



Oral Statement of FIAN International on the UPR of Brazil (read by Léa Winter)

21st Session of the Human Rights Council, September 20, 2012

Recommendations of the Human Rights Council

In the recommendations made to Brazil during the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) by the UN'S Human Rights Council (HRC) on the 25th of May of this year, Germany, Ecuador, Slovakia, the Netherlands, Poland, the United Kingdom and Thailand made recommendations with regard to guaranteeing the rights of indigenous peoples. Thus, the Indigenous Communities of Guarani-Kaiowás with the support of FIAN, Justiça Global (Global Justice), Conselho Indigenista Missionário (Indigenous Missionary Council) and Comitê Nacional de Defesa dos Povos Indígenas do Mato Grosso do Sul (National Committee for the Defense of Indigenous Peoples of Mato Gross do Sul) respectfully request that Brazil accept all recommendations made in reference to indigenous issues, paying special attention to the recommendations made by Norway in which they:

- Recommend guaranteeing the rights of indigenous peoples, in particular the right to traditional land, territories and resources and the right to be consulted;
- **Recommend concluding the demarcation process of indigenous lands, primarily related to the Guarani Kaiowá;**
- Recommend approving without further delay, the legislation to confirm the official status of the National Program for the protection of human rights defenders and to give priority to its complete implementation.

In Mato Grosso do Sul, the worst rates of land demarcation were identified, even though this area possesses the second largest indigenous population in the country resulting there are higher rates of violations of the human rights of indigenous peoples, especially the Human Right to Adequate Food, as the Guarani are dependent on the government's food security policies and the inflow of external funds. In the same manner, the lack of access to territory contributes to an increase in internal violence in the villages and an increase in suicide rates, as well as an increase in murders of indigenous leaders who have mobilized in the struggle for the territory. Several Guarani leaders participate in the National Program for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders, but state that protection is inadequate and the legislation of the National Program, as requested by Norway, would be an important step.

By reason of the foregoing, the signatories fight for the acceptance of the recommendations made to Brazil during the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of the UN'S Human Rights Council (HRC) highlighted above.