



9 June 2011  
Check against delivery

UN Human Rights Council  
Seventeenth session, 30 May – 17 June 2011

Item 6:  
Consideration of UPR reports

PARAGUAY

Mr President,

Amnesty International welcomes Paraguay's support of the majority of the recommendations made to it during the Universal Periodic Review, in particular the recommendations regarding the protection of the human rights of Indigenous Peoples.<sup>1</sup> Of particular importance is Paraguay's commitment to comply fully with the three judgements by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights on the land rights of the Yakye Axa, Sawhoyamaxa and Xakmok Kasek Indigenous communities.<sup>2</sup>

We are concerned that the deadlines for complying with the Court's orders on the restitution of the ancestral lands of Yakye Axa and Sawhoyamaxa communities expired in 2008 and 2009, respectively, and that Paraguay has failed so far to fully comply with these rulings. Both of the affected communities have for decades lived in temporary homes alongside a highway, unable to sustain their traditional activities - hunting, fishing and gathering honey - and forced to rely on aid from state agencies and food from private institutions.

Amnesty International urges Paraguay to present a clear plan of action to achieve a definitive solution for these Indigenous communities and to fully comply with the Inter-American Court's latest ruling, including the return to the Xakmok Kasek community of their traditional land within the three year deadline specified by the Court.

Mr. President,

---

<sup>1</sup> A/HRC/17/18, paragraphs 84.16, 84.20, 84.42, 84.44-46, 85.61-72, and 86.2, 86.5.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid, paragraphs 85.68-70.

We also welcome Paraguay's support, as indicated in the Addendum, of two recommendations, previously under consideration, to address the socio-economic disparities which disproportionately affect Indigenous populations.<sup>3</sup> We encourage the Government to set out the actions it intends to take towards their full and prompt implementation.

Finally Mr President,

Amnesty International welcomes Paraguay's commitment to regularly brief this Council on the follow up of UPR recommendations.<sup>4</sup>

Thank you Mr President.

---

<sup>3</sup> A/HRC/17/18, Add.1, paragraphs 3-5 and 15-20.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid, paragraph 2.