

CONCLAVE DOS POVOS DO BRAZIL

Item 4b 18/05 # 21



Mr. Chairperson,

My name is Teodora de Souza Guarani and I am president of the Awaete Guarani Kaiwa Terena Associassion, located in the Dourados reservation in the state of Mato Grosso do Sul.

It's of utmost importance that we in the reservation take action in our hands and not wait around for others to solve our problems. Myriad socio-economic and political hurdles resultants from the exclusion of indigenous peoples from mainstream Brazilian society have created the appropriate contextual framework for deforestation, soil depletion and water pollution in our reservation. At present, with the support of local government, our reservation's indigenous communities have been implementing small sustainable development projects, which have, cleansed polluted spring water for the purposes of setting up fish farms able of being a source of local livelihood, created orchards, arts and crafts activities using local material; all programs which are environment friendly, enlivening a collective spirit and building trust in our reservation.

We recommend that the permanent forum request the Brazilian government to:

- 1- Enhanced focus on deforestation control in Indigenous and other land able of curbing the depletion suffered in Dourados reservation and others in Brazil.
- 2- Invest in capacity building for indigenous agro-rangers able of protecting the environment for its sustainable preservation.
- 3- Continuously invest in livelihood related sustainable development projects able to rebuild and preserve depleted environments.
- 4- Translate all of the Indigenous Forum related documentation so that indigenous communities can access information.

Earth is life for us indigenous peoples!

Brazil

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