

CEDI - P. I. B.
DATA 28 / 09 / 87
COD. I4D00071

VIENA 7-10/8/87

RESOLUCIONES DE LA CONFERENCIA SOBRE LA AMAZONIA

Los participantes, inspirados en los puntos contenidos en la propuesta de la declaración de principios que se encuentra en el seno de la organización de las Naciones Unidas, exigen que los derechos de los pueblos indígenas de la Amazonia sean respetados en su:

- Derecho a la vida y a estar libres de toda opresión, discriminación y agresión.
- Derecho inalienable a controlar y a disfrutar permanentemente de sus territorios históricos y los recursos naturales del suelo y del subsuelo.

Además se ha resuelto:

- 1) Que ningún proyecto de desarrollo gubernamental o privado sea realizado en los territorios indígenas, sin la participación efectiva de las poblaciones afectadas, tanto en la etapa de planeamiento, como las de aprobación, ejecución y evaluación de dichos proyectos.
- 2) Que los proyectos de desarrollo de cualquier índole que representen riesgos de destrucción, o sea, un peligro para la salud, la integridad física, social y cultural de los pueblos indígenas sean inmediatamente paralizados.
- 3) Que estas recomendaciones sean observadas por los gobiernos de la región Amazónica, los gobiernos de los países que proveen apoyos financieros para estos proyectos, así como por las agencias de financiación, los cuales serán responsabilizados en caso de no prestar el debido respecto a estas recomendaciones.
- 4) Que los proyectos de auto-desarrollo de las comunidades indígenas sean respetados, tanto por las empresas privadas como por los estados.
- 5) Nos oponemos a los proyectos que ocasionen daños ecológicos, que contaminen el ambiente o destruyan la fauna y la flora. También nos oponemos a los proyectos de exportación y caza indiscriminada de animales.


- 6) La participación de las ONG deberá sujetarse a las demandas que les hagan las organizaciones indígenas o comunidades, en cuanto a la asistencia política, económica, social, técnica, jurídica, etc.

PLAN DE ACCION

- 1) Concretar una entrevista con el Ministro de Finanzas de Austria para presionar contra los préstamos del Banco Mundial.
- 2) Lanzar una Campaña internacional contra las celebraciones colonialistas del 12 de Octubre y del quinto centenario del Descubrimiento de las Américas.
Acción para denunciar el significado de esta fecha para los pueblos indígenas: que se declare el "12 de Octubre" como el día de la Solidaridad con la Lucha de los Pueblos Indígenas.
- 3) Creación de un Centro de Documentación y Información en la Cuenca Amazónica al servicio de los pueblos indígenas (el lugar de su instalación será determinado por la Coordinadora de las Organizaciones Indígenas de la Cuenca Amazónica).
- 4) Creación de un lobby para informar a los gobiernos de las Américas y del restante del mundo acerca de la realidad en que viven los pueblos indígenas, con la finalidad de que esos gobiernos se hagan responsables de los proyectos por ellos mismos apoyados y que ocasionan consecuencias destructivas para los pueblos indígenas.

Con estas primeras medidas de acción, los firmantes esperan llegar a la sensibilidad de aquellos que violan los derechos de los pueblos indígenas ya que la paz de la humanidad vendrá sólo a través de la Justicia.

Presidente de la conferencia



Rosa Zurita

Secretaría de la conferencia

Carlos Macedo

WORKING GROUP I

POLITICS OF NATIONAL SECURITY AND MILITARIZATION

I- Introduction

Particular situation in the Amazon had been discussed in this working group, in the context of militarization and national politics.

The recent phenomenon of militarization of the Amazonian borderies is nothig new.

We discussed the political-historical context of this ongoing process and its effects for the indigenous populations. It started already with the Conquista in the 16th century and continued untill now.

There always have been resitance of the indigenous peoples against militaristic invasions of the colonizing powers. Yet, first the land had been taken away by armed force in former as well as in recent times.

Secondly or afterwards this expansion by militaristic means has been legitimated by law in the different Latin American countries.

Even when time was in favour of the indigenous populations, indigenous territories never had been handled over to the original inhabitants of the lands. A clear example is Colombia, where the "Republica Independiente" had been proclaimed in 1815 by Bolivar, the so called liberator. The best fertile lands always had been ceded to personal foreign interests. (Even in the 60's under the Chilenian Allende government reinforcements of the indigenous peoples as peoples never took place.)

As we said before, the alienation of indigenous territories always had been accompanied by the resistance of the indigenous peoples and their local leaders. Frequently at the cost of 1000's of lives, just because of the different technological levels of the arms being used.

