

63rd session of the Human Rights Council
Item 4: General Debate

21 September 2026

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Mr. President,

We express our ongoing concern regarding the deteriorating human rights situation of the Indigenous population of West Papua, Indonesia.

Heavy military presence and ongoing security operations in Yahukimo, Intan Jaya, Maybrat and Paniai Regencies are causing ongoing displacements. There is very limited or no humanitarian access for internally displaced persons (IDPs) sheltering in forests and host communities. In July 2026, the Indonesian government acknowledged that around 122,000 civilians have been displaced due to conflicts in West Papua.

Most IDPs are from Puncak, Intan Jaya, Nduga and Maybrat Regencies, and live scattered across West Papua in the towns of Jayapura, Mimika, Nabire, Wamena and Sorong. Their rights to life, security, work, health, education, housing and food are being violated. Many IDPs are struggling to find food at their places of refuge.¹ KOMNAS HAM recently warned that repeated displacement risks aggravating an already precarious situation. Therefore, we call upon the Indonesian government to address the IDP situation with urgency and allow humanitarian aid without delay.

We are also increasingly alarmed by the food and energy-related National Strategic Project in South Papua, particularly in Merauke Regency. Indigenous Papuans are losing their lands without free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) through the clearing of more than 2 million hectares of rainforest and swampland critical to their lives. Women and children have borne some of the greatest impacts. The project is estimated to negatively impact over 40'000 Indigenous Papuans, many of whom are already suffering immense trauma.²

In conclusion, we urge the Indonesian Government to immediately re-evaluate the National Strategic Project, pending a comprehensive environmental and social impact assessment, and conduct a free, prior and informed consent consultation process with Indigenous communities.

Thank you.

¹ Human Rights Monitor, September 7, 2026, available at: [IDP Update August'26: Central Govt notes presence of about 122.000 persons internally displaced by armed conflict in West Papua -](#)

² Human Rights Watch, July 28, 2026, available at: [Grabbed Land, Silenced Justice: The Persecution of Environmentalists and Indigenous Leaders in Indonesia | HRW](#), Mongabay, March 26, 2026, available at: [Indigenous communities in Indonesia demand halt to land-grabbing government projects](#)



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