Executive summary of the first report of the civil society about the fulfillment of the ICESCR (International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights) in Paraguay for the consideration of the CESCR (Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights) during its 39<sup>th</sup> period of sessions to take place from November 5<sup>th</sup> to November 23<sup>rd</sup> 2007.

# I. Presentation

- This report is the product of the hard work carried out by the FNC (National Rural Federation), MCNOC (National Table Coordinators of Rural Organizations), ONAC (National Rural Organization), CLIBCh (Coordinator of Indigenous Leaders of the Lower Chaco), CONAMURI (National Coordinator of Organizations for working, rural and indigenous women), CODEHUPY (Coordinator of Human Rights in Paraguay), Tierraviva, Base Investigaciones Sociales, CIPAE (Church Committee for Emergency Help), Base Ecta (Education, communication, alternative technology), Decidamos, Ñemonguetarâ, Oguazú, Pastoral de la movilidad humana, Pastoral indígena, Pastoral social nacional, Red rural y CECTEC (Center of education, training and rural technology), with the support of Diakonia (Swedish Universal Support) and FIAN International (Food First Information and Action Network), and the special collaboration of EDD (German Anglican Churches for Development), ICCO (Interecclesiastical Organization of co-operation for development) and Intermon Oxfam.
- 2. This report covers the period 2000-2005, but makes reference to data corresponding to other years, for comparison and a measurement of progress. It focuses on the rural population, countrymen and indigenous alike, taking into consideration, mainly, the pattern of possession and access to land, and the ESCR (Economic, social and cultural rights).
- 3. As to its contents, it was decided to contrast the situation of the rights confirmed in articles 6 (right to work), 11.1 and 11.2 (right to food and water), and 11.1 (right to housing) with official data which shows the real socio-economic situation and the adoption of public policies, including current legislation. Information from other institutions and data obtained from indigenous communities and countrymen living in these communities (through public audiences and interactive workshops) have also been sourced, in order to establish the degree of respect, protection and satisfaction of these rights, relating to the standards of the current rights and the obligations of the state with the ratification of the ICESCR.

# **II.** Context: Rural poverty economic model and the effect on the population.

- 4. The rural poverty in Paraguay has deep structural roots, and is historically associated to the exclusion of the land and to the model of rural development imposed according to the logic of the large producers. The stripping of the land the country people have been subjected to from the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century until now has been the main cause of inequality and conflicts between the country people, the landowners and the State.
- 5. According to data from the EPH (Permanent Homes Survey) in 2004 of the DGEEC (General Directory of Statistics, Surveys and Census), in that year poverty reached 39.2% of the population, of which 22.1% are poor and 17.1% are extremely poor. In the rural sector, the situation intensifies, with poverty affecting 40.1% of the population, of which 17.3% are poor and 22% are extremely poor. This situation

reflects a serious regression, as in the year 2000 poverty affected 33.9%, in other words, it increased approximately 6 points in 5 years; the fact that the increase mainly affected urban areas does not imply that the situation in the countryside improved, it is another indicator of the consequences of the expulsions from the countryside, seeing as the population of the countryside also decreased during the period.

