

The 20 session of the United Nations' Working Group on Indigenous Populations
August 3rd 2006

Item : 4 (C)

Statement presented by: Evelita Lusiana Jantewo Bureau of Consultation for West-Papua Indigenous People.

Thank You Mr. Chair for giving me the floor.

The situation of the struggle in West-Papua made so many international NGO's and UN bodies try to help us as a mediator for conflict prevention and resolution, their own way.

Everything must go through Jakarta or they choose their own people to do so.

They even elect somebody else from Indonesia or NGO's from Indonesia to use our name as NGO, but they are Indonesian, how can they know us more than ourselves?

We have our own mechanism, we use our own chief, community leader or women's leader as mediator.

As a West-Papuan nation, we have learned from our suffering, and experienced for so long to find our own ways to resolve our problems. That is our way of conflict prevention and resolution.

Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to recommend to the Government of Indonesia, international NGO's and UN bodies such as UNDP, ILO, UNICEF, UNESCO, which is working in West-Papua to acknowledge and respect fully our ways of conflict prevention and resolution under the umbrella of Dewan Adat Papua (Papua Customary Council) and Madjelis Rakyat Papua (Papua People Assembly)

Thank You Mr. Chair,