



38th regular session of the Human Rights Council

Item 3: Clustered interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and the Special Rapporteur on internally displaced persons

Joint Oral Statement

22 June 2018

Mr. Alston,

We support your strong criticism on the IMF's neoliberal fiscal policies, which often leave the most marginalized behind. Brazil took a similar road through the Constitutional Amendment 95, freezing public spending for the next 20 years. The damage of this amendment is widespread, and, as yourself mentioned, "radical measure, lacking in all nuance and compassion".¹ The further impoverishment of the Indigenous peoples in Brazil goes hand in hand with the underfunding of the Indigenous federal agency, the FUNAI, placing indigenous communities at imminent risk.

Grounded on the same market and austerity thrusts, an opinion of the Federal General Attorney renders impracticable the pending demarcation of indigenous lands, forcing 47,000 Guarani and Kaiowá to survive on food baskets furnished the state, changing drastically their eating habits and their own food production systems.

Ms. Jimenez-Damary,

We support the guiding principles for rebuilding lives and restoring the human dignity of displaced persons. We reaffirm that, for Indigenous Peoples, these fundamentals are only possible when tenure of their traditional territories and the particular relationship with the land are ensured. Neglecting this reality is to condemn them to systemic misery, and above all, to physical and cultural extermination, at times irreversible.

¹ UNSR on Extreme Poverty, statement on Brazil's Constitutional Amendment 95: "Brazil 20-year public expenditure cap will breach human rights, UN expert warns" (9 December, 2016), available at <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=21006>

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Therefore, specific, consented and effective measures are urgently needed in the view of the humanitarian crisis affecting indigeneous peoples in the transboundary Amazon, instead of a militarized solution. Brazil cannot militarize the spaces of reception, and coerce families to be separated, under the pretext of National Security, in violation of the laws of migration, due process and autochthonous social organization.²

Thank you.

² CIMI: "Organizações reivindicam respeito aos direitos dos povos indígenas em situação de migração no estado de Roraima" (5 May 2018), available at <https://www.cimi.org.br/2018/05/organizacoes-reivindicam-respeito-aos-direitos-dos-povos-indigenas-em-situacao-de-migracao-no-estado-de-roraima/>