

HOMELAND MISSION 1950 - MALUKU

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Statement by Mr. Nico Souisa, SIWA-RIMA descendant

Submitted at The Twelfth Session of the UN-Working Group on
Indigenous Peoples,
Comission on Human Rights
Geneva, July 25 - July 29 1994

HOMELAND MISSION 1950 MALUKU

STATEMENT TO THE TWELFTH SESSION OF THE UN-WORKING GROUP ON
INDIGENOUS PEOPLES, GENEVA JULY 25 - JULY 29 1994

AGENDA ITEM 5

Madam Chairperson, distinguished members of the Working Group, fellow INDIGENOUS representatives and friends. Homeland Mission 1950, representative of the Siwa-Rima nation, the original inhabitants of Maluku would like to congratulate you Madam Chairperson with your reelection as the Chairperson of the Working Group on Indigenous Peoples at its twelfth session

Homeland Mission 1950 has participated in the annual meetings of this Working Group since 1985. Each year we have highlighted the grave violations of human and collective rights of the original inhabitants of Maluku.

Madam Chairperson,
Repeatedly a member of the Indonesian delegation accused us of ill-founded and baseless allegations. Recent publications in Indonesian newspapers and magazines concerning Maluku validate our annual reports before this forum.

A report in the weekly magazine Tempo of 12 February of this year highlighted the appalling onslaught and plundering of our natural resources by at least 34 logging concessionaries and countless other investors.

A resume of this Tempo report is also published in the London based Down to Earth's newsletter, April 1994 and IWGIA publication The Indigenous World 1993-94.

These unscrupulous exploitation which take place in Halmahera (North Moluccas) up to Kai Island, Aru-Island (South East Moluccas) and South of Buru caused an irreparable destruction on the environment and the ancestral lands and the impact on the original inhabitants, madam Chairperson is very severe.

Madam Chairperson,
During the UN-Conference on Environment and Development 1992 in Rio de Janeiro, political leaders of the New World Order

look for pearls. Those who work for the companies are employed as coolies for Rp 500 per day.

3. Transmigration.

Moluccan indigenous peoples are being resettled because their land has been allocated as a transmigration site. According to a daily newspaper Pos Maluku of 24 January of this year, 18.000 head of family were officially registered as being transported to the Moluccas during the Pelita VI development programme.

In general, the Indonesian government gives no room for grass-roots organizations, independent trade unions students organizations and woman's rights movement to protect the social-economic rights of the indigenous people/original inhabitants of the Moluccas. The Moluccans are not allowed to express their own opinions concerning political aspirations.

Madam Chairperson, ladies and gentlemen,
Also this year hundreds of Moluccan people were arrested in preventive before the 25th of April, the 44 anniversary of the Republic of the South Moluccas. We can submit to you a written account from the Moluccas.

Madam Chairperson and fellow indigenous representatives,
The Permanent Forum of the Worlds Indigenous Peoples representatives which shall be established during the `Decade` should aim at investigating the involvement of UN-agencies with nations-states in violating the rights of Indigenous Peoples and in particular the fundamental rights of the Siwa-Rima nation of Maluku.

We the Worlds Indigenous Peoples are now on the threshold of irreversible changes. We hope that the New World Order leaders will make use of the forthcoming changes to improve and strengthen the position of the Worlds Indigenous Peoples. It should not be a cosmetic change.....

Madam Chairperson, ladies and gentlemen, we thank you.

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