



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
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25 August 2021

Excellency,

I write to inform you that in the course of its 104th session, the Committee considered further the situation of the impact of infrastructure projects on Xavante indigenous peoples in the State of Mato Grosso, in Brazil, under its early warning procedure. In this regard, the Committee refers to its previous letter of 30 April 2021 to the State Party.

The Committee would like to thank your Government for its replies, which it received on 14 July 2021, and takes note of the information provided.

Specifically, the Committee takes note that in December 2020, the National Department of Infrastructure of Transportation (DNIT) has requested the Institute of the Environment and Renewable Natural Resources (IBAMA) and the National Indian Foundation (FUNAI) to reassess the Indigenous Component Study (ECI) of highway BR-080 project, regarding the section related to the environmental and socio-cultural impacts of the project on indigenous territories. In this regard, the Committee requests the Government to provide further information on the reassessment by IBAMA and FUNAI of the Indigenous Component Study as well as the considerations of the Government based on this reassessment.

The Committee also takes note that five hydroelectric plant projects in the rivers Mortes and Cumbuco are currently under consideration and that, after the completion of relevant studies, these projects will be submitted for analysis of their technical, economic, social and environmental feasibility. Nonetheless, the Committee regrets that the Government has not addressed in its reply the allegations received that the Brazilian authorities have only consulted the Xavante communities living in proximity to these rivers, despite the impact that the hydroelectric projects could have for all Xavante peoples. In this respect, the Committee requests the Government to provide information about the participation of and consultation with all Xavante indigenous communities that could be affected by these projects.

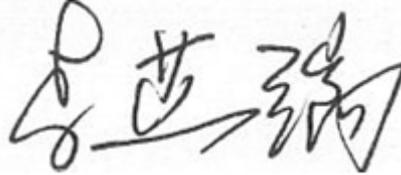
Her Excellency Mrs. Maria Luisa Escorel de Moraes
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The Committee reiterates its previous concern about Interministerial Ordinance n° 60/2015 and requests the Government to provide information on the measures adopted or envisaged to amend this Ordinance, in order to extend the relevant impact studies and the consultation processes to all the indigenous peoples that could be affected, and who are not located within the strict geographical limits that it establishes.

The Committee would be grateful to receive this additional information before 15 March 2022.

Allow me, Excellency, to reiterate the wish of the Committee to continue to engage in a constructive dialogue with the Government of Brazil, with a view to assisting it to implement the Convention effectively.

Yours sincerely,



Yanduan Li
Chair

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination