

ASIA INDIGENOUS PEOPLES PACT FOUNDATION

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Contribution to the UNSR Thematic Report on Natural Resource Exploitation and the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association

31 January 2015

Mr. Maina Kiai Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association Palais des Nations CH-1211 Geneva 10 Switzerland

Dear Mr. Kiai,

We are respectfully submitting the case of the Kui indigenous peoples of Prame Commune, Preah Vihear Province, Cambodia to consider in your report on natural resource exploitation and the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and association. In particular, we would like to contribute to the following:

4. Please provide any specific case studies illustrating natural resource exploitation activities which you believe had a positive or negative impact upon FOAA rights, for example: (1) suppression or facilitation of lawful/peaceful protests regarding a project; (2) harassment or facilitation of civil society or grassroots groups involved in opposing a project; (3) outcomes when consulting – or failing to consult – with affected communities; (4) harassment/violation/sexual abuse committed particularly against women; (5) involvement of private security companies;

We have presented the case in its chronology as it is an on-going case to show the systematic suppression, harassment and violations of the villagers right to freedom of peaceful assembly and expression. We hope that this case will contribute to your work.

Sincerely,

Bernice A. See Coordinator Human Rights Campaign and Policy Advocacy Programme

THE CASE OF THE KUI INDIGENOUS PEOPLES OF PRAME COMMUNE, PREAH VIHEAR, CAMBODIA

CASE: Failure to seek the free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples prior to any development project affecting their lands, territories and resources, and the failure of government to respect the right of their affected villagers to freely exercise their right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association.

Location: The 3 villages named Prame, Sre Preang, and Bos Thom all located at Prame Commune, Tbeng Mean Chey District, Preah Vihear Province, Cambodia

Name of affected peoples: Kui/Kuoy, one of the indigenous peoples in Cambodia

Name of the companies:

Concession name	Lan Feng (Cambodia)	Ruy Feng (Cambodia)
	International Company	International Company
	Limited	Limited
Concession size	9015 Hectares	8841 Hectares
Investment intension	Rubber, acacia and Sugar	Rubber, acacia and Sugar
	cane plantation	cane plantation
Province(s)	Preah Vihear	Preah Vihear
District(s)	Tbaeng Mean Chey, Chey Chhaeb	
	Saen	

Summary of case:

In Cambodia ,the Ministry of Agriculture granted two economic land concessions (ELCs) adjacent to each other to Land Feng and Ruy Feng (also written as Rui Feng) with a total area of 17, 856 hectares¹ over the ancestral land of the Kui in Prame Commune, District of Tbaeng Mean Chey, the capital of Preah Vihear Province (area: 13,788 km²). Company employees, accompanied by village and commune officials, started to visit the villages in 2011 to demarcate the concession but not to provide credible information or even to answer villagers' questions. Despite the villagers' opposition and legal question registered with the authorities, the companies had been allowed to clear parts of their concessions. Because the companies have partially fenced off their concessions and villagers are not allowed to enter these areas, the amount of destruction cannot be assessed realistically. As of end of 2012, from ocular inspection, villagers have seen their paddy fields, gardens and around 600 resin trees owned by approximately 74 families, all of which had been inherited from their ancestors, cleared off the land. These include the remnants of an ancient Kui temple which is a sacred site, and the nearby site of an ancient Kui village as shown by the shards, bones, etc. that had been present there. Villagers have taken their case to the district to national officials, to the courts and directly confronting the concessions without any sustainable solution

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¹ Licadho map (get details)

offered by government. As of reporting time, the desperate villagers have resorted to confiscating company machinery and escalating the conflict.

Profile of the community

The Kui² is one of the 24 indigenous peoples recognised by the Royal Government of Cambodia, part of the 1.34% of the country's total population of approximately 14 million based on 2008 census. Kui indigenous communities [ICs] have lived in Preah Vihear, Kompong Thom, Stung Treng and other parts of the northern provinces of Cambodia since time immemorial. There is no available disaggregated data on the whole population of Kui in Cambodia. Since generations ago, Kui have been discriminated by the majority Khmer. As a result, many Kui are afraid to openly show their ethnicity. Prame commune, the site of this case, is composed of three Kui villages namely, Srey Preang, Bothum and Prame proper. It has a total population of 2,680 individuals as of 2011 belonging to 568 families composed predominantly of young ages. Governance is shared between the state machinery and the customary institution. The state is represented at the provincial level by the Provincial Governor. At the commune level, it is the commune chief, and there is also the commune council and the commune police force. At the village level, there is a village chief. In the villages, the Kui have their own political and social systems. The traditional chief, called Kreng Srok, presides over the male-dominated traditional council of elders.

