Polynesia and New Caledonia are not members of the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency, the administering Power's navy has in the past participated in annual Agency-led operations, such as Operation Kurukuru and Operation Tui Moana. These missions have included monitoring and surveillance operations within Forum members' exclusive economic zones. Using information gathered from these exercises, the Agency's Regional Fisheries Surveillance Centre is able to advise all participating members, including French Polynesia, New Caledonia and Tokelau, on locations where illegal activities pertaining to fisheries are likely to occur.

E. United Nations Children's Fund

40. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) provided the information presented below.

Humanitarian assistance in response to the 2017 hurricanes

41. Between 6 and 10 September 2017, category 5 Hurricane Irma, the most powerful hurricane ever recorded over the Atlantic, caused devastation and an extensive breakdown of essential services across several Caribbean countries and Territories. Hurricane Irma was followed by Hurricane Maria, also a category 5 hurricane. Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria caused wide-ranging damage, with UNICEF estimating that in the most affected countries and Territories, at least 1.4 million people, including 357,000 children, needed immediate humanitarian assistance. At least 72,000 of these people, including 18,000 children, were in the Non-Self-Governing Territories of Anguilla, the British Virgin Islands and the Turks and Caicos Islands.¹⁰

42. Given the spread and depth of the impact on so many affected islands, the operation and logistics were extremely challenging and costly. UNICEF launched a Humanitarian Action for Children appeal and a response strategy focused on providing immediate relief to affected populations, including through the provision of safe water and access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene supplies; the prevention of waterborne disease outbreaks, particularly cholera; support for the reopening of early childhood development facilities and schools and, where necessary, the establishment of temporary learning spaces; the provision of psychosocial support for children; the provision of access to child protection services and necessary information on preventing harm, violence and health-related risks in post-emergency situations;

¹⁰ According to UNICEF estimates, based on official sources. The number of people in need was as follows: Anguilla (13,555); British Virgin Islands (28,054); and Turks and Caicos Islands (30,556). The number of children in need was as follows: Anguilla (3,778); British Virgin Islands (7,367); Turks and Caicos Islands (7,527).

the provision of cash transfers to cover basic needs for the poorest children; and support for the participation and engagement of families, children and adolescents in recovery efforts. Although the Caribbean hurricanes Humanitarian Action for Children appeal implementation period ended at the end of 2017, some activities continued throughout 2018. Despite significant progress, the continuation of certain programmes was critical for reinforcing preparedness and social protection systems across the region and minimizing the potential consequences of future emergencies.

43. Along the same lines, UNICEF has continued to implement its regular programme in the affected countries and Territories and reinforced support for recovery and preparedness initiatives. In the Eastern Caribbean countries, UNICEF is making considerable efforts to support the implementation of the Caribbean Safe School Initiative, which has three key dimensions: safe learning facilities, school disaster management; and education about disaster risk reduction for resilience. Through the comprehensive implementation of this programme, education systems will be better equipped and readier to face the next hazard. Likewise, UNICEF continues working with key stakeholders to strengthen shock-response social protection systems as safety nets for the most vulnerable.

44. By the end of 2017, following UNICEF humanitarian interventions in Anguilla, the British Virgin Islands, and the Turks and Caicos Islands, at least 25,000 people had improved access to water and sanitation, including over 10,000 children with access to water, sanitation and hygiene facilities in schools; more than 13,000 children benefited from schools equipped with critical pedagogical and recreational materials; some 5,000 children received psychosocial support; and around 16,000 children affected by the hurricanes received key information on good hygiene, safety and protection. In the British Virgin Islands, activities continued in 2018, with the provision of access to water, sanitation and hygiene services to an additional 1,100 children, access to psychosocial support activities to 72 children and access to educational services to over 2,300 children by the end of May 2018 (see table below).

