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This is an African caucus statement covering three regions of East, Central and Southern Africa that face serious problems related to land expropriation, displacement, human rights violations and abuses.

Indigenous peoples in East Africa continue to face human rights abuses, threats and intimidation and displacement as they defend their livelihoods, land and natural resources.

The Maasai in Ngorongoro Tanzania are being uprooted from the ancestral to make way for the wildlife sport hunters known as investors. They have been beaten, arrested and their homes burned to ashes and women and children left in the cold- for defending their rights.

The indigenous San and Khoi communities in Southern Africa, face similar and interrelated issues to their indigenous counterpart in East Africa. Problems include land expropriation, loss of languages, no political representation and little protection and preservation of traditional knowledge. In the case of Botswana, there is a constant threat of forced relocation from ancestral lands as evidenced in the central Kalahari Game reserve where they are denied access into their ancestral land despite a court order allowing them to go back.

In this statement we would like to highlight the case of Bororo pastoralists from Cameroon, who have been caught in middle of an ongoing war between the Government of Cameroon and the Anglophone separatists (Ambazonia) who are fighting for an independent Southern English - speaking Cameroon. The level of brutality and inhumane treatment going on at present is alarming. Members of the Mbororo communities have been the target of assassination, cattle expropriation and kidnapping. Mbororo women are regularly raped, children are forced to become child soldiers and any resistance results in death. It has been documented that over 140 Mbororo people have been killed, 3200 seriously injured, 11,232 internally displaced to other regions in Cameroon and Nigeria and over 90 Million CFA Franc (\$180,000) paid in ransom to Amba fighters. In addition, 2400 cattle have been stolen, seized or killed by Amba fighters costing an estimated loss of over 600 Million-franc CFA (\$1,200,000) to the Mbororo pastoralists.

The question Madam Chair is, what the United Nations is doing about these killings of our indigenous brothers and sisters in Cameroon.

In Burundi as well as other central African countries, the Batwa communities face similar problems to other indigenous communities : lack of land and resources, for instance indigenous Batwa whose livelihood are based on the creation of pottery are denied access to raw material.

The African caucus from the above-mentioned regions strongly urge African states to:

- In the spirit of the African charter to recognize the diversity of African populations including indigenous peoples and in doing so to consider the ratification of ILO 169 and implementation of UNDRIP
- African states should respect the constitutions of their own countries and adhere to the UN 2030 agenda of “ Not Leaving Anyone Behind”
- We urge the Special rapporteur to consider the cases of human rights violations against indigenous peoples in Africa