Since 2005, the three ICs have been supported by local NGOs in their efforts to initiate community land registration processes. So far, these three villages have received a letter of community identity from Minister of Rural Development, and the Commune Council has acknowledged the traditional authorities (committee). There are steps towards the processing of their collective land title they are entitled to under the law.

The commune has a public elementary school serving Grades 1-6 with three teaches and one school director. Although most of the adults, including women, can speak Khmer, Kui is the language in daily life. There is no health facility in the community and the nearest hospital, a secondary level hospital, is about 11 kilometers away. Although there is no public transportation to the three villages, the roads are in very good condition as the Prame commune is traversed by the Asian Highway Network.

A woman elder called Yeak Chaeng or Yeak Chheon Chaeng plays a very crucial role in maintaining the solidarity of the community as the ritual leader akin to a priestess. She is responsible for performing and leading life-to-death ceremonies, propitiation rites, prayers, and such functions. She negotiates between the people and the spirit world. She embodies the spirit of the peoples thus literally seen as the representative of the spirit world and thus it is her role to propagate the belief in order to keep the unity and solidarity amongst the Kui sustained and heightened. She regularly visits sacred sites (either in the villages, farms or forests) to exercise her role. It is for this very prestigious role of a woman that Kui women are highly regarded in their communities that make them also good at communication, networking and negotiations.

The Kui heavily depend on land and natural resources for survival thus their culture and belief systems are strongly linked with their natural environment. As animists, they place great importance on sacred forests in all its elements, sacred sites and burial grounds. The

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² Also spelled as Kuoy or Kouy.

practice rotational rice farm cultivation, animal husbandry, hunting, honey collection, and gathering different kinds of non-timber forest products. They earn cash income from selling resin gathered from the forest and from their own plantations. Kui women are mainly responsible for gathering food from the forests and non-timber forest product such as rattan, firewood, and resin. Resin is the main source of income for Kui women. There are parts of the forests which are called spirit forests where spirits of ancestors are believed to reside and which need to be propitiated often to keep them helpful and not disturb the living through making people sick, for instance. Because of their affinity with the forest, Kui women regularly visit these sites for worship and spiritual renewal that is important for their mental/psychological wellbeing. However, despite their important role in family and community food security, in traditional Kui societies, women are still marginalized. For example, their participation in the community's political and public life as well as in decision-making processes are not encouraged.

One of the most crucial drivers of Cambodia's national economy is the agricultural sector. In order to spur the development of the agro-industry, the RGC is granting large areas of land to local and international investors, under so-called economic land concessions (ELCs). These lands are then converted into monocrop plantations of rubber, pine tree, sugar cane, etc. Most concessions are located in the country's northeast, which is inhabited mainly by indigenous peoples. In almost all cases, the granting process is without the free, prior and informed consent of or even sharing of information with the affected indigenous peoples. Prame commune has a long history of ELCs and land conflicts. In 1998 when the first logging concession came to Prame, the villages, supported by local authorities, protested and submitted their complaints to the Prime Minister. After a sustained campaign, the logging concession was cancelled in 2002. In 2007, land conflicts heightened when mineral concessions were granted in the nearby Roveng district of Preah Vihear, and ELCs in the Kui territories in Tbeng Meanchey and Chheb districts.

Sometime in 2010, Prame commune villagers heard from some co-villagers who were members of the Cambodian Peoples Party (CPP), the commune and village chiefs that a company was coming to their villages. There were no details at all what this was all about, and even the name of the company was not divulged. Because only a few were informed about this, this news only spread by word of mouth and created discussions among the villagers. Despite the refusal of the village and district authorities to share information, the villagers, however, were able to secure some documents showing that a company named Rui Feng has a contract with the Ministry of Agriculture for an economic land concession in Prame commune with an area of 8,841 hectares. They also were able to secure a document originating from the Ministry of Council informing the Ministry of Agriculture that a company named Lan Feng has applied for an adjacent ELC for an area of 9,015 hectares. These documents were accompanied with maps that clearly showed that the three Kui villages in the commune were within the mentioned concession areas. The ELCs were granted to these companies on July 6, 2011 for sugarcane, acacia and rubber plantation.