Summary of the results of the UNICEF Caribbean Hurricanes Programme (September 2017–May 2018)

		UNICEF response			
		Targets (2017)	Total results (2017)	Results (Jan–May 2018)	Total
<i>Summary of results (as at 28 May 2018)</i>					
Water, sanitation and hygiene					
Number of people with access to safe water	British Virgin Islands	1 308	208	1 100	1 308
	Turks and Caicos Islands	24 840	24 840		24 840
Number of schoolchildren with access to functional handwashing facilities and soap in schools and learning/safe spaces	Anguilla	3 579	3 245		3 245
	British Virgin Islands	5 742	3 278		3 278
	Turks and Caicos Islands	6 269	4 012		4 012
Child protection					
Number of children enrolled in psychosocial activities	Anguilla	1 689	1 475		1 475
	British Virgin Islands	3 344	2 208	72	2 352
	Turks and Caicos Islands	3 085	976		976
Number of “Return to Happiness” facilitators trained in psychosocial support in post-disaster situations	Anguilla	90	87		87
	British Virgin Islands	315	141	64	205
	Turks and Caicos Islands	60	54		54

Summary of results (as at 28 May 2018)	Territory	UNICEF response			Total
		Targets (2017)	Total results (2017)	Results (Jan–May 2018)	
Number of children benefiting from safe access to community spaces for socializing, play, learning, etc.	Anguilla	3 778	3 305		3 305
	British Virgin Islands	2 871	3 278		3 278
	Turks and Caicos Islands	5 728	4 230		4 230
Education and early childhood development					
Number of school-aged children and adolescents reached by schools (including reopening of schools and/or the establishment of temporary facilities)	Anguilla	2 875	2 875		2 875
	British Virgin Islands	4 400	3 266	2 308	5 574
	Turks and Caicos Islands	4 018	4 012		4 012
Number of children attending schools equipped with critical pedagogical and/or recreational materials	Anguilla	3 579	3 600		3 600
	British Virgin Islands	5 742	5 639	1 320	6 959
	Turks and Caicos Islands	4 018	4 648		4 648
Number of children under 5 years of age with access to safe and secure learning/play environments that promote protection and well-being	Anguilla	846	682		682
	British Virgin Islands	1 494	350	1 061	1 411
Communication for development					
Number of children with access to information on good hygiene, safety and protection	Anguilla	3 778	3 778		3 778
	British Virgin Islands	7 367	6 928	250	7 178
	Turks and Caicos Islands	7 527	4 901		4 901

45. Furthermore, in the British Virgin Islands during the first half of 2018, UNICEF, in partnership with the Territory's Ministry of Education and Culture and Adventist Development and Relief Agency International, conducted debris-clearing and other related projects in a number of primary schools and worked with its Chief Education Officer to draft the territorial education reconstruction strategy. UNICEF also helped to coordinate volunteers to sort toys donated by the British police for early childhood development centres and worked with the Ministry of Education and Culture to deliver toys to 25 centres.

46. In partnership with Adventist Development and Relief Agency International, UNICEF provided water and sanitation support to temporary learning spaces and schools in the British Virgin Islands. Five generators were purchased and installed in schools to enable the water pump to function properly and water tanks were distributed to a health centre and a school.

47. In the spirit of building capacities after the emergency response, UNICEF facilitated a lessons learned workshop in the British Virgin Islands for school principals, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Culture. A comprehensive list of recommendations was shared with the Chief Education Officer for further dissemination.

Caribbean Safe School Initiative

48. Considering the devastating impact of Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria on the Caribbean education system, UNICEF has spared no effort to build more resilient education systems through the implementation of the Caribbean Safe School Initiative, which is anchored on the Safe Schools Programme of the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency. Since May 2018, a project funded by the Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations is being implemented to review national and regional educational frameworks (that

is, legislations, policies, strategies and programmes); support the design and implementation of subregional and national protocols to prioritize the right to education in emergency preparedness and response plans; and support selected countries and Territories to design and implement disaster risk management plans at the school level. At the end of the project, the countries and Territories will not only have a more resilient education system on the basis of various policies and programmes, but also clear guidelines and protocols to be adopted in case of an emergency. Under the project, at least 120 policymakers and technicians from the Ministry of Education in at least 10 of the 12 countries and Territories will receive training on the implementation of the Safe Schools Programme. In five selected countries and Territories, including Anguilla and the British Virgin Islands, 160 principals, teachers and parents, and more than 6,000 primary school students, will be fully involved in the implementation of the project at the school level. It will involve at least 64 organizations – 12 Ministries of Education, 12 national disaster management offices and 40 schools – and will reach more than 6,000 students.

