

# **Statement of Solidarity to the Indigenous Peoples of Peru by the Global Network of Indigenous Peoples on the Extractive Industries**

**June 8, 2009**

## **Halt State Violence in Peru and Respect Indigenous Peoples Rights**

We strongly condemn the violent dispersal by the military on June 5, 2009, against the peaceful blockade by indigenous peoples in Bagua, Peru. Indigenous peoples have been fired upon and killed while asserting their legitimate and internationally recognized rights.

We fully endorse the call of the Chairperson of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, Victoria Tauli-Corpuz to the Peruvian government urging that they:

- Immediately cease all violence against indigenous communities and organizations;
- Ensure immediate and urgent medical attention to the wounded and assist the families of the victims; AND
- Abide by its national and international obligations regarding the protection of all human rights, including the rights of indigenous peoples and human rights defenders, especially their right to life and security.

We fully support the indigenous peoples of the Amazon in Peru in their protest and their right to protest against Legislative decrees 994 and 1090. These government policies not only undermine indigenous peoples rights but also pave the way for the unacceptable privatization of ancestral lands of indigenous peoples in the Amazon for easy access by the extractive industry such as mining and oil, logging and plantations.

Peru ratified ILO Convention No. 169 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples and was the Chair of the UN Working Group on the Draft Declaration, the body which elaborated and negotiated the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples until it was adopted by the UN Human Rights Council in 2006. It voted yes for the adoption of the UN Declaration of Indigenous Peoples Rights by the UN General Assembly in 2007. It therefore has the obligation to respect the rights of indigenous peoples contained in these and other international human rights instruments. We believe there can be no justification for the Government of Peru to order the military to attack and violently disperse the indigenous peoples of the Peruvian Amazon who have been protesting since April 2009 against governmental policies which they believe undermine their rights, already won in the international arena.

We support the right of indigenous peoples to have their free, prior and informed consent obtained when any development project is brought to their lands and when legislation is made which directly affects them, which is one of the basic rights embedded in the UN Declaration.. Legislative decrees 994 and 1090 were passed without this prior consultation. Through the collective actions of indigenous peoples in Peru, they were able

to convince the constitutional committee of Congress to rule that these were unconstitutional.

The indigenous peoples in the Peruvian Amazon have the right to their lands, territories and resources and the right to self-determination. Therefore they should be the ones who will decide how their lands, territories and resources should be used. They have the right to freely pursue their own economic, social and cultural development and thus are the ones who should determine what kind of development is appropriate for them. Clearly, they have decided that the Free Trade Agreement between the Peruvian government and the United States and Canada to exploit the Amazon for oil, gas and minerals and to open up these territories for logging and monocrop plantations is not appropriate for them or their territories.

We therefore call for the immediate cessation of any and all further attacks by the military against the indigenous peoples, the withdrawal of the military and call for good faith dialogue between the indigenous peoples and the government within the framework of upholding indigenous peoples rights. We also call on the Peruvian government to take immediate steps to restore some confidence by establishing a credible and independent investigation of the June 5, 2009 incident and by providing appropriate medical care for those injured and indemnification for the victims.

**Signed:**

**A. Global Network of Indigenous Peoples on the Extractive Industry**

1. Tebtebba Foundation – Philippines
2. Cordillera Peoples Alliance (CPA) – Philippines
3. Legal Rights and Natural Resources Center (LRC-FOE) – Philippines
4. Interfaith Movement for Peace and Empowerment (IMPEDE) - Philippines
5. Indigenous Peoples Alliance of the Archipelago (AMAN) – Indonesia
6. Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP) – Thailand
7. Center for Human Rights and Development (CHRD) – Mongolia
8. Community Knowledge Support Organization – Laos
9. Kanak Agency for Development – New Caledonia
10. Akali Tange Association Incorporation and Porgera Alliance – Papua New Guinea
11. Center for Environmental Research and Development (CERD) – Papua New Guinea
12. Garib Nama Heritage Foundation – Namibia
13. Garib Nama Heritage Foundation – South Africa
14. Mainyoto Pastoralist Integrated Development Organization (MPIDO) – Kenya
15. Center for Pastoralist Development (CEPAD) – Kenya
16. Pokot Educational and Development Program (PEDP) – Kenya
17. Movement for the Survival of the Ogoni People (MOSOP) - Nigeria