Company employees, accompanied by village and commune officials, started to visit the villages in 2011 to demarcate the concession but not to provide credible information or even to answer villagers' questions. Despite the villagers' opposition and legal question

registered with the authorities, the companies had been allowed to clear parts of their concessions. Because the companies have partially fenced off their concessions and villagers are not allowed to enter these areas, the amount of destruction cannot be assessed realistically. As of end of 2012, from ocular inspection, villagers have seen their paddy fields, gardens and around 600 resin trees owned by approximately 74 families, all of which had been inherited from their ancestors, cleared off the land. These include the remnants of an ancient Kui temple which is a sacred site, and the nearby site of an ancient Kui village as shown by the shards, bones, etc. that had been present there.

<u>ACRONYMS</u>

ADHOC- Cambodian Human Rights and Development Association

CHRAC - Cambodian Human Rights Action Committee

CIPO – Cambodian Indigenous Peoples Organisation

CIYA – Cambodia Indigenous Youth Association

CLEC – Community Legal Education Center

CLT – collective/communal land title

CPN - Community Peace-building Network

CPP - Cambodian Peoples Party

EIDHR – European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights

ELC – economic land concession

FPIC – free prior and informed consent

IC/s – indigenous community/ies

IPHRD/s – Indigenous peoples human rights defender/s

MoI – Ministry of Interior

NGO – Non-government organization

PKH – Phonlok Khmer

UNDRIP – United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Chronology of events after 2011

Date	Action of community		Action of government	Action of company	Follow-up action of any party
April - October 2012	The concessionaire starts clearing the forest Ricefields, sugar cane fields, resin trees, fail unearthed which form part of the sacred site.	llow f	ields, and spirit forests are des	-	
18 May 2012	Villagers held a meeting to decide actions to take to stop the destruction of their properties; they decided to meet with company to negotiate				
19 -20 May 2012 ³	162 villagers met with Lan Feng company representative		al authorities with armed be protected company	Promised to stop clearing but when the villagers went home, they continued bulldozing	
21 May 2012	148 IPs met with company representatives again to demand for a cessation of the clearing activity	No a	ction	Company claimed that the ELC was legally granted and if the villagers want to cancel it, they will have to go to the government to ask for it. The company continued its clearing	
02	145 Kui villagers (62 females) traveled	No a	ction	No action	

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 $^{^3\,}http://www.phnompenhpost.com/national/villagers-vs-bulldozers$

August	by 12 converted plowing machines to the		
2012	Rui Feng concession area where a		
	Trokuon (water grass) pond was		
	bulldozed over and which also affected		
	rice lands of 20 families. At that time, the		
	IPs told manager of the company to		
	suspend the bulldozing and take back all		
	materials for bulldozing until their issues		
	are resolved.		
28 Aug		Ministry of Rural Development	
2012		issues letter of Identity for 3 ICs	
		in Prame	
26 Aug		Ministry of Interior recognizes	
2013		the 3 ICs officially as IP	
		communities with identity and	
		by-laws registered	
Early	Some families in the 3 ICs were	The Commune Chief, from	
2013	pressured to accept individual land title	Opposition, was pressured by	
	through the Government Youth	the Provincial Governor of	
	Volunteers, rather than collective one.	Preah Vihear not to do anything	
	Several land titles were issued to	against the Provincial Office. In	
	outsiders including people from other	the meeting with Kui	
	provinces.	representatives the Governor	
		used the term "Secessionist	
		group" for not listening to him	
		and authorities.	
15		Mr. Samut Chinn and Mr.Sokhet	Soket and
August		Phan, both Kui IPHRDs from	Samut given
2012		the community were threatened	sanctuary
		to be killed and arrested by	support from
		provincial authorities according	the IPHRD