Nowadays, the governments of poor countries of Latin America deal with rich countries of Europe, North America and Japan, even before laws have been made. The case of Brazil is a clear example of the unlawfull procedures followed nowadays.

In the so-called "Calha Norte" project, the "civilian" government planned the militarization of the extensive borders, that is affecting the three Guyanas (including Surinam), Venezuela, Colombia, Peru and Bolivia.

The CIMI representative of Brazil already talked in length in the plenary meeting. The "Calha Norte" even had its roots in an older project during the 80's, called the Polonoeste roadsystem.

II- The "Indio" is now a "problem of national security".

Processes of land demarcation have been stopped now completely as well as the political dialogue between governmental, non-governmental organisations (including the indigenous movements).

The indigenous peoples are really living in border zones where precious resources are located, and are considered as a barricade to "progress". Examples of such precious resources are oil, bauxite, gold, cassiterite, timber, waters of the rivers, and also tropical products like bananas, nuts, etc.

1. Much of the problem is caused by the difference in the concept of property, which leads us to the second point after this introduction.
2. Why does this physical, cultural, and ideological destruction of indigenous peoples take place ?

Mainly because the indigenous peoples and their holding of the resources are based on principles of communal use, not personal profit. It's a communitarian versus a capitalist mode of production.

Indigenous peoples are forced to integration into the so-called "civilised society". They are being transformed into "peasants", "campesinos" (in Spanish), or "caboclos" (in Portuguese), and are used as cheap labourers for exploitation of their former resources.

Lands are invaded by colonists and national or better transnational corporations using a large scale capitalist

way of exploitation of and investment in the Amazonian ecosystem.

So, finally, we turn to the third point:

3. What to do about this ongoing process of militarization aspect of national politics ?

Stopping all present economic large scale programs might be the solution. This working group moderately stipulates at least the retardance of the present and preventing of future great projects.

We condemn strongly this process of militarization in the context of the so-called "national security doctrine".

Being aware of the heterogeneity of the indigenous peoples we accentuate the general condition for an indigenous organisation that is: rights of and respect for their lands, soil and subsoil.

Clearly, land has been the basis of their existence for thousands of years..

We stress the calling in for the consent of indigenous peoples, having their own destination, to put up developmental programs as they think "development" has to be.

Especially important in this aspect is the direct contact between indigenous organisations, governmental and non-governmental organisations (in Latin America as well as in North America, Europe and so on).

We stress also the calling in and respect of the International Treaties that had been made so far, especially the ones made by the United Nations, in favour of the indigenous peoples.

Documentation of the effects of the militarization, where the arms came from, where the finance, the politics there for, etc. have to be continued intensively and have to be widely published by the international communication -media. Special suggestion is to put up a documentation center right in the Amazon.

Political pressure on government and finance systems is of big importance and offer opportunities to get things changed.

Finally, as we are here now in Europe, for this Congress about the Amazon, a drastic change in mentality, consumption patterns and human behaviours is urgent in these destructive processes towards the indigenous peoples of the Amazon.

WORKING GROUP IIa

DRAFT RESOLUTION ON THE BEHAVIOUR OF NGOS IN EUROPE

- considering that a broad spectrum of European NGOs were present at the Amazon conference held in Vienna, August 7 - 10th, 1987
- considering that the indigenous nations of the Amazon request the support of European NGOs
- considering that the information presented at the Conference demonstrated the need for more co-ordination and support for the struggle of indigenous peoples for their rights and their freedom by European NGOs
- considering that we, European NGOs, are determined to reject all methods of support which are based on indigenist and paternalistic principles

It was resolved:

- that all NGO groups will continue our efforts to support the indigenous struggle for rights of life, land, culture and society, while constantly respecting their fundamental right of self-determination;
- that only on the basis of requests, approval or endorsements of indigenous Amazonian organizations, will European NGOs do whatever we can to support campaigns concerning indigenous peoples;
- that we, the European NGOs, demand that the World Bank, the organs of the European Community, the national European governments and Europe based multi-nationals respect the right of indigenous peoples to control what takes place on their territories and to recognize their right to determine their own future and forms of development.

