



62nd Session of the Human Rights Council
Item 3: Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of
internally displaced persons

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Delivered by: Panuga Pulenthiran
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Mr. President,

Franciscans International and the World Council of Churches welcome the report of the Special Rapporteur and support her recommendations.

In West Papua, Indonesia, as of June 10 2026¹ more than 122,931 civilians are internally displaced, overwhelmingly Indigenous Papuans. Many have been in protracted situations of displacement since 2018. Trapped in the ongoing armed conflict between Indonesian security forces and the West Papuan National Liberation Army, they are forced to vacate their homes and villages on foot. IDPs in West Papua lack access to basic necessities such as adequate shelter, clean water and sanitation facilities, access to medical care, education and livelihood opportunities. This situation disproportionately affects women and children and exacerbates the risk of gender-based violence. Indonesian security forces have set up patrols, checkpoints and military posts in villages, including by occupying schools and medical facilities, hindering the return of displaced persons. Known IDP settlement sites have been targeted by Indonesian security forces², leading to casualties and fueling further displacement. There have been reports of the increasing use of drones in attacks against civilians, including at religious sites.³ There is widespread impunity in West Papua, with human rights violations perpetrated by both sides against civilians routinely going unpunished. The lack of access for journalists, independent human rights monitors and humanitarian aid compounds an already dire situation.

In Cabo Delgado, Mozambique, the ongoing armed conflict since 2017 between State forces and non-state armed groups (NSAGs) continues to drive internal displacement of civilians due to attacks and the destruction of villages, in violation of IHL principles of distinction and proportionality. As of May 2026, more than 600,000 people⁴ were internally displaced in northern Mozambique, and lack sufficient access to food, water and adequate sanitation. Displaced communities face serious protection risks, including gender-based violence and child recruitment by NSAGs, with 175 children being recruited in 2025 according to the Secretary General's latest report on children and armed conflict⁵. Widespread impunity, restriction of independent reporting and lack of accountability mechanisms hinder investigations of human rights violations faced by IDPs, who do not have access to adequate remedies and remain trapped

¹ Human Rights Monitor, June 10 2026, [IDP Update June'26: Government neglect drives West Papua's spiraling displacement emergency -](#)

² Human Rights Monitor, April 20 2026, [Military operations against IDP settlements in Puncak Regency kill fourteen civilians, injure at least twelve -](#)

³ Herald Malaysia, May 18 2026, [Aerial bombing of church alarms Catholics in Indonesia's Papua](#)

⁴ UNHCR Operational Data Portal, May 31 2026, <https://data.unhcr.org/en/country/moz>

⁵ Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, Children and armed conflict, 16 June 2026, https://childrenandarmedconflict.un.org/sites/default/files/2026-06/S_2026_357_UNEDITED.pdf

in cycles of vulnerability compounded by structural issues such as resource extraction and diminishing prospects for safe and dignified returns.

The situation in West Papua and Cabo Delgado exemplifies the urgent need for States and non-State actors to address situations of protracted displacement, protect civilians and civilian infrastructure and ensure independent human rights monitoring and humanitarian access to displacement sites while strengthening accountability under IHL and international human rights law⁶.

Thank you.

Co-sponsors:

Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches

⁶ Report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons (A/HRC/62/47), 2 June 2026, <https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/documents/hrbodies/hrcouncil/sessions-regular/session62/advance-versions/a-hrc-62-47-aev.pdf>