23 August 2012	95 villagers (34 females) went to meet with Mr. Sor. Others who attended the meeting were: the forestry administration officer, officer from agriculture department, member of district council, Police Commander of Tbeng Meang Chey district, manager of company Mr. Lay, Provincial court, Commune Authorities of Prame, 2 journalists (Raksmey Kampuchear, a Khmer language daily newspaper), Provincial	to indirect unofficial sources. The District Governor accused Samut of mobilizing people to stand up against development, and Mr. Sokhet as behind the protest of the people in Prame commune. Mr. Sor Thavy, deputy governor of Preah Vihear invited the villagers through commune authorities to meet with him at the concession site to resolve the land dispute. Mr. Sor requested the villagers to write to him if they wanted community forest; the forestry administrator suggested that the villagers write to Khan (district level) of the	Fund under the EIDHR Project managed by the Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact [AIPP] 24 August 2012- Villagers met internally to request for a collective land title and submit to the provincial authorities on 07-Sept-2012.
	Council -Mr Sok Narean, other Police of Tbeng Mean Chey district.	Forestry Administration	
27 February 2013			An unidentified provincial official close to Provincial Governor said that there was no criminal complaint or charge against Mr. Samuth so

23-25 Oct 2013		2 monks were detained and placed at a pagoda, while 3 CLEC staff were detained at Police station for 1 full day and night	wo NC CI CF Kh	r, "do not orry". GO Forum, LEC, Adhoc, PN, Ponlok nmer nducted fact ading ssion
02 January 2014 ⁴	The Kouy protesters, representing 528 families in the district camp out of the concession area	2 monks and 3 NGO workers who attended protest by ethnic Kouy villagers arrested Treng Meanchey District Governor, said the companies were operating within the law.		
04 Jan, 2014	4 IPHRDs from the 3 villages receive summons from the Provincial court of Preah Vihear report for an unspecified complaint from Lan Feng company		wi me arc cor de dro	s appeared th many embers ound the urt house to mand the opping of arges
05 Jan 2014 ⁵	Again, IPHRD Chinn Samuth and Phan Sokhet, are under threat of arrest by authorities, escaped	Armed Commune and District Police and military Police were present at the protest site		

⁴ http://www.phnompenhpost.com/national/monk-ngo-staff-detained http://www.phnompenhpost.com/national/protesting-villagers-hiding

		protecting the company		
23 Jan	NGO Forum of Cambodia coordinated	Asked NGOs to continue study	The company is now	Villagers
2014	network members comprised of CLEC,	on the case and closely	cutting down more	demand that all
	CIYA, ICSO, PKH and another working	collaborate with local	trees, clearing, and	part of the
	group coordinated by CHRAC and had a	authorities. Asked	planting sugar cane	ELC that
	formal meeting with Preah Vihear	communities to pinpoint where	over around 51% of	overlaps with
	Deputy Governor, Theng Meanchey	are community lands, reserved	their concession that	their territories
	district governor, and relevant deputy	lands, spirit forests, burial sites	overlap with Prame	be reverted to
	departments on the case of the land	to allow authorities to	villagers lands.	them and
	conflict	demarcate.		instead provide
		 No progress in the CLT 		collective land
	The Fact Finding Report and	application		titles [CLT]
	Participatory Mapping done by NGO			over these.
	Forum was presented. Alternative			Additional
	solutions were discussed with authorities.			demands:
	There was only one agreement between			review of
	the parties, i.e., to push for the collective			articles 23 to
	land title for the communities while the			28 of the 2001
	authorities proposed Leopard Skin			Land Law,
	[selective excision of lands out of the			authorities to
	ELC] and social land concession which			desist from
	were opposed by the villagers.			threatening the
				villagers and
				accusing
				NGOs of
				inciting
				villagers,
				speed up the
				CLT process
	Since start of the year, a vigil camp has	District and provincial	Director of Rural	No bulldozing
Jan-	been set up by villagers within the	authorities often asked IP to stop	Development played	during the

March 2014	concession area with rotating shifts among then to guard against any further clearing work; supported by NGOs and monks	camping	as mediation aiming at weakening the community at the conflicting area and come back home. They used medicine received from Provincial Health Department of Preah Vihear	protest; villagers refuse any other option but the return of their lands
28 Jan	Sokhet and Samuth	Governor of Preah Vihear		Threat to Kui
2014	hold press conference at Phnom Penh	Province accused both activists		IPHRDs
		as "secessionists", a serious		remain high
		crime		
February 2014	Meeting with Provincial Government	Presided over by the Provincial Governor, with officials from Land, environment, Forestry admin, Rural Development and others, the authorities tell the villagers, as quoted, that the "Provincial Government cannot stop economic development of Government, and cannot stop villagers from protest it is beyond what we can do".		
17 Feb 2014		MoI issues letter to Governor of Preah Vihear to settle the land conflict between the Prame Kui and the 2 ELCs and accelerate		
		the communal land titles		
March		Mr. Suos Yara, in his capacity as		The Kui

