

28 September, 2022

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Madam President,

The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) has been supporting vulnerable communities in Angola since 1986.

We are concerned about the negative impact of climate change and specifically, the ongoing drought in southern Angola on the indigenous SAN community. Over 1.3 million people will likely fall into severe food insecurity; with more than 400,000 facing humanitarian emergency. Thousands have been internally displaced.

The indigenous population SAN are among the most affected. Women and children from these indigenous communities have been exposed to human rights violations, as they struggle to cope.

While important steps have been taken, including the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and efforts by the Government of Angola to bring relief to those affected by the drought and hunger, numerous challenges remain.

We call on the government of Angola to:

1. Adopt legislation and measures to further recognize the condition of indigenous peoples;
2. Strengthen legislation, policies and practice to guarantee the rights of minorities and indigenous peoples, including through seeking their consent before carrying out development projects within indigenous territories;
3. Strengthen initiatives to recognize the property and land use by minority communities and indigenous peoples and other pastoral communities.
4. To continue engaging with civil society organizations and humanitarian actors.

Thank you