49. In January 2019, key technicians and policymakers from 12 Ministries of Education, including those of Anguilla and the British Virgin Islands, were mobilized and trained to design and implement the Caribbean Safe School Initiative. More than 200 key actors from Ministries of Education in the region had already been trained. The training sessions were focused on preparedness and response, including a review of the resilience principles to be included in the education system and child protection issues. The training sessions involved key actors from the Ministries of Education, national disaster management offices and child protection units at the national level, as well as two major regional bodies, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States and the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency and international organizations.

50. In collaboration with a regional partner and in close consultation with all the participant countries and Territories, a first draft of the guidelines for resilient school facilities has been finalized, based on national and territorial practices and knowledge, and was presented to key actors in each country and Territory (planners and chief education officers) for comments and improvements. At the time of writing, it is expected that the guidelines will be finalized and presented for endorsement to all the Ministries of Education by the end of February 2019.

Preparedness support

51. In preparation for the 2018 cyclone season, and, in particular, given the potential impact of Hurricane Isaac in early September 2018, UNICEF built on capacity and experience from emergencies in 2017 by taking rapid measures to ensure capacities were developed in case of an emergency. UNICEF preparedness measures included the following:

(a) UNICEF has kept in regular contact with implementing partners, including in Anguilla, the British Virgin Islands and Montserrat, in order to map their current preparedness status and potential response capacity;

(b) Radio messages were broadcast in Montserrat, with a focus on the prevention of violence against children and how to keep children safe during emergencies. Print-ready copies of key message were also shared for partners to print locally;

(c) UNICEF is ready to activate the U-Report Global platform, which serves to disseminate and collect critical information on water, sanitation and hygiene, and encourages users of the platform to invite their friends to join it so that they can receive critical information.

F. United Nations Development Programme

52. The activities of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) related to the Territories in the Caribbean under the purview of the Special Committee on Decolonization are set out below.

Latin America and the Caribbean

53. In the period 2017–2018, UNDP aligned its work with the United Nations Multi-country Sustainable Development Framework, a strategic framework that will guide the work of all agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations in the Caribbean for the period 2017–2021. The strategic framework was signed in 2017 by 21 Governments in the region and the United Nations system, including the following Non-Self-Governing Territories: Anguilla, British Virgin Islands and Montserrat.

54. The UNDP regional programmes for Latin America and the Caribbean have been focused on addressing three main priorities in 2017–2018: climate resilience, disaster risk reduction and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

55. Of significance in 2017 was the impact of Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria, two category 5 storms that caused widespread destruction in various member States and Territories, erasing decades of development progress. UNDP developed a comprehensive strategy to support the affected countries and Territories, including the British Virgin Islands and the Turks and Caicos Islands. Over US\$ 22 million were mobilized to finance resilience-building actions in these countries and Territories. Areas of support included:

- (a) Immediate post-disaster recovery planning through the deployment of early recovery advisors to augment the coordination capacity of the Governments;
- (b) Restoration of livelihoods and stimulation of local economies through cash-for-work programmes in such areas as waste management and debris removal;
- (c) Comprehensive building damage assessments in partnership with national authorities and Microsoft Corporation;
- (d) Provision of roofing materials and technical advice on “building back better” to help in the restoration of government buildings and the homes of people affected.

G. United Nations Population Fund

56. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has actively supported multiple Non-Self-Governing Territories in the Atlantic and the Caribbean, including Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, Montserrat and the Turks and Caicos Islands.

57. In Anguilla, the British Virgin Islands, Montserrat and the Turks and Caicos Islands, UNFPA provided technical and financial support to relevant ministries to strengthen the capacity of the Minimum Initial Service Package for Reproductive Health to address sexual and reproductive health needs and respond to gender-based violence in emergency situations. UNFPA is continuing to work with these Governments to ensure that the Minimum Initial Service Package for Reproductive Health is integrated into disaster response strategies and plans as a life-saving mechanism during emergencies.

58. In 2017, UNFPA provided over US\$ 400,000 in response to Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria in the Caribbean. UNFPA provided the Turks and Caicos Islands

with reproductive health kits that included essential drugs, supplies and equipment, for the delivery of priority reproductive health services to the affected populations. Health-care providers also received trained on the Minimum Initial Service Package for Reproductive Health. This significantly enhanced the capacity of the health facilities to reduce maternal and neonatal morbidity, manage obstetric complications and respond to sexual violence cases. In addition, a total of 932 dignity kits containing hygiene supplies and toiletries were distributed to women and girls of reproductive age.