WORKING GROUP IIB

GREAT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS (BRAZIL)

Considering that:

- the so-called "great development programs", financed by multilateral institutions (such as World Bank, IDB, EEC, IMF; etc,) are a real threat to the environment and human populations in the Amazon region.
 - the Amazon, as the last reserve of natural resources, is the main focus of international economic interest, which deliberately does not take into account social and environmental aspects.
 - these "development programs" include completed and incompleted projects in the following areas:
 - infra-structure (as the Cuiabá-Porto Velho-Rio Branco road and the Carajás railroad)
 - electric power plants (as Tucuruí, Balbina and Samuel hydroelectric dams)
 - mineral and industrial projects (as the Carajás Great Program)
 - colonization programs (as the Polonoroeste)
- as well as projects under planning, as the Xingu-Altamira Hydroelectric Complex.

In order to stop this process of destruction, these recommendations should be followed:

- immediate revision of those projects under construction and non approval of new projects in the Amazon region without the participation of affected populations in the decision-making process, i.e. planning, approval, execution and evaluation of the projects.
- these projects will be stopped or not adopted if
 - fundamental rights of indigenous and non-indigenous peoples are not guaranteed, especially the unalienability of indigenous territories, their rights of exclusive utilization of the soil and subsoil resources, as well as the effective protection and respect of their cultures and societies;

- they represent environmental damages at the local and regional levels.

These recommendations are to be followed by the local governments of the Amazon region, the governments of the countries which provide financial support for these projects, as well as by the multilateral financing agencies which will all be responsabilized in case they do not pay due respect to these recommendations.

Finally, we suggest the formation of monitoring and controlling groups at local, national and international levels, composed by representatives of indigenous and non-indigenous populations affected, non-governmental organizations, national governments (responsible for the projects), and multilateral financing agencies.

WORKING GROUP IIc

Declaraciones

1. Los proyectos gubernamentales que se realizan con el apoyo de organismos financieros como el BM, BID, AID y FMI etc, se planifican sin considerar o consultar con los pueblos indigenas que habitan en los lugares en que estos proyectos se ejecutan.
2. Tanto los gobiernos como las instituciones financieras que los apoyan deberian considerar y respetar la voluntad de los pueblos indigenas que en la forma de organizaciones representativas ya tengan sus programas de desarrollo planteados. Asimismo deberian de canalizar estos financiamientos a través de estas organizaciones.
3. La participación de las NGO's deberá sujetarse a las demandas que les hagan las organizaciones indígenas (o comunidades en particular) en cuanto a la asistencia (política, económica, jurídica, etc) requerida para llevar a cabo sus campañas de lucha con éxito.
4. Las organizaciones indígenas amazónicas necesitan establecer redes informativas nacionales, regionales o internacionales que les permitan mantenerse continuamente informadas sobre los acontecimientos de toda la región así como para hacer las coordinaciones necesarias entre ellas mismas y con las NGO's que estén comprometidas con ellos.
5. Las organizaciones indígenas que ya conforman la Coordinadora de la Cuenca Amazónica han considerado conveniente incorporar a organizaciones indígenas de Venezuela (ACIPY) y de Surinam.

WORKING GROUP III - RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

Recommendations:

1. We declare support for the demand of indigenous peoples in the UN to declare 1992 as the International Year of Indigenous Peoples. The indigenous peoples should participate in the planning, implementation and evaluation of the activity of the year to ensure that the celebration will benefit them.
2. Indigenous peoples should be considered as international personalities in the following way:
 - a) The protection of their rights is an international responsibility;
 - b) Their rights will take importance over and above claims of national sovereignty.
3. The custodial relationship of indigenous peoples to their ancestral lands and to nature should be recognized. This relationship to the land and to nature is corrective to the Western concept whereby land and nature are considered as commodities, subject to exploitation for profits and not for the social needs of people. Referring to the Amazon situation, the custodial relationship to the land can provide a broader debate.
4. The term "indigenous peoples" or all name designations should be defined and designated by indigenous themselves. Essentially, indigenesness is associated with "peoplehood" and this term takes concrete shape in relation to land.
5. We recognize that there are indigenous communities which are victims of actual and potential genocidal state policies. This conference should adopt concrete means to protect these communities and to help them to survive the ongoing genocidal state policies.
6. Indigenous peoples are able to identify their own political, economic, cultural and social rights. What they consider as their most fundamental rights are the political and economic ones.
7. Indigenous peoples need international solidarity in their struggle for survival, self-determination, and control of their ancestral lands and domains. It is their right to determine the basis, form, and nature of this solidarity.

8. The struggle of the peoples living in the Amazon region should be internationalized:
- a) the protection of the Amazon should be regarded as a contribution to a global environmental movement;
 - b) the people of the Amazonia are capable to utilize the wealth of the Amazon region to sustain life without destroying the forest and the land which are common heritage of all peoples.
 - c) an international campaign should be sustained - the campaigns going on should be raised to a higher level, extended and coordinated.