

INTERNACIONAL ACTION DAY
FOR DEMARCATION OF THE LANDS
OF THE TUPINIKIM AND GUARANI INDIANS IN BRAZIL

Today, the seven Tupinikim and Guarani communities in the municipality of Aracruz, state of Espírito Santo, Southeast of Brazil, are protesting together with several solidarity groups inside and outside Brazil, to ask **the Brazilian government once and for all to fulfill its constitutional duty and demarcate the traditional lands of the indigenous peoples Tupinikim and Guarani: 11.009 hectares of indigenous land, invaded by the company Aracruz Cellulose S/A.**

Since 12 September 2006 the process of the Tupinikim and Guarani lands can be found at the Ministry of Justice with the position of FUNAI (National Indigenist Foundation) in favor of demarcation.

However, since that day, no decision has been taken, even though the Minister Márcio Thomaz Bastos, promised in February 2006 during a public meeting at the State Parliament of Espírito Santo, with indigenous peoples, parliamentarians, and other authorities present, to issue the Act of Demarcation before August 2006 and the homologation (ratification) of the lands before the end of the year. Therefore the Commission of Tupinikim and Guarani Chiefs and Leaders evaluate that the agreed periods have not being fulfilled by the government.

It is important to emphasize that the delay in concluding the process by FUNAI and the Ministry of Justice made it possible that Aracruz Cellulose adopted several public actions against the indigenous peoples, between these, an intense defamatory campaign in the society, stimulating the racial prejudice against the indigenous communities.

Today, solidarity groups in Germany, the Netherlands and the United States are realizing actions at the official representations offices of Brazil (embassy and consulate) in their countries, at the same time as the indigenous peoples in Brazil are protesting as well.

Land is the constitutional right of indigenous peoples!

12th of December 2006

[backside]

DID YOU KNOW THAT:

- Aracruz Cellulose exports 97% of their production. Tissues and toilet paper (Tempo-tissues, will be made of it?
- A part of these tissues has been made out of cellulose, coming from the eucalyptus trees on indigenous lands?
- Aracruz declares that they create 100.000 direct and indirect jobs. But according to official data of the company in 2004, Aracruz had only 2,031 direct workers and 6,776 indirect workers. A result of the mechanization of the production process.
- The Indigenous peoples are claiming 11,009 hectares of a company that has 247,000 hectares of eucalyptus plantations and continues growing with a profit of about 500 million US\$ in 2005.
- Aracruz claims that they do not deforest land, they preserve the native forest. But what about all the deforestation in the past, witnessed by the generation of Tupinikim and Guarani Indians of 45 years and older? And what about the fine that Aracruz got in July 2006? Aracruz was fined by the Federal Environmental Agency for deforestation in the municipality of Linhares. Photographs prove this environmental crime, which was only stopped by the mobilization of the local population.
- Aracruz Cellulose finances election campaigns? Aiming to have a better control over the President, Governors, federal and state parliamentarians, mayors and members of local town councils. If you want to know who is officially being financed by Aracruz, you can access www.tse.gov.br.

For more information:

www.fase.org.br

www.cimi.org.br

[national addresses]