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

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 submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution [74/96](#) 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/75/50](#).



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/74/65](#) and [A/74/65/Add.1](#). The present report, which covers the period from 26 March 2019 to 23 March 2020, is submitted in accordance with paragraph 5 of resolution [74/96](#).

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 14 February 2020, the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations informed the Secretariat of the following:

The General Assembly, in its resolution [2065 \(XX\)](#) and 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.

Austria

8. In a note verbale dated 19 February 2020, the Permanent Mission of Austria to the United Nations informed the Secretariat that there are no scholarships offered by the Government of Austria exclusively to students from the Non-Self-Governing Territories. However, such students are eligible to apply for various scholarship programmes offered to all foreign nationals, including the Ernst Mach Grant, the Franz Werfel Fellowship for young university teachers of German language and Austrian literature, the Richard Plaschka Fellowship Post-Doc and the Richard Plaschka Fellowship Pre-Doc. For further scholarship opportunities offered by the Government of Austria, see www.scholarship.at.

The Permanent Mission further informed the Secretariat that the Government of Austria has no data on the number of students from Non-Self-Governing Territories to whom scholarships have been granted.

Canada

9. In a note verbale dated 14 February 2020, the Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations informed the Secretariat of the following:

Between 2009 and 2018, 16 students, faculty and researchers from Non-Self-Governing Territories received scholarships from six different Global Affairs Canada scholarship programmes (see tables 1 and 2). All inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories are eligible to apply for the Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships and the Banting Postdoctoral Fellowships, Canada's most prestigious awards for doctoral students and postdoctoral fellows, respectively, working in the health sciences, natural sciences and engineering, and social sciences and humanities. For other scholarships offered by the Government of Canada, see www.scholarships.gc.ca.

Table 1

Scholarship programmes offered to Non-Self-Governing Territories

<i>Non-Self-Governing Territory</i>	<i>Global Affairs Canada scholarship programme</i>
Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Montserrat, Saint Helena, Turks and Caicos Islands	Emerging Leaders in the Americas Programme
Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Montserrat, Turks and Caicos Islands	Canada-Caribbean Community Leadership Scholarships Programme

<i>Non-Self-Governing Territory</i>	<i>Global Affairs Canada scholarship programme</i>
Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Montserrat, Turks and Caicos Islands	Canada-Caribbean Community Faculty Leadership Programme

Table 2
Number of scholarships awarded by Global Affairs Canada between 2009 and 2018, by Territory

<i>Non-Self-Governing Territory</i>	<i>Number of scholarships awarded</i>
Anguilla	0
Bermuda	1
British Virgin Islands	1
Cayman Islands	13
Montserrat	1
Saint Helena	0
Turks and Caicos Islands	0
Total	16

Note: Canadians are eligible to apply for the Canadian Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Scholarship, and study or research in Non-Self-Governing Territories, as long as there is an agreement between the Canadian and non-Canadian institutions.

Cuba

10. In a note verbale dated 18 March 2020, the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations informed the Secretariat of the following:

Contribution of the Republic of Cuba to the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 74/96, entitled “Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories”, adopted by the General Assembly on 13 December 2019.

Scholarship recipients from Non-Self-Governing Territories studying in Cuba during the 2019/20 academic year

<i>Territory</i>	<i>MINSAP</i>	<i>MES</i>
Western Sahara	72	6
Total	72	6

Scholarship recipients from Non-Self-Governing Territories who have graduated in Cuba as at 2019

<i>Territory</i>	<i>MINSAP</i>	<i>MES</i>	<i>INDER</i>	<i>MINED</i>		<i>Total</i>
				<i>Higher Secondary</i>	<i>Secondary</i>	
Anguilla	1					1
Bermuda	1	1		1		3
Western Sahara	385	559	16	199	935	2 094
Total	387	560	16	200	935	2 098

Scholarships offered to Non-Self-Governing Territories in 2020/21

Territory	MINSAP		MES	
	Undergraduate	Postgraduate	Undergraduate	Postgraduate
Western Sahara	10	5	8	0
Total	15		8	

Abbreviations: INDER (Instituto Nacional de Deportes, Educación Física Recreación), National Institute for Sports, Physical Education and Recreation; MES (Ministerio de Educación Superior), Ministry of Higher Education; MINED (Ministerio de Educación), Ministry of Education; MINSAP (Ministerio de Salud Pública), Ministry of Public Health.