59. In Anguilla, UNFPA provided support for the development of the sexual and reproductive health policy, 2018–2023, which covers maternal and children’s health, HIV prevention and the needs of vulnerable and marginalized groups, as well as other critical areas. In 2019, technical assistance has been initiated for the conduct of a comprehensive sexual and reproductive health prevalence survey, which will provide data necessary for the further implementation of the sexual and reproductive health policy.

60. UNFPA is currently working with the departments of statistics or statistics offices in Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, Montserrat and the Turks and Caicos Islands to enhance institutional capacity training and technical support in preparation for the 2020 round of the population and housing census. This will allow disaggregated data to be generated for monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals and informing policy and programme planning, including in emergency contexts.

61. In the Pacific region, UNFPA has a programme relationship with Tokelau and provides support in ensuring the effective provision of family planning commodities, including with regard to emergency preparedness and response.

H. Universal Postal Union

62. The Universal Postal Union (UPU), as an intergovernmental organization of a technical character and specialized agency of the United Nations, is currently composed of 192 member countries, comprising 190 sovereign States. The other members include the “Overseas Territories for whose international relations the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is responsible”, to which earlier Congresses had granted the separate status of member countries. In that regard, UPU notes that several of the Non-Self-Governing Territories under the purview of the Special Committee form part of the aforementioned United Kingdom Overseas Territories.

63. Other Territories falling under the situation described in article 23 of the UPU Constitution (“Application of the Acts of the Union to territories for whose international relations a member country is responsible”) concern the United States of America, which is the member country responsible for American Samoa, Guam and the United States Virgin Islands. The same situation applies for France, with regard to French Polynesia and New Caledonia and for New Zealand, with regard to Tokelau.

64. For all such Territories, the relevant provisions of the Acts of UPU apply in full, particularly with regard to the operation and regulation of international postal services and due fulfilment of the obligations arising from the Acts of UPU. Some of these Territories also benefit from technical cooperation and other UPU projects (as was the case for Bermuda and the Cayman Islands in 2018).

65. Moreover, a number of territories have their own designated operators (that is, the governmental or non-governmental entities officially designated by the member country to operate international postal services and to fulfil the related obligations arising out of the Acts of UPU on their territory). These include Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, the Falkland Islands (Malvinas),¹

Gibraltar, Montserrat, New Caledonia, Saint Helena and the Turks and Caicos Islands. UPU also reports that it does not have activities in Western Sahara.

I. World Health Organization

66. The World Health Organization (WHO) provided examples of its activities in Non-Self-Governing Territories in two of its regions (Americas and Western Pacific), as set out below.

Region of the Americas

Anguilla

67. Activities included:

- (a) Promotion of health and well-being throughout the life course;
- (b) Introduction by the Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) of an English-language course on comprehensive cervical cancer control at its virtual campus this year, for which Anguilla had six participants;
- (c) Support for the implementation of the Move Ya Body campaign, a healthy lifestyle initiative, carried out on the basis of recent results of the STEPS¹¹ survey, that is designed to promote more physical activity;
- (d) PAHO agreement with Stanford University to reproduce the Chronic Disease Self-Management Programme. Three community workshops targeting persons with chronic diseases were held in Anguilla;
- (e) Introduction of the Mental Health Gap Action Programme in Anguilla, starting with the depression module, and review of the mental health policy and plan;
- (f) Participation in the Caribbean regional Training of Trainers on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Disaster Management;
- (g) Provision of technical assistance and support for two-stakeholder consultations during the development process of the National Sexual and Reproductive Health Policy Monitoring and Evaluation Framework 2018–2023 for Anguilla;
- (h) Strengthening of health system governance, organization and management to achieve universal health;
- (i) Holding of a capacity-building workshop on the Workload Indicators of Staffing Need method in Anguilla;
- (j) Provision of support to Anguilla for the drafting of legislation on national health financing;
- (k) Building of safe, healthy and resilient environments that respond to threats and emergencies which have public health consequences;
- (l) Training in water quality testing.

