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THIRD INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR THE ERADICATION OF COLONIALISM  
Caribbean regional seminar on the implementation of the Third International Decade

Caribbean Regional Seminar 2013  
Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: First quarter review of  
developments & trends  
Special Committee on Decolonization  
United Nations  
Quito, Ecuador  
28-30 May 2013

**Mr. Julien Boanemoui**  
**Representing Mr. Roch Wamytan**  
**New Caledonia**

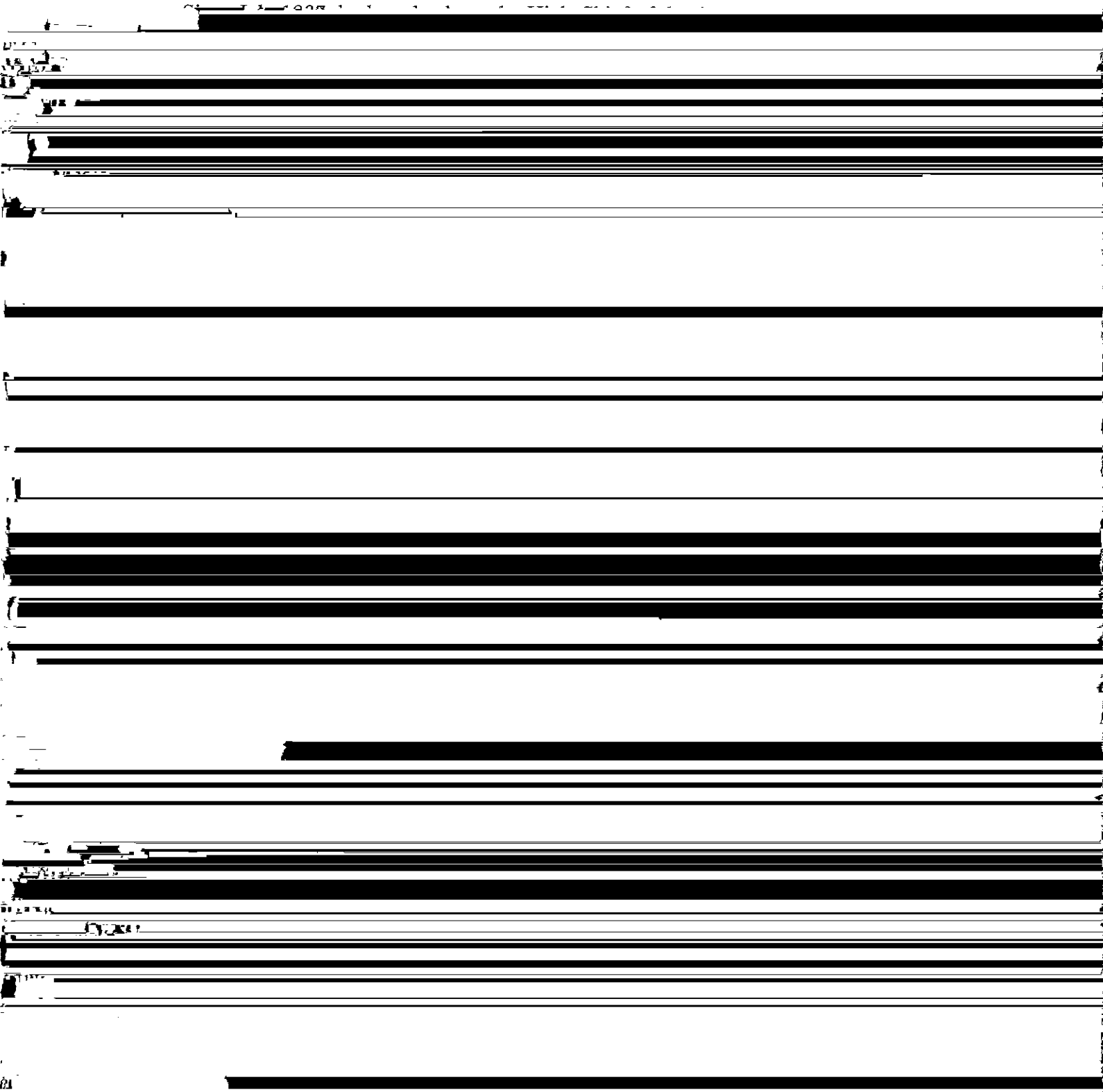
***Decolonization and the right to vote***  
***in Kanaky/New Caledonia***

**Text written by Mr. Roch Wamytan**

***Biography***

Roch Wamytan is a Kanak politician and traditional chief advocating Independence for New Caledonia; he was born on 13 December 1950 in Noumea and has four children. He is a member of the Caledonian Union (Union Calédonienne) and the Kanak and Socialist Front for National Liberation (FLNKS-Front de Liberation National Kanak et Socialiste).

Caledonia responsible for Customary Affairs (1999 – 2001 and 2002-2004) and, President of the FLNKS group in the Congress of New Caledonia (1989 – 1995, 2009 – 2011).