2014		member of National Assembly	families of
		for Preah Vihear from ruling	Prame refused
		party CPP holds public forum.	to accept the
		Rice in 20Kgs packs with cash	gifts with
		in the amount of 50000 Riel	strong reaction
		(approx. US\$12.5) were	against being
		prepared as gifts to the	bought through
		attendees.	such gifts.
			Only 8
			families
			received
10	About 200 Kouy villagers block the	Tbeang Meanchey District	MoI order
March	concessionaires tractors from bulldozing	[capital of the Preah Vihear	received by the
2014^{6}	their crops	Province] authorities receive a	district
		letter from the Interior Ministry	officials only
		instructing them to broker an	on 10 March
		agreement between villagers and	2014; no
		nearby concessionaires.	action
04 April		H.E. Suos Yara, CPP National	No concrete
2014		Assembly member of Preah	action seen
		Vihear Province, holds public	
		forum and promises to intervene	
		in the land dispute	
07 May	The criminal complaint (No.		
2014^{7}	102/May/2014) was filed to Provincial		
	Court of First Instance against the		
	company		
		Prosecutor makes preliminary	

⁶ http://www.phnompenhpost.com/national/kuoy-villagers-block-firms http://www.phnompenhpost.com/national/kuoy-file-suit-over-%E2%80%98land-grab%E2%80%99

04 th Jun 2014 07 July 2014	Appeal the court decision to the Court of Appeals in Phnom Penh	investigation and clarification from Kui representatives, then drops the case No action		
23 July 2014 ⁸	Representatives of 367 affected families of the 3 Kui villages of Prame Commune hold a press conference at the NGO Forum Office in Phnom Penh calling for the cancellation of the ELCs of Lan Feng and Rui Feng .	No action	They also follow-up the Feb 17 Ministry of Interior or to the provincial authorities. They also followed up the promise H. E. Suos Yara made April 4th. Naction from authorities.	f der ip on se of se on No
30 July 2014 ⁹	About 150 Kuoy villages protest outside of Preah Vihear Provincial Court against the questioning of 8 villagers and NGO staff allegedly for inciting villagers to			

 $[\]frac{^{8} \text{ http://www.ngoforum.org.kh/index.php/en/hot-news/events/200-indigenous-communities-from-preah-vihear-call-for-cancellation-of-the-economic-land-concession-and-accelerating-the-communal-land-titles}{^{9} \text{ http://www.phnompenhpost.com/national/crops-pulled-locals-and-ngo-staffer-questioned}}$

	destroy 36 tonnes of sugarcane tops owned by Rui Feng and Lan Feng.		
29 Dec 2014	2 bulldozers are confiscated for bulldozing a number of rice paddy land and their drivers held hostage	Provincial and local authorities intervene including Police and district Governor, line departments of Agriculture, Environment, Forestry Administration, among others	Drivers are detailed overnight before and released after negotiations were promised. The talks then stalled.
31 Dec 2014	With lawyer, staff from CIPO, CIYA, PKH, and the Kui hold meeting at Commune Office	Authorities led by Prosecutor and Deputy Provincial Governor meet and negotiate with IPs	Authorities agree to accelerate Communal Land Titling for the three villages. But no mention on bulldozers at all in the meeting
January 2015 ¹⁰	Filed complaint (No.05 of Jan 06 th 2015) to Court against 2 drivers of Bulldozers	Mr. Suos Yara opened his office in Preah Vihear, having invited some of activists including Mrs Tep Tim and others to familiarize communication with Kui in Prame. Provincial Governor and other officials	Ü

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¹⁰ http://www.phnompenhpost.com/national/preah-vihear-villagers-win-small-concession

		were also present	
08 January 2015 ¹¹	Press conference held in Phnom Penh representatives from the Kuoy ethnic group in Preah Vihear's Brame commune and the Phnong ethnic minority in Mondulkiri's Keo Seima district to condemn the Chinese-owned firms Rui Feng International and Lan Feng, as well as the Vietnamese company Binh Pheuk 1.		
27 Jan 2015	Villagers received court order through Police in the morning of 27 th Jan regarding the confiscated bulldozer as preliminary clarification step on the complaint filed by the community against the 2 drivers of the bulldozers.	The court issued order on 25 th Jan for IP to appear on 27 th Jan at 2.00pm. Local police in Prame handed over the letter on 27 th morning and asked concerned to go to court in the afternoon of the same day.	Questions were asked by Prosecutor with serious focus on person(s) behind the complaint and what the purpose of complaint was.

