

**Good practices and lessons learned regarding efforts to achieve the ends of the Declaration, with a focus on recognition, reparations and reconciliation**

My name is **Angohõ Pataxó**. I represent the people of **Pataxó Hã-Hã-Hã in the State of Minas Gerais, in Brazil**. In line with the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples we have asserted our right to our traditional territories. Once we have baptized the land, we never leave it. Our land is sacred. Now we are forced to focus on recognition and reparation, as Vale, one of the biggest mining corporations world-wide killed our river. But we will not leave. We will resist. My village Nao Xoha Há Há Hae Pataxó is 10 metres from the River Paraopeba, one of Vale's most serious victims. On 25th January 2019 at 12:28, a tailings dam owned by them burst, killing the river, killing fish and killing people. We buried one fish after another. Every day, our children ask us, "Can we swim now?" When there is heavy rain, our little cousins ask, "Did the rain cure the river then? Did it wash away the dirt?" It hurts us to know that we do not know when the river will recover... The only thing we know is that if we continue to treat Mother Earth this way, there will be neither river nor people to tell the tale. It's time to wake up! Profit is not worth more than life itself! This predatory model of mining is killing us little by little and we will not allow this to happen. I come here today to speak in the name of all those affected by that crime. In the name of women who lost their husbands, children who lost their parents. I come, too, in the name of all of the cities that are under the same risk that we are: Barão de Cocais, Macacos, Congonhas and dozens of other places. We will not be silent! Thank you!