*Text*

*Introduction*

Your Excellency Mr. Chairman,  
Distinguished Members of the Special Committee on Decolonization,  
Distinguished Representatives of Ecuador,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me begin by congratulating you, Mr. Chairman, on your election and that of  
members of your office to provide our children with a better future.

We are gathered today, as we near the end of the first quarter of the Third Decade for  
the Eradication of Colonialism, to discuss progress with the Action Plan for the Eradication of

[REDACTED]

the other anti-Independence. This is a maneuver that can be described as the well-known  
"pyromaniac / fixman" maneuver. Because the French State is not the solution of the problem

in New Caledonia. It is the main element in the

We will conclude by submitting to you our fears for the future but also our hopes and  
expectations, and the solutions that could be implemented with your support.

future country together.





The independence referendum has been asked for by the pro Independence group since their first independence claim (1975). But the State has constantly put it off, claiming that the country was not ready. So from one agreement to another, the electorate for the referendum has been expanded. FLNKS has accepted many concessions. But today's conflicting interpretations are ushering in disturbing trends. The French Governments' intentions concealed behind virginal neutrality and relayed by those of the anti-independence factions, who are becoming increasingly strident, are continuously pushing further for the expansion of

the special electorate. It is in... ..

4° Elected by the municipality, appointed by the High Commissioner, after consultation with the Council of the

of New Caledonia.

In case of a tie in the Administrative Commission, the President shall have the casting vote.

The Commission may consult with one or more representatives appointed by the custom, according to uses recognized, having their domicile in the town and enjoying their electoral rights.

The purpose of these committees is to consider all applications made by persons wishing to be included in the special electoral list and to decide if they can be added to it or not.

Please allow me to provide you with some examples of procedural problems and especially issues with the interpretation of the relevant texts that we are encountering in the

administrative review committees for the special electoral roll:

- FLNKS delegates are always a minority : indeed each committee is composed of five persons, chaired by a judge of the judiciary designated by the First President of the Court of Cassation, on which also sits a representative who is a registered voter nominated by the FLNKS. Decisions are made by a majority process. However, the

In addition to the above, the following information is being provided:

committee decided to add to the report that the following information is being provided:

In addition, it seems very important to add that, as regards the special electorate for the vote on the country's accession to full sovereignty, supposed to take place between 2014 and 2018, and which is defined differently from the special electorate for provincial elections, work has not started on producing this list. The French Government is not providing us with ~~any support although we are between one and five years away from the date of the vote.~~

should be remembered that Point 5 of the Noumea Accord specifies that this vote, taking the form of a question to be answered, will focus on "the transfer to New Caledonia of the sovereignty powers, access to international status of full responsibility and the evolution of citizenship into nationality."

France will do everything possible to prevent our countries attaining full sovereignty: attempts to neutralize and to destabilize pro-Independence political parties and national liberation movements, killings of pro-Independence leaders, manipulation and destabilization practices tried and tested in former French colonies. 'Françafrique' is an example.

In this regard, a 'Truth Committee' was established following the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the assassination of Pierre Declercq, the Secretary-General of the Caledonian Union, in 1981. The descendants of several people murdered in New Caledonia during the so-called "Events" period expressed their desire to know the truth about the murder of their father, grandfather,

New Caledonian citizens to whom the Kanak People has reached out to build a free and

The goal is clear, it is to populate New Caledonia (in line with Prime Minister  
Macemer's circular in 1972) in order to submerge the Kanak people

keeps its sovereign powers in New Caledonia, and all the more so as Oceania is considered as the new center of the world<sup>8</sup>.

#### ***4. New Caledonia is a Pacific Island, France is European.***

Recently, a symposium organized by the French Senate in Paris in January 2013 reconfirmed the French interest in the French Pacific territories. It is now recognized that the Pacific has become the center of global growth, with a huge potential that can meet the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century (energy, raw materials, food).

The future now rotates around the development of marine resources which are becoming strong employment providers through biodiversity, fisheries, mining of rare earths (yielding rare metals used in the manufacture of computers, tablets, Smartphones, lasers, solar panels, radars and missiles).

~~The speakers at the symposium advocated defending France's 111 territories in the Pacific.~~



FLNKS to hand over its seat to the Government of New Caledonia. The same can be said with regard to the Pacific Forum in which we believe that New Caledonia should not obtain full membership status as it is not independent. Because otherwise it is France who would, as a "Trojan Horse", be coming into these regional organizations, which have been involved in



New Caledonia will be still under UN supervision and that New Caledonia will not be removed from the list. Because we believe that this is an option being seriously considered and worked on by France in the event of failure of the referendum. Thus, as a precautionary and safety measure, would it not be a possibility to guarantee that the FLNKS obtain the status of NLM (National Liberation Movement) within the UN? This question arises when we witness attempts by the State to try and minimize, at every opportunity, the legitimacy of the FLNKS, as was the case during the last signatories committee meeting in December 2012.

We reiterate our confidence in all the former of action that...

with the administering power, so as to enforce the Noumea Accord, a decolonization agreement in its very essence.

Before I conclude, let me thank your organization for all the...