France

11. In a communication dated 14 February 2020, the Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations provided the Secretariat with information, including on State scholarships for higher education in 2019 and the Cadres for the Future programme. A summary of the documents submitted is presented below.

State scholarships for higher education: notes and record for 2019

At the start of the 2019 school year, there were 4,992 students in New Caledonia, 1,608, or 32.2 per cent, of whom received a State scholarship for higher education based on financial need, compared with 37.5 per cent in metropolitan France. Fifty-one per cent of the recipients were enrolled at universities, almost 40 per cent were studying for the *brevet de technicien supérieur* (two-year technical certificate) and 9 per cent were enrolled in other courses for holders of a *baccalauréat* (secondary school diploma).

From 2018 to 2019, the proportion of scholarship recipients declined significantly, from 33.1 per cent to 32.2 per cent:

- There was a 5-point decline which mainly affected university students.
- The percentage of recipients of scholarships awarded based on financial need studying for the *brevet de technicien supérieur* (two-year technical certificate) increased by 4 points.
- The percentage of students enrolled in preparatory classes for admission to *grandes écoles* (specialized institutions of higher education) remained virtually unchanged.
- The percentage of recipients studying for a degree in accounting and management increased by 20 points, while the percentage of recipients enrolled in management and business schools increased by 8 points.
- The percentage of recipients of scholarships awarded based on financial need to students enrolled in *classes de mise à niveau* (technical courses to help students meet certain specified requirements) increased by 2 points.

Scholarships for higher education based on financial need may only be awarded to students enrolled in a course of study approved by the Ministry of Higher Education for that purpose. They are granted based on the resources and expenses of the student's family or tax household. Subject to age, enrolment category, nationality and academic requirements, such scholarships are assessed according to a national scale and their annual amount is calculated using a nationally established method. Scholarship levels are the same throughout the national territory, including the overseas departments and territories.

The “Executives for the Future” programme

The “Executives for the Future” programme, formerly known as “400 Executives”, was established on the basis of a provision set out in the Matignon Agreements: “in order to rebalance the sharing of responsibilities, a major training programme for executives, in particular Melanesian executives, must be launched without delay.” Since then, in partnership with stakeholders involved in training and pursuant to the Nouméa Accord of 5 May 1998, the group *Formation – Cadres avenir* (Training – Executives for the Future) has been responsible for promoting the economic and social development of New Caledonia.

The group focuses specifically on training and rebalancing. To that end, it initiates, facilitates and monitors activities aimed at preparing and facilitating the training, in metropolitan France, of the executives needed for the economic and social development of New Caledonia. On average, the group supports more than 150 students per year in metropolitan France.

In 2018/19, the success rate increased, and the failure rate decreased significantly, in line with the trends observed over the past three years.

Two specific schemes under the “Executives for the Future” programme

Since 2016, three court clerks, one prison lieutenant, one public finance inspector, one Senate assistant, and one maritime affairs administrator have been trained under the “Merit” scheme. Currently, 14 students, including 7 Kanaks, are in training, preparing for exams in the following areas: prison administration (2 people); judiciary (4 people); law (1 person); administration (6 people); health care (hospital administration) (1 person).

The “Masters of Business Administration” scheme was established in 2014 to provide managerial tools and training to current senior executives. Between 2014 and 2017, 32 people, of whom 50 per cent were Kanak, received training under this scheme. The overall success rate is 60 per cent.