- 6. The battle for land and for the Agrarian Reform is a constant feature in Paraguay and has cost peasant lives. In the country people's culture, the land is not only valued in an economic way –the production factor-, but it is also part of their cultural substance, it is the *tekoha*, the place where they build and rebuild the *teko*, the way of life, therefore it is fundamental to the development of life.
- 7. From this perspective the rural poverty is not just deprivation in terms of economy, but it is also associated directly with the possibility of the full exercise of the ESCR, for which two things are necessary, the land and its most immediate surroundings, the community. Poverty, therefore, is not just not having, or having too little to eat, being educated, keeping healthy, it is also not being able to develop networks for cooperation and relationships which take place in the countryside communities between relatives and neighbors.
- 8. The current capitalist expansion in the countryside compromises the reproduction of the rural model of production, imposing productive logic which prioritizes capital, the production of areas directed at the international market, in contrast to the logic of producing food, the principal characteristic of agriculture in the countryside. This has produced a larger concentration of the property of the land (66.4% of the land is owned by 10% of the landowners) with the property of the peasant and the indigenous territories disappearing at an increasing rate (29.7% of the rural population does not own land). When the peasant and the indigenous are stripped of their lands, they are denied the chance to exert their ESCR, fundamentally the rights to food and water, housing and work. This situation affects approximately 300,000 families, according to estimates by the main rural organizations (FNC and MCNOC).
- 9. In the rural sector there co-existed, and still co-exist two different models of production: the peasant model and the agricultural exporter. These two models have become incompatible in the last few years, seeing as the second advances to the detriment of the first, a situation which worsens as state policies are aimed at guaranteeing the rapid advancement of single-crops farmers. So in fact this constitutes a political discrimination towards the people of the countryside.
- 10. The population of the country is 5,206,101, with 43.3% corresponding to the rural sector, according to the Population and Housing Census of 2002. An important fact shown in the census is the rapid decrease of the rural population compared to the urban population. Ten years ago the proportion was 49 to 51, however, in just one decade this dropped 13%, although the actual number of people increased. This reverse in relation to the rural and urban populations is giving rise to a rapid process of urbanization which in the current conditions implies a deterioration in the quality of life, seeing as this is a consequence of the expulsion of the country people and not a decision taken voluntarily. On arrival in urban areas or the outskirts they do not have the necessary minimum conditions which the state should offer, due to the lack of public policies, oriented to the enjoyment of their rights.

- 11. The advancement of mechanized agriculture for the production of soybeans is another milestone in the history of the struggle of the small producers for survival and to remain in the countryside. Apart from the historic claim for the land, you can now also add other claims, such as the indiscriminate use of agro-chemicals and transgenic seeds. Other negative effects are the deforestation, the accelerated impoverishment of the ground, the pollution and diversion of water sources and the death of biodiversity, as well as risks to the health of the people, be they producers and/or consumers, and the loss of native seeds, endangering the security and authority of sources of nourishment of the population.
- 12. The incorporation of transgenic seeds, as well as the ever-greater presence of large agro-industrial companies, increase the concentration of the land and put the survival of the agriculture in the Paraguayan countryside in serious risk. Up until a few years ago, the large plantations were exclusive to regions in the south and east of the country, but nowadays a large part of the national territory is under threat from this model of agriculture.

# **III.** Situation of the ESCR.

13. Listed are the rights tackled in the report, according to the ICESCR.

# Article 6 (Right to work)

- 14. In Paraguay, the primary economic sector accounts for 27% of the GNP (Gross National Product) and employment for 1/3 of the population (33%). The tertiary sector or service sector accounts for 51% of the labor force, while the manufactory industry and the construction industry account for the remaining 16%. On a rural level, the importance of the tertiary sector (services, transport, finances, etc.) as an employer is much less (23%), while the main primary sector as an employer is obviously much more (67%), (EPH 2004).
- 15. In terms of gender, the men who declare themselves employed are concentrated in the primary sector (73), while the women are distributed between the primary sector (55%) and the tertiary sector (35% compared to 16% for the men), indicating the concentration of employment in primary activities, mostly in agriculture, which does not require a high level of qualification, the segmentation of the labor market, and the scarcity of alternatives of non-agricultural employment in the rural sector.
- 16. In the period of 1999-2003 the sector that has generated the most employment are Agriculture, Livestock, Hunting and Fishing, while the construction and industrial manufactory sectors have lost more than 12.000 jobs. However, the new jobs created were not enough, with the informal sector being able to better deal with the erratic behavior of the economy, although at a high cost -low remuneration, low productivity, reduced or no health cover- and therefore finding it difficult to maintain itself in the long term, proving the lack of policies which tend to promote the exercise to the right to work. In 2004 the total unemployment rate is 10.9% in the country, 8.2% in the in rural areas but rising to 14.9% for women in rural areas.

