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**THIRD INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR THE ERADICATION OF COLONIALISM**

Acceleration, Innovation and Self-Determination in Decolonization: Taking Stock and Looking Ahead, with

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the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands with the United States of America (USA). The Indian Ocean

When it comes to other names on the UN's list, there are cases where the issues at stake are more - or include challenges other - than decolonization. for example international disputes over sovereignty in regard to Falkland

Islands (Malvinas), Gibraltar and Western Sahara

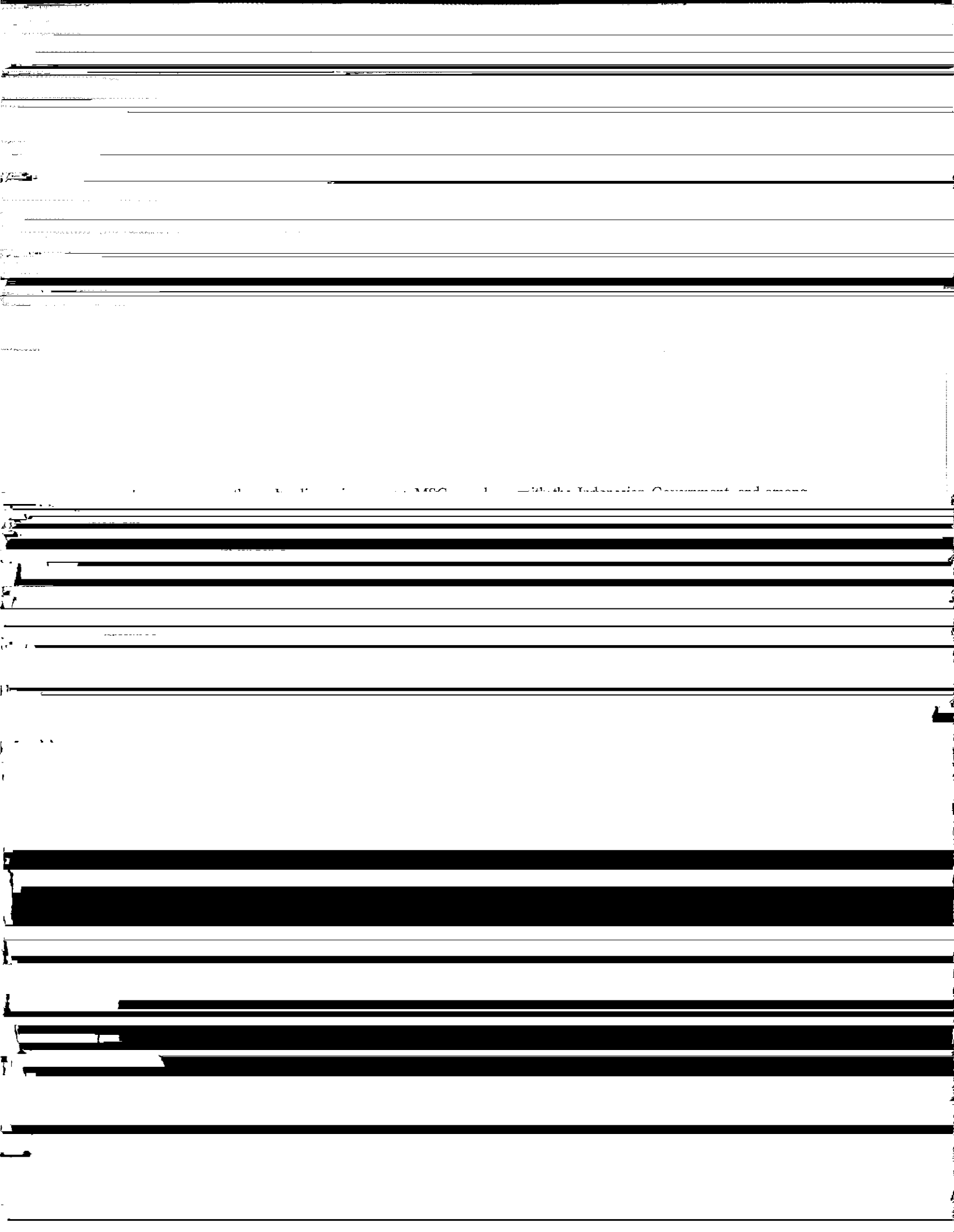
pressure from a colonial power to rid itself of the costs of continuing colonial rule, particularly the international political opprobrium which has been widely attached to colonial rule since World War II.

As previously observed, decolonization has had diverse (combinations of) drivers in different circumstances (both territories and times). The two main ways in which disengagement occurs – and constitutional and other changes to government are made – have been either through negotiations between the colonial power and its prospective successors, or through processes which have allowed leaders of a non-self-governing territory to make relevant decisions in consultation with the public of the particular territory.

The challenges to decolonization in the remaining non-self-governing territories in the Pacific include the interests

responsible choice through informed and democratic processes.'

Again, as previously observed, decolonization in the Pacific has involved diverse transformations from non-self-governing to post-colonial status. In the non-self-governing territories still on the UN's list final outcomes have yet





As H.E. the Chairman has said, it is critical that any review and recommendations must be conducted on a case-by-case basis, with full regard to the unique aspects of local circumstances.

A truly forward-looking approach must, surely, also pay close attention to issues and challenges shared by small island states around the world, including possible strategies for addressing the likely impacts of global warming, resource depletion, economic opportunities for their inhabitants, and other aspects of sustainable development

## Conclusion

Thus does decolonization in the Pacific appear to an observer, both now and in likely prospect. If nothing else, the diversity mentioned in the Introduction to this paper is likely to be more readily discerned now than it was at the start. This should be regarded not as an obstacle but as an incentive for anyone concerned for decolonization in any

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7014 a . Note on the 1969 Act of Free Choice in Former Dutch New Guinea in