

DR. CAROLINE LUCAS

Green Party  
*for the South East of England*

Commissioner Ashton  
DG Foreign Affairs and Security Policy  
The European Commission  
200 Rue de la Loi  
B1049  
Brussels  
Belgium

23rd March 2010

Dear Commissioner,

**Land rights of the Ayoreo-Totobiegosode tribe (Paraguay)**

The Ayoreo-Totobiegosode tribe in Paraguay includes the only remaining uncontacted Indians outside of the Amazon basin. Contacted members of the tribe have been trying to claim legal title to a small part of their ancestral territory since 1993 but most of it is still in private hands. This territory includes land used by the uncontacted members.

Recent reports now suggest that Brazilian companies who own land within the ancestral territory have been clearing it illegally, violating injunctions which prohibit any such work in the area and threatening the survival of the uncontacted Ayoreo-Totobiegosode.

I urge you to investigate this situation, particularly any misuse of indigenous lands. I welcome your thoughts on how the EU can help in this situation and how we can ensure that the Ayoreo-Totobiegosode's remaining lands are titled to them without delay.

I look forward to your response

Yours sincerely,



Caroline Lucas - Green Party MEP for South East England.