- 17. The earning of minimum wage is an indicator of the instability and segmentation of the labor market, as well as the breaking of the law that supposedly supports it. In 2003, 87% of the self employed workers, 48% of private employees and almost 50% of the public employees earned less than minimum wage at the time (less than 200 dollars).
- 18. Another worrying trend is the decrease in income of the employed population, of 11% in the 5-year period running 1999-2003. This decrease is distributed as follows: civil servants (-18%), public laborers (-21%), private sector employees (-11), and private sector laborers (-16%). The only ones to maintain their level of income, apart from the landowners and employers (+1.7%), are the self-employed (+1.9%), which helps to explain why the average monthly income in this sector (approximately 110 dollars) is much lower than in other categories.
- 19. In the rural context, according to the Encuesta Agropecuaria (Agricultural Survey) carried out by the MAG (Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock) in 2001/2, 80% of the units surveyed register sales of agricultural products. Of the units marketed, 76% showed sales of less than US\$ 500 for the year, of which 42% showed sales of less than 20 hectares. In other words, during times of crises and uncertain growth, money is very limited in the context of agriculture by rural families, which limits the possibilities of a decent life.
- 20. In the rural context, the invisible under-employment is more pronounced than the visible, totaling 43%, with women being more affected (24%) than the men (19%) by the total under-employment, while the visible underemployment affects them to greater effect (EPH 2004).
- 21. The self-employed and unpaid family members account for 73% of the employed in the countryside, about 831,812 people; a much higher proportion than in urban areas, where only 37% are included in this category, around 520,985 people (EPH 2004).
- 22. In short, 35% of the economically active population are faced with some kind of employment problems, be it unemployment (open or hidden) or underemployment (visible or invisible). This uncertainty in the labor market is more frequent in urban areas (40%) than in rural areas (29%). In terms of gender, while 43% of women suffer from employment problems, only 30% of men find themselves in the same situation (EPH 2004). Similarly, young people are affected more than adults, in a situation where 64% of the population is aged under 30.
- 23. Although there are several Ministries and institutions responsible for the problem, there is no strategic vision or group concerning the labor problem, and thus there is little coordination directed at progressing the exercise of the right to work. Since last decade, the majority of government offices has implemented several programs and projects with the help of the multilateral banks and international cooperation, but has been unable to achieve the results expected, given the inefficiency of the resources in the administration, when not directly influenced by corruption.

# Article 11.1 and 11.2 (right to food and water)

- 24. The right to water is not guaranteed nor protected by the state. The lack of protection in rural areas is notorious, where contamination with biocides is widespread. Also, the deforestation that accompanies the extension of the agricultural border accelerates the erosion of the ground, impedes the natural refilling of the aquifers and alters the natural water cycles. In the cities the waste from the slaughterhouses, tanneries, industries and homes goes uncontrolled, and goes directly to the water channels raw. The deficient collection and treatment systems contribute to the contamination of the superficial and subterranean water sources.
- 25. The lack of access to drinking water is an every-day occurrence for according to official data 17% of the national population. Nevertheless, the quality of the water used by 83% of the population is unsafe. An indicator of this would be the numerous cases of diarrhea and deaths related to the consumption of contaminated water.
- 26. The water sources, although abundant, are unequally distributed and run the risk of being contaminated. In the Western region, the lack of water is a major concern during some periods of the year. The average rainfall in the region varies from 500mm to 1000mm per year. The droughts are more intense and prolonged every year (from 6 to 8 months a year) and in alternate years there may be floods. Most of the region does not have systems for distribution, storage or collection of water, which is why the settlers there depend entirely on the random climactic conditions for this vital liquid.
- 27. Act 1614/2000 violates the legislation established in the GC 15 of the ICESCR and establish a legal framework which allow systematic violations to the right to water, seeing as water is fundamentally treated as an economic asset and not as a social or cultural asset, because it is establishes that the tariffs for the service of drinking water will be set according to the need to; a) tend towards rational use and efficient service; b) allow a balance between the supply and demand of the service; c) reflect the cost of the service, including the beneficial margin for the providers.
- 28. Currently there is no national policy for the safeguarding of sustenance (the official report of the ICESCR recognizes this), a fact that poses a threat, if not a direct violation of the right to sustenance of the Paraguayan population. The absence of social plans of production and distribution of food, added to the difficulty of access to the land in the countryside and work in the cities generates a constant state of alimentary instability.
- 29. There are sectors that are more vulnerable to alimentary stability, as they cannot get access to adequate foods either through the market or through production, due to structural problems of employment and land. This is, in part, represented by the high Gini coefficient (57 %) of the concentration/distribution of the income on a national level (the Gini coefficient measures the concentration of certain variables, in this case the income, the value 0 % signifies a null concentration of perfect distribution, while its approximation to 100 % signifies the augmentation of concentration). In the alimentary field the Gini coefficient remains high (15 %) in relation to other countries.
- 30. The primary diseases related to insufficient or inadequate consumption of food registered in Paraguay are: acute malnourishment, chronic malnourishment and the