With respect to the financing of the programme, more than 686 million Pacific francs are provided by the State and 55 million Pacific francs are provided by New Caledonia to fund the training of New Caledonians.

India

12. The Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations, in a communication dated 14 February 2020, provided the following information:

The Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation Programme is a visible symbol of India’s role and contribution to South-South cooperation through capacity-building partnership, with a footprint in 161 partner countries from Asia, Africa, Eastern Europe, Latin America, the Caribbean, and Pacific and small island countries.

The Programme also includes capacity-building provided by India under the Special Commonwealth African Assistance Plan and the Colombo Plan for Cooperative Economic and Social Development in Asia and the Pacific. In 2018/19, 11,051 civilian training slots were offered under the Programme to 161 partner countries for various short-term and medium-term courses in institutions spread all over India.

As part of its academic and intellectual activities in 2018/19, the Indian Council for Cultural Relations offered 3,940 scholarship slots for foreign

students studying in India under its various scholarship schemes, including those open to candidates of all nationalities.

Mexico

13. In a communication dated 14 February 2020, the Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations informed the Secretariat of the following:

Each year, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, through the Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation, invites foreign nationals interested in studying in Mexico in a specialized area or for a master's degree or doctorate, in conducting postgraduate research or in taking part in mobility programmes for undergraduates and postgraduates, to participate in the merit-based scholarship programme of the Government of Mexico for foreign nationals.

The programme is open to more than 180 countries, including Non-Self-Governing Territories. More than 90 institutions of higher education in Mexico also participate in the programme, and all of them have academic programmes registered with the National Programme for Quality Postgraduate Studies of the National Council for Science and Technology.

The call for applications for the programme for 2020 was open between 22 July and 27 September 2019, until 3 p.m. (Mexico City time); all information regarding the scholarship, as well as the list of countries to which the programme is open, can be found at the following link: <https://www.gob.mx/amexcid/acciones-y-programas/becas-para-extranjeros-29785>.

In addition, in the following table, the column "Visits recorded" shows the number of people who visited the site to see the call for applications; the column "Records created" shows the number of people who created a profile to access the applications but did not necessarily apply for the scholarship; and the column "Records completed" shows the number of people who applied for the scholarship. Only one person, from Anguilla, created a record but did not apply for the scholarship. As a result, no scholarships were granted to these Territories.

Participation of inhabitants of Non-Governing Territories in the merit-based scholarship programme of the Government of Mexico for foreign nationals

<i>Territory</i>	<i>Visits recorded</i>	<i>Records created</i>	<i>Records completed</i>
Anguilla	1	1	0
Bermuda	0	0	0
Gibraltar	0	0	0
Cayman Islands	0	0	0
Turks and Caicos Islands	0	0	0
British Virgin Islands	0	0	0
Montserrat	0	0	0
New Caledonia	0	0	0
Pitcairn	0	0	0
Western Sahara	0	0	0

<i>Territory</i>	<i>Visits recorded</i>	<i>Records created</i>	<i>Records completed</i>
Saint Helena	0	0	0
Tokelau	0	0	0

New Zealand

14. In a note verbale dated 17 February 2020, 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.

In 2019 the Government of New Zealand assisted the Tokelau Department of Education in holding a national education summit, which was well attended by representatives of the New Zealand education agencies, including the Ministry of Education and the New Zealand Education Review Office. At the summit, a new strategic direction was set for Tokelau's education system. As a result of this major shift, Tokelau will build linkages with the New Zealand education system to raise the quality and breadth of its secondary education and to achieve other strategic objectives.

During 2019, the Centre for Educational Development of Massey University continued and concluded its programme of assistance to Tokelau's Department of Education and three schools.

The Government of New Zealand offers access to New Zealand Short-Term Training Scholarships to help Tokelauans in the workforce to gain relevant knowledge and skills. The Administrator of Tokelau encourages the Government of Tokelau to ensure that such opportunities are realized by suitable candidates.

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

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 in order for students to attend tertiary institutions, primarily in the Pacific region.

