

WORKING GROUP ON INDIGENOUS POPULATION/COMMUNITIES OF THE AFRICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES RIGHTS. [WG/ACHPR] .

TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE, GENERATION, TRANSMISSION AND PROTECTION.

Presented by : Ms HAWE HAMMAN BOUBA Indigenous Expert, member of the WGIP/ACHPR

Dear Madame chair,

I wish to make a statement on this very important topic which is what resumes Indigenous Peoples.

The Working Group on Indigenous population/Communities of the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights which is a special mechanism of the Commission with the mandate to advise and advance the concept of Indigenous issues on the African Continent recognizes the importance of the above theme and is conscious that traditional knowledge, generation, transmission and protection is under threat of extinction in Africa.

The Working Group is conscious that Indigenous peoples are highly attached to TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE, GENERATION, TRANSMISSION AND PROTECTION. It is for that reason that the Working Group (WG) on Indigenous population/communities in collaboration with the GAIA Foundation pushed for the passing of the resolution 372/ACHPR/RES.372 (LX)2017 by the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights.

This Resolution calls on states parties to the ACHPR to recognize sacred natural sites and territories, and their customary governance systems as contributing to the protection of human and people's rights and to uphold their obligations and commitments under regional and international law on sacred natural sites and territories and their customary governance systems and the rights of custodian's communities.

This Resolution has led to the development of a framework text for states parties to develop specific national legislation in compliance with the above resolution. This framework text has been presented to the WGIP/ACHPR in October 2018 and some major recommendations were made to the GAIA Foundation before this text can be tabled to the Commission for adoption.

This land mark draft law will help African States to propose national laws on the protection of sacred natural sites and territories, and their customary governance systems as contributing to the protection of human and people's rights in Africa.

Thanks for giving me your attention.