Bermuda

68. Activities with regard to communicable diseases included:

¹¹ The WHO STEPwise approach to surveillance is a simple, standardized method for collecting, analysing and disseminating data in WHO member States. Available at www.who.int/ncds/surveillance/steps/en/.

- (a) Acquisition of antiretrovirals through the Pan American Health Organization Strategic Fund;
- (b) Support for the completion and submission of the antimicrobial resistance national action plan;
- (c) Provision of food safety training to food handlers and environmental officers;
- (d) Assessment of and training on the cold chain;
- (e) Training on the implementation of vaccination supplies stock management software;
- (f) Support for documentation on and verification of the sustainability of eliminating measles and rubella and congenital rubella syndrome;
- (g) Ongoing support for the procurement of vaccines and supplies through the PAHO Revolving Fund for Vaccine Procurement of the Expanded Programme on Immunization;
- (h) Support for the preparation and submission of the WHO/UNICEF Joint Reporting Form on Immunization;
- (i) Observation of Vaccination Week with a focus on improving coverage by raising public awareness of the mop-up vaccination for second doses of the measles, mumps, rubella vaccine and the human papillomavirus vaccine;
- (j) Provision of International Air Transport Association training to laboratory staff;
- (k) Training on surveillance of Legionella disease;
- (l) Training on preventive measures and outbreak responses to health-care-associated infection in neonatology.

69. Activities with regard to non-communicable diseases included:

- (a) Establishment of a cancer registry and development of a disease registry for diabetes mellitus;
- (b) Monitoring of support for the implementation of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control;
- (c) Provision of technical cooperation and support with regard to the implementation of the Baby-friendly Hospital Initiative at the King Edward VII Memorial Hospital; development of a national infant and young child feeding policy and a national nutrition policy.

70. Activities with regard to health systems and services included:

- (a) Port of entry assessments;
- (b) Development of an event management plan for the health sector.

71. Activities with regard to building safe and resilient environments that respond to threats and emergencies which have public health consequences included support for training for certification and annual recertification of readiness to respond to emergencies and disasters for mass casualty management and incident command system providers.

British Virgin Islands

72. Activities included:

- (a) Promotion of health and well-being throughout the life course;
- (b) Support for the development of a proposal with the British Virgin Islands and the Caribbean Development Bank on strengthening mental health and psychosocial support in disaster management;
- (c) Strengthening of health system governance, organization and management to achieve universal health;
- (d) Conduct of a capacity-building workshop on the Workload Indicators of Staffing Need method;
- (e) Conduct of a workshop on universal access to health care and universal health coverage and development of a road map and plan of action;
- (f) Conduct of an assessment of the national health information system using the new maturity model and development of an e-health and knowledge management strategy.

Cayman Islands

73. Activities with regard to communicable diseases included:

- (a) Development of a national action plan for antimicrobial resistance;
- (b) Ongoing support for the procurement of vaccines and supplies through the PAHO Revolving Fund for Vaccine Procurement of the Expanded Programme on Immunization;
- (c) Support for the preparation and submission of the WHO/UNICEF Joint Reporting Form on Immunization;
- (d) Observation of Vaccination Week with a focus on improving coverage for second doses of the measles, mumps, rubella vaccine through public education and the mop-up vaccination of children under 7 years of age;
- (e) Continued support for recertification of the validation of the achievement of elimination of mother-to-child transmission;
- (f) Participation in the board on the eradication of *Aedes aegypti* of the Mosquito Research and Control Unit;
- (g) Implementation of the PAHO FluNet system for enhancing surveillance of influenza-like diseases;
- (h) Training on the shipping of samples of infectious hazards;
- (i) Training on surveillance of Legionella disease;
- (j) Training on preventive measures and outbreak response to health-care-associated infection in neonatology.