Qatar

15. In a note verbale dated 25 February 2020, the Permanent Mission of Qatar to the United Nations informed the Secretariat of the following:

The State of Qatar provides numerous scholarships for the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories and of countries around the world through a portfolio of scholarships that are distributed among government universities in Qatar and granted to students, provided that they meet the relevant university admission criteria. Applications for scholarships in the State of Qatar can be submitted through the following general link: www.qatarscholarship.qa.

In a second note verbale, dated 12 March 2020, the Permanent Mission of Qatar to the United Nations provided the following additional information:

No students from any Non-Self-Governing Territories have applied for or received a scholarship for studying at Qatar University. Scholarships allocated to foreign embassies will be assigned to Qatar University. Any student from inside or outside the State of Qatar can apply for admission to Qatar University during the application period, which is indicated every semester on the university's website. Applications for scholarships are available for two semesters throughout the academic year. Admission and scholarships are granted on a competitive basis in accordance with the conditions and standards determined by the university each semester. Qatar University scholarships are granted for students studying towards a bachelor's degree or in the programme of Arabic as a second language.

Singapore

16. In a communication dated 29 January 2020, the Permanent Mission of Singapore provided the updated information contained in the following table:

Participation by inhabitants of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in capacity-building programmes under the Singapore Cooperation Programme

<i>Territory</i>	<i>Number of participants (as of January 2020)</i>
Anguilla	26
Bermuda	7
British Virgin Islands	20
Cayman Islands	12
Montserrat	65
Tokelau	3
Turks and Caicos Islands	13

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

17. In a communication dated 14 February 2020, 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 2019/20, the United Kingdom offered eight Chevening Scholarships – covering studies in sustainability, sociology, energy and business – to students from the overseas territories, as set out in the table below.

Chevening Scholarships offered in 2019/20

<i>Territory</i>	<i>Number of scholarships</i>
Anguilla	2
Cayman Islands	1
Montserrat	4
Turks and Caicos Islands	1
Total	8

United States of America

18. In a communication dated 20 February 2020, 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

(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	1 000 000	Through the Close Up Insular Area Program, experiential civic education programs were provided to students and teachers from the United States territories and freely associated States. Principal components included: (a) Close Up Washington: for 195 high school and middle school students and educators – late spring/summer 2019; (b) Local youth summits at which 320 students and educators examined local government and policy issues. Close Up staff travelled to each summit to assist, in the fall of 2019; (c) Community action project program mini-grants: fall/winter of 2019; (d) Program evaluation: pre- and post-surveys.
Junior State of America Insular Area Program – academic preparation and community project boot camp	Junior State of America Foundation	86 450	Through the academic preparation program, 75 students from the insular areas were provided with an advanced week prior to the start of the 2019 Junior State of America Summer School program (3-week courses at Georgetown, Princeton or Stanford), preparing young people from insular areas for the upcoming academic rigours and cultural differences, and allowing additional time for acclimation to their new environment. Additionally, students created a realistic action plan addressing positive change on their home islands. Through the community project boot camp, held in tandem with the preparation week, a two-day post-program wrap-up was offered. Students strategized regarding how best to implement the changes to the political and social issues addressed in their action plans, applying skills learned throughout the summer.

<i>Project title</i>	<i>Applicant</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Description of project</i>
Achieving Health Equity through Workforce Development	Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation	30 000	<p>To support the hospital's trifold initiative:</p> <p>(a) To retain the hospital's nurse managers and nurse supervisors through the obtention of critical United States specialized certification;</p> <p>(b) To encourage current licensed practical nurses and certified nursing assistants to become registered nurses by passing the National Council Licensure Examination;</p> <p>(c) To further develop the skills of the ancillary workforce through the obtention of specialized training certifications.</p>

III. Applications made through the United Nations

19. 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.

20. From 26 March 2019 to 23 March 2020, no requests for information on the availability of scholarships were received by the Secretariat.

IV. Conclusion

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