



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
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1 March 2013

Excellency,

I would like to refer to the Committee's letter of 9 March 2012, in which it expressed concern about the situation of the Saramaka people in Suriname, under its early warning and urgent action procedure.

The Committee notes that the State party has not yet replied to its request to provide information on the situation of the Saramaka people as well as on measures taken to implement the Committee's decisions adopted under the Early Warning and Urgent Action Procedures in 2003 (Decision 3/62), 2005 (Decision 1/67) and 2006 (Decision 1/69) requesting the State party to 'ensure legal acknowledgement of the rights of indigenous and tribal peoples to possess, develop, control and use their communal lands and to participate in the exploitation, management and conservation of the associated natural resources'.

The Committee would be grateful to receive information on measures taken by the State party to implement recommendations on issues and concerns referred to in its letter of 9 March 2012 and its decisions of 2003 (Decision 3/62), 2005 (Decision 1/67) and 2006 (Decision 1/69).

In accordance with Article 9(1) of the Convention and article 65 of its Rules of Procedure, the Committee would be grateful to urgently receive information on the issues and concerns as outlined above before **31 July 2013**. Furthermore, the Committee regrets the State party to submit as soon as possible thirteenth to fifteenth periodic reports due on 14 April 2013.

Allow me, Excellency, to reiterate the wish of the Committee to continue to engage in a constructive dialogue with the Government of Suriname, with a view to promoting the effective implementation of the Convention.

Yours sincerely,

Alexei Avtonomov
Chair

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

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