74. Activities with regard to non-communicable diseases included:

- (a) Establishment of a dialysis registry;
- (b) Establishment of guidelines on the management of certain non-communicable diseases;
- (c) Training of health-care staff on the provision of appropriate services for victims of sexual and intimate partner violence;
- (d) Support for the attendance of staff at key conferences on tobacco control;
- (e) Provision of support for a tobacco cessation programme;

- (f) Training of staff in psychological first aid in 2018;
 - (g) Provision of support for the planning of a residential facility for patients in need of long-term care.
75. Activities with regard to health systems and services included:
- (a) Training of relevant health-care workers in the use of ultrasound for breast biopsies;
 - (b) Provision of training on integrated approaches for the assessment, selection, incorporation and rational use of medicines and other health technologies;
 - (c) Training on the International Classification of Diseases.
76. Activities with regard to building safe and resilient environments that respond to threats and emergencies which have public health consequences included:
- (a) Holding of a health symposium with a focus on climate change and health;
 - (b) Conduct of a mass casualty management providers course for 35 responders.

Montserrat

77. Activities included:
- (a) Promotion of health and well-being throughout the life course;
 - (b) Introduction by PAHO of an English-language course on comprehensive cervical cancer control at its virtual campus this year, for which Montserrat had two participants;
 - (c) Continued implementation in 2018 of a suicide prevention programme that had been started during the 2016–2017 biennium in Montserrat, with capacity-building for all key stakeholders, and the development of a monitoring and evaluation plan;
 - (d) Holding of a workshop on sexual and reproductive health with fifth-form school leavers;
 - (e) Strengthening of health system governance, organization and management to achieve universal health;
 - (f) Conduct of an assessment of primary and tertiary health-care facilities in Montserrat, resulting in recommendations to improve the structure, organization and operations of the facilities;
 - (g) Building of safe, healthy and resilient environments that respond to threats and emergencies which have public health consequences;
 - (h) Training on indoor air quality monitoring.

Turks and Caicos Islands

78. Activities with regard to communicable diseases included:
- (a) Support for the procurement of vaccines under the PAHO Revolving Fund for Vaccine Procurement of the Expanded Programme on Immunization;
 - (b) Support for the participation of the Territory in the regional Expanded Programme on Immunization meeting, which focused on programmatic, operational and surveillance matters, including mitigation measures to respond to threats of outbreaks.

Western Pacific region

79. During 2018, the main technical support to the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the Western Pacific region was provided through the WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific, the WHO Representative Office in the South Pacific and the Samoa country office.

American Samoa

80. WHO supported American Samoa in the administration of a campaign to eliminate lymphatic filariasis. Mass drug administration was facilitated by a similar campaign that had been conducted in Samoa, thus making it possible to fight the disease more effectively (there are daily transactions as people move between the Territory and Samoa). While lymphatic filariasis cannot be spread rapidly from country to country owing to the nature of the disease, its human and economic impact is significant. Another round of mass drug administration is planned for 2019, which will be followed by several surveys to confirm the elimination of the disease.

81. WHO also supported bi-lateral dialogue between American Samoa and Samoa with a focus on health security and the implementation of the International Health Regulations.

New Caledonia

82. Activities included:

- (a) Participation by New Caledonia in the Pacific Meeting on Health Emergency Risk Management, held in Fiji in September 2018 and facilitated by WHO;
- (b) Regular transmission by New Caledonia of syndromic surveillance data by email to WHO as part of the Pacific Syndromic Surveillance System and the contribution of reports to the Healthy Islands Monitoring Framework;
- (c) Provision by WHO of technical assistance on the management of leprosy.

Tokelau

83. Activities included:

- (a) Provision of assistance by WHO to Tokelau in reviewing its current strategic plan, which has informed the development of the next plan, in line with the Healthy Islands vision, the Sustainable Development Goals and universal health coverage;
- (b) Continued implementation of activities by Tokelau resulting from a high-level multisectoral health summit with a focus on control of non-communicable diseases, specifically strategies to reduce exposure to, and consumption of, unhealthy food and non-alcoholic beverages, including reduction of the amount of sodium in food;
- (c) Development of treatment guidelines and protocols, reviewed across the continuum of care, for management of cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, sexually transmitted infections and HIV, tuberculosis and emerging diseases;
- (d) Advancement of a framework for pharmaceutical supply chain management to ensure availability and accessibility of essential medicines in the light of geographical challenges;
- (e) Implementation of the tobacco control policy, Tobacco-Free Tokelau by 2020, through capacity-building for tobacco control, law enforcement, promotion of health education and raising the awareness of health professionals, communities, border officials and people involved in commerce.