



**Pre-Session of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of the United Nations to China. Geneva.**



**Dissemination of the COICA Report on the China UPR**



**Work with Delegate of the Belgian Mission**



**Dissemination of the COICA Report on the China UPR**

## **United Nations agency incorporates recommendations from Amazonian indigenous peoples to assess human rights in Chinese investments**

- *The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner collected the recommendations of the Coordinator of Indigenous Organizations of the Amazon Basin (COICA) to assess the Chinese Government's respect of human rights.*
- *On November 6, the People's Republic of China will be evaluated in Geneva, as part of the Universal Periodic Review of Human Rights.*

**Geneva, October 9, 2018.** - The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) published the "[Summary of Stakeholder's submissions on China \(A / HRC / WG.6 / 31 / CHN\) / 3](#)", which includes recommendations given by the indigenous organization COICA (see page 14 of the document).

The Summary is the result of the evaluation of recommendations presented by more than a hundred institutions at a global level, within the framework of the Universal Periodic Evaluation of Human Rights (UPR) process. The recommendations seek that the Chinese Government improve its mechanisms of respect, implementation and remediation in the field of human rights; an emblematic process due to the key role of China - one of the world's leading economies - in the raw materials market in the South American region.

Of the reports submitted, the OHCHR has selected 127 contributions, among them the report

["Violation of human rights of indigenous population in the Amazon basin by the Chinese investments \(JS3\)"](#), found in paragraph 15 of the OHCHR summary, and prepared by the Coordinator of Indigenous Organizations of the Amazon Basin (COICA), with technical support from Law, Environment and Natural Resources - DAR (Peru), the Environment and Society Association - AAS (Colombia), Center for Studies for Labor and Agrarian Development - CEDLA (Bolivia) and Conectas (Brazil), all members of the Regional Coalition for Transparency and Participation. Said report is identified with code "JS3", on page 14 of the ["Summary of Stakeholder's submissions on China \(A / HRC / WG.6 / 31 / CHN\) / 3\)"](#).

The OHCHR incorporates the following reference to the effects on the rights to life, prior consultation, health and discrimination against indigenous peoples:

"JS3 also noted that Chinese mining companies, particularly those participating in the Mirador and San Carlos Panantza projects in Ecuador, had engaged in irregular land acquisition practices, such as irregular purchase without prior consultation, arbitrary claim of mining rights and the filing of civil lawsuits against families without property titles. Through these practices and with the support of the security forces, these companies had provoked the forced eviction and the involuntary displacement of a total of 42 indigenous families", as noted on page 3, paragraph 15 of the Summary.

The UPR seeks to set a precedent on the extraterritorial responsibility of the People's Republic of China in the field of human rights. Chinese investments in the region are based both in natural resource extractive projects and in a series of infrastructure projects; and the increasing promotion of a number of bilateral agreements, within the framework of the "La Franja y la Ruta" strategy.

In this regard, indigenous and civil society organizations have been requesting the opening of dialogue mechanisms and tools to analyze the implications of Chinese investments and the role that China is playing in the Amazon, for which – due to the cultural, diplomatic and media limitations for communication with the Government of Xi Jinping and its institutions, the United Nations UPR process represents an opportunity.

In this regard, the human rights commitments assumed by China as a member of the United Nations must become a more effective instrument to demand the protection of human rights and, in particular, the rights of indigenous peoples.

### **The facts**

- The following reports were made public: "[Compilation on China - Report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights \(A / HRC / WG.6 / 31 / CHN / 2\)](#)", and the "[National Report submitted in accordance with paragraph 5 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 16/21 - China \(A / HRC / WG.6 / 31 / CHN / 1 \\*](#)".
- Although the People's Republic of China reports on progress in terms of policies, these do not present examples or significant changes in the way in which it develops its international relations.
- The OHCHR documents a series of complaints and human rights violations that indicate the direct and indirect responsibility of the Chinese State. It highlights its extraterritorial responsibility in the field of human rights, and urges the implementation of mechanisms for its effective fulfillment.