



ORPIO
Organización Regional de los
Pueblos Indígenas del Oriente

FECONAFROPU

FECONAMCUA

FECONARINA

FECONACO

FECOTYBA

FEPYROA

ORKIWAN

FECONAT

AIDECOS

ADECOP

FECONA

CURCHA

OISPE

ACODECOSPAT

CC. MATSÉS

FIKAPIR

FECONAMAY

FECONCU

ASINONSEP

FEPYRA

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FECONAPRE

AKUBANA

FECONATIYA

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OCIBPRY

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Iquitos. April 20, 2019

Letter N° 31-2019-CD-ORPIO

United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

United Nations, UN

New York.-

Summary: We present recommendations for the protection of indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation and initial contact to the 18° session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

Please receive the cordial greetings of the steering committee of the Regional Organization of Indigenous Peoples of the Orient, ORPIO, which represents 23 indigenous pueblos and has assumed the defense and protection of the indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation of the northern Peruvian Amazon.

In Loreto, our region/"department", are located the five proposed indigenous reserves for indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation that have still yet to be recognized officially by the Peruvian State. The lack of legal security and effective protection in these territories has favored invasions of illegal actors, as well as the overlap of logging and petroleum concessions awarded by the Peruvian State. Numerous logging roads and road infrastructure projects have also become grave threats for our brothers and sisters in voluntary isolation, who could physically and culturally disappear due to the devastating effects of extractive industries and invaders in their territories and on their sources of subsistence.

Given the extreme gravity of the situation, our organization has presented four lawsuits to the Judiciary Branch of Perú, demanding that the State complies with their duty to guarantee the fundamental human rights of our brothers and sisters in voluntary isolation. In this same line, and being aware of the important role that the United Nations, and in particular the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, plays in advocacy with States to ensure the protection and sociocultural integrity of our brothers and sisters in isolation, we reach out to you in order to present the following recommendations and to ask that these are incorporated into the report of this session, and also that there is a follow up to ensure the compliance of the Peruvian State in implementing them.

Recommendations of ORPIO to the 18° Session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues:

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1. We exhort the Ministry of Culture of Perú to comply with its responsibility, recognized in the national laws, such as the Law 28736, to carry out the process of officially creating the Indigenous Reserves of Napo – Tigre, Sierra del Divisor Occidental, Yavarí Mirim, Yavarí Tapiche, and Kakataibo, in favor of the indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation that live in these areas, putting first the respect of their fundamental ancestral territorial rights, before the economic interests of outsiders that exist in these areas.
2. We exhort the Ministry of Culture to comply with the implementation of the Special Multi-Sector Regimen of protection of indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation and initial contact, which was established in Article 1° of the Law 28736. In doing so, the Ministry of Culture should inform, coordinate with, and give follow up to, all of the involved sectors of the Peruvian State (Forestry, Environment, Energy and Mines, Transport and Communications, Agriculture etc.), both at the national and regional level, in order to avoid that any sector of the State makes official decisions that threaten the rights of these indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation. Specifically, we refer to the awarding of natural resource concessions, the development of highway transportation and infrastructure projects, and the inadequate zoning of natural protected areas, that may threaten the health and the very lives of these peoples.
3. We exhort the Forestry sector of the Peruvian State to annul the logging concessions that have been awarded illegally since the year 2016, overlapping with the proposed Indigenous Reserves for indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation and initial contact in Loreto, Perú. These illegal logging concessions violate the current forestry legislation which strictly prohibits awarding logging concessions in areas which are in the process of being created as Indigenous Reserves. Likewise, we exhort the Peruvian State to exclude the Permanent Production Forests from all areas inhabited by indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation, due to the grave impact that logging activities can have on the lives and the cultural and physical continuity of these extremely vulnerable peoples.
4. We exhort Perúpetro and the Ministry of Energy and Mines to exclude all oil and gas concessions that overlap with the five proposed indigenous reserves in the process of creation in favor of the indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation, due to the severe impacts that these activities can have on the lives, health, and socio-cultural continuity of these peoples.
5. We exhort the National Parks Service of Perú, SERNANP, to replace the “Special Use Zones” and the “Wilderness Zones” in the areas of the Sierra del Divisor National Park which are inhabited by indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation, with Strict Protection Zones, given the serious risks that these types of zoning categories generate for the lives, health, and continuity of these indigenous pueblos in isolation.

As you can see, Mr. Jens Dahl, with respect to the region of Loreto, Perú, the current situation of the indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation and initial contact clearly

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reflects the fact that their rights are being systematically threatened by the very institutions of the Peruvian State, and meanwhile the functional deficiencies of the Judiciary Branch of the Peruvian government delay the advance of the lawsuits that, in defense of their human rights, are being presented by our organization. It is also clear that the norms established in the Guidelines of the UN on the protection of indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation and initial contact of the amazon basin and el chaco, are not taken into account by the government of Perú, and much less implemented.

With the hopes of counting on your support and the adoption of these recommendations in the current session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, for the well-being of the indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation and initial contact of the Peruvian Amazon, I say goodbye to you and thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,



Jorge Perez Rubio
Presidente

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