



Thursday 17 PM #114

World Hmong People's Congress and Hmong ChaoFa State of Northern Laos
866 UN Plaza Suite 4043
New York, NY 10017

Tel: (212) 223-5486

Fax: (212) 223-5843

Tuesday, 15 May 2007

Sixth Session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues "Land, Territories and Natural Resources"

Honorable Members of the United Nations, Permanent Forum Experts, Distinguished Guests and Indigenous Brothers and Sisters,

Madame Chair,

My name is DaChee Moua, an International Representative for the Hmong ChaoFa State of Northern Laos and on behalf of the World Hmong People's Congress. We are here today to appeal for international support on the issues of the right to reclaim our ancestral lands, territories and natural resources as well as to intervene on the conflicts situation between the Lao PDR and the Hmong ChaoFa State. The Hmong ChaoFa Indigenous people have long experienced egregious violations of human rights; persistent societal and racial discriminations; and many grave injustices done without accountability. The Lao PDR consistently commits sex crimes and war crimes on Hmong Indigenous women and girls and commits genocide of which the international community failed to address – it is of grave concerns that it may have the potential to escalate into a situation like in ^{"Dafu"} Darfur. We urge that the international community must do more to protect people that are facing genocide and do not have the means to defend themselves.

Madame Chair,[↑]

Despite Lao PDR as a State Party to many important International Conventions, the Lao PDR as member of the United Nations has failed to honor its international obligations. Just a few examples, such as the main international humanitarian law treaties (the Geneva Convention of 1949 and the Additional Protocols of 1977) ratified in 1956, International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD) ratified in 1974, and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) ratified in 1991.

Madame Chair,[↑]

Lao PDR continues to hunt and displace the Hmong ChaoFa to remote areas where they are unable to maintain their territories, social, cultural, and economical development--which also have been prohibited by the Lao PDR. As of May 15, 2007, reports from Hmong ChaoFa Indigenous leaders from Laos ^{state} that Lao PDR ^{are} placing landmines (model M66 and other un-identify models) on agricultural fields and roads.

Madam Chair,[↑]

The Hmong ChaoFa's natural resources are being utilized and contracted to foreign corporations for logging and mining for silver, gold, aluminum, and other metals. These people have been using the forest as their source of survival for many generations.

Madame Chair,[↓]

The Hmong ChaoFa people are not violent people. They are a humble and peaceful Indigenous ethnic group who would treasure a normal life like everyone else. The Lao PDR have committed many horrific crimes and it is in serious violation of International Laws.

Madame Chair,[↑]

We are appearing before you for your assistance to forward the Hmong Chaofa persecution issues to all relevant UN Agencies especially the Human Rights Council to address the Hmong ChaoFa deteriorating situation in Laos and to address their rights in according to the Charter of the United Nations and International Instruments.

Thank You, Madame Chair