 $Reference: \underline{http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/IPeoples/EMRIP/StudyAccessToJustice/AIPP.pdf}$

Legal and policy framework

¹¹ http://www.phnompenhpost.com/national/kuoy-phnong-air-grievances

The 2001 Land Law provides indigenous peoples with rights linked with 'collective property', in its article 10: "Ownership by a group of persons exercising their prerogatives through a legal way regulated for such ownership is collective ownership." The Land Law goes further, recognizing the collective rights of indigenous peoples precisely, in its article 25: "The lands of indigenous communities are those lands where the said communities have established their residences and where they carry out traditional agriculture. The lands of indigenous communities include not only lands actually cultivated but also includes reserved necessary for the shifting of cultivation which is required by the agricultural methods they currently practice and which are recognized by the administrative authorities. The measurement and demarcation of boundaries of immovable properties of indigenous communities shall be determined according to the factual situation as asserted by the communities, in agreement with their neighbors, and as prescribed by procedures in Title VI of this law and relevant sub-decrees."

Until they have the opportunity to have their land registered, the law protects the rights of indigenous peoples to continue to manage their land according to their traditional customs (Art. 23). The community's collective ownership includes all the rights and protections of ownership that are enjoyed by private individual owners. The exercise of these rights and the conditions of land use should be decided according to customary decision-making process of the community (Art. 26). The process by which the two companies obtained a land concession from the State on the indigenous peoples' territories has been illegal, rapid and non-transparent. In contrast the process through which an indigenous community obtains a titling is extremely slow, tedious, costly, not guaranteed, and in violation of the basic rights provided in the UNDRIP, including those relating to non-discrimination (Art. 3), rights to their traditional lands and territories (Art. 26), and identity (Art. 33), as well as the principle of a free, prior and informed consent.

Article 5 of the 2001 Land Law of Cambodia states that no owner or legal possessor should have their land taken away from them unless it is in the public interest and they are compensated at the market value in advance. The ELC mentioned cannot be considered as public interest project because it is a private business. As such it is not allowed to take the land of indigenous peoples for an ELC unless the latter freely consent to it and are justly compensated. The ELCs were granted on indigenous lands which interfere with the community's right to manage their land according to its traditions.

Further, the government violated the law by giving immovable properties (lands, forests, waters) of the Kui indigenous peoples to the two companies. Article 28 of the Land Law is unequivocal against such disenfranchisement by assuring that that "No authority outside the community may acquire any right to immovable properties belonging to an indigenous community". This article serves as the basis for requiring the consent of the affected Kui villagers. The 2001 Land Law obliges the determination of prior rights to the land, in this case the peaceful occupation of the Kui villagers that before any action is taken on immovable property.

The government must also first determine of the legality of the ELC grants, being beyond the cumulative legal limit of 10,000 hectares stated by Article 59 and its violation of article 248 of the Land law, prohibiting infringements on prior ownership and other legal rights to immovable property.

The 2002 Forestry Law also protects the traditional rights of indigenous people to use forests in line with their customs, beliefs and religion (Art. 40). This means that if an Economic Land Concession is granted on indigenous peoples land, or if an ELC is granted that stops indigenous communities from accessing its traditional forests, it will surely be breaching the Land Law and the Forestry Law.

The Kui of Prame Commune who have progressed in their application for a collective land registration and are just waiting for the issuance of the title. They have also chosen to continue their collective land title application during the implementation of Directive 01. Under article 23 of the Land Law they are entitled to manage their lands in accordance with traditional custom until that registration process is fulfilled. In a statement issued on 2014 January 2014, the villagers cited the violations on their collective rights as follows:

- Prior to the approval of the ELC license issuance and clearance on indigenous areas, the relevant authorities and companies failed to execute the necessary procedures and to comply with the economic right of indigenous peoples;
- Failure to conduct an appropriate consultation in public and without FPIC.

Submitted by: Human Rights Campaign and Policy Advocacy Programme Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact