

To: UN Special Rapporteur on toxics and human rights, Dr. Marcos A. Orellana
Special Procedures Branch
UNOG-OHCHR
CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland

Questionnaire to Indigenous peoples and civil society

Questionnaire answers

1: The Wayana Indigenous of Southern Suriname, specifically the clans located along the Lawa river, have been suffering the negative effects of Mercury, which is used in small scale goldmining in the area on a massive scale [estimate of 40.000 kilo mercury in this area alone]. The mercury has poisoned our river, and the fish therein decades of the use of mercury poisoning of our forests and rivers has resulted in high levels of mercury found in multiple generations of Wayana. This has been linked to various diseases such as nerve system failures and miscarriage.



Lawa river area with
(illegal) gold mining