18. Centro Para la Autonomia Y Desarrollo de los Pueblos Indigenas (CADPI) – Nicaragua
19. Coordinadora Andina de organizaciones Indigenas (CAOI) – Peru
20. Asociacion Interetnica de Desarrollo de la Selva Peruana (AIDSESP) – Peru
21. Association of Indigenous Village Leaders in Suriname (VIDS) - Suriname
22. Swedish National Union for the Sami People – Sweden
23. The Association of Indigenous Peoples of Khabarovski Region – Russia
24. Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North (RAIPON) – Russia
25. Indigenous Peoples Links (PIPLINKS) – United Kingdom
26. Western Shoshone Defense Project – USA
27. ALMACIGA – Spain
28. LifeMosaic – United Kingdom
29. ACACIA Productions – United Kingdom
30. Mr. Brian Wyatt – (National Native Title Council) Australia
31. Mr. Cathal Doyle – (Irish Centre for Human Rights) United Kingdom
32. Mr. James Clark – USA
33. Ms. Marina Kahlemu (National Council for Indigenous Peoples Rights) – New Caledonia

## **B. Supporting Organizations and individuals.**

1. Mining and Communities Network
  - a. Mr. Roger Moody – United Kingdom
  - b. Mr. Andrew Whitmore – United Kingdom
  - c. Mr. Geoff Nettleton – United Kingdom
  - d. Fr. Frank Nally – United Kingdom
  - e. Mr. Stuart Kirsch – University of Michigan, USA
  - f. Mr. Jamie Kneen – Canada
  - g. Ms. Tracy Glynn – Canada
  - h. Ms. Catherine Coumans – Canada
  - i. Ms. Susan Murdock – Canada
  - j. Ms. Ximena Warnaars – Holland
  - k. Ms. Siti Maemunah – Indonesia
  - l. Mr. Sreedhar Ramamurty – India
  - m. Mr. Xavier Dias – India
  - n. Mr. Abdulai Darimani – Ghana
  - o. Mr. Abu Brima – Sierra Leone
  - p. Mr. Catalino Corpuz – Philippines
  - q. Ms. Abbie Bengwayan-Anongos – Philippines
  - r. Mr. Clemente Bautista Jr. – Philippines
  - s. Mr. Luis Manuel Claps – Argentina
2. Third World Network – Africa
3. Arid Lands Institute – Kenya
4. Network Movement for Justice and Development (NMJP) – Sierra Leone

5. Red Internacional “Mujeres y Minería” – India
6. Citizens Concern for Dams and Development (CCDD) – Manipur, NE India
7. Forum for Indigenous Perspectives and Action (FIPA) - Manipur, NE India
8. Naga Women’s Union Manipur (NWUM) – Northeast India
9. Jharkand Mines Area Coordination Committee (JMACC) – India
10. Naga Peoples Movement for Human Rights (NPMHR) – India
11. Khan Kaneej and ADHIKAR (Mines, Minerals and Rights) – India
12. Indigenous Peoples Forum of Northeast India (IPFNEI) – India
13. Southeast Asia Development Program (SADP) – Cambodia
14. Chin Human Rights Organization – Myanmar
15. Association for Taiwan Indigenous Peoples’ Policies (ATIPP) – Taiwan
16. TARA-Ping Pu – Taiwan
17. Indigenous Peoples Development Facilitators Forum (IPDFF) – CHT, Bangladesh
18. Strategic Actions Society – CHT, Bangladesh
19. Bangladesh Adivasi Forum – Bangladesh
20. Jumma Peoples Network International
21. Centre for Indigenous Peoples of the Indus (IPI) – Pakistan
22. DAMAAN Development Organization – Pakistan
23. Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities (NEFIN) – Nepal
24. NGO Federation of Nepalese Indigenous Nationalities (NGO-FONIN) – Nepal
25. Lawyers’ Association for Human Rights of Nepalese Indigenous Peoples (LAHURNIP) – Nepal
26. National Network of Indigenous Women – Nepal
27. Forest Peoples Program (FPP) – United Kingdom
28. Society of St. Columban – United Kingdom
29. Down To Earth – United Kingdom
30. SONIA – Italy
31. Miningwatch-Canada – Canada
32. Sawit Watch – Indonesia
33. Ecological Society in the Philippines – Philippines
34. Kalikasan People's Network for the Environment (Kalikasan-PNE) – Philippines
35. Asia Indigenous Women’s Network (AIWN) – Philippines
36. Asia Network of Indigenous Lawyers (ANIL) – Philippines
37. TUPUSUMI – Philippines
38. Subaanen ministry – Zambaonga del Sur, Mindanao, Philippines
39. Shimin Gaikon Center – Japan
40. PACOS TRUST – Sabah, Malaysia
41. Indigenous Peoples Network of Malaysia (JOAS) – Malaysia
42. Center for Orang Asli Concerens – Malaysia
43. Indigenous Women Network – Thailand
44. Hmong Association – Thailand
45. Asia Pacific Forum on Women Law and Development (APWLD) – Thailand
46. Dr. Michel Pimbert – International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) – United Kingdom
47. Datu Victorino Saway (PANAGTAGBO) – Mindanao, Philippines
48. Mr. Leonardo Bangad (DAPON Indigenous Peoples Center) – Philippines