deficiency of micronutrients like iron, iodine, fluoride and vitamin A, the dwellers of rural areas and most specially the boys, girls, women and indigenous people being the most affected.

31. The rapid expansion of single crops of soybean and other mechanised plantations in the last few years, means a rejection as far as the production of food for the population in general is concerned, the deterioration of the environment and therefore a direct attack on the right to alimentation of the rural populations who coexist with these big plantations which are systematically fumigated with powerful pesticides that contaminate the waters, produce the death of domestic animals and the destruction of crops for auto consumption.

# Article 11.1 (Right to adequate housing)

- 32. According to the national census of population and housing, the distribution of houses in the country is 58.6 % in urban areas and 41.4 % in rural areas. Electrical energy is the service of widest distribution in the country. As far as water distribution goes, in rural areas, the problem is much greater, as only 22.5 % of the population can count on this service. Drainage systems continue to be a service provided only to urban areas. One in four homes is run by women.
- 33. The biggest deficiency as far as the ones run by the state are concerned, is in the rural areas, the existence of programmes for housing only occur in urban and surrounding areas, which can be considered to be a way of persuading the peasant to move out of their land and nearer to the cities. It is necessary to point out here, the absence of a policy directed to the housing of rural areas, which represents 80 % of the deficit of this country. The rural population can be said to be the poorest of all, therefore it should be the primary objective of the actions of the State. The inexistence of housing policies for the rural zones is a clear discrimination towards this sector.
- 34. For a total of 1.098.005 dwellings surveyed in 2002, 824.844 correspond to the description of a 'house' (75.12 %) and 216,251 are denominated 'ranches' (19.69 %). The way to determine the deficit of physical quality has been, for the survey in 2002, the consideration of dwellings with earth floors, which totalling 308,439 units. By definition this resolve, allows to suppose that there are similar conditions of shortcomings in the walls and roofs.
- 35. There is an absence of an efficient policy directed at rural housing (which represents 80 % of the countries deficit). The traditional policies that must be revised have based themselves on credits with a bank mortgage that has made it difficult to put into practice the actions in rural areas. The deficit in housing is not because of the absence of houses but because of their bad condition, which would allow actions to be proposed which would gradually improve the conditions of life of a great number of residents, battling not only with the physical quality but also with crowding (one roomed housing), or the lack of services, specially in the case of drinkable water. Conditions should be revised and agreed on by the recipients so that viable proposals can be made.
- 36. It is necessary to point out that without tenancy of the land you cannot even talk about abode, having observed in one of these cases, camp sights with provisional

accommodation which we have denominated 'shelters' as they are far from complying with the minimum requisites of habitation.

# IV. Position of the indigenous peoples.

# **Demographic Information.**

- 37. The census of the indigenous people in 2002 counted 87,099 people who represent 1.7 % of the total population of Paraguay. Through the question of what ethnic race people belong to, 2.070 people were accounted for who although not living in an indigenous community declared they belonged to one of the indigenous groups living in Paraguay. That is to say, the total of the native population, counting not only those who belong to a community and the ones that live outside it but also those who identify themselves with a definite ethnic group giving a total of 89.169 people accounted for.
- 38. For the purpose of a census, the native population was classified in 20 ethnic groups, the Mby' Guaraní, Avá Guaraní, Paî Tavyterâ, Nivaclé, Enlhet North, Enxet South which are a larger population, and the ethnic groups Manjui, Guaná, and Tomaraho which are a smaller group.

# Land Tenancy

- 39. In this respect, at the end of the census work done by the DGEEC in 2002, it concludes that the situation of extreme poverty of the indigenous peoples is reflected by the lack of land of their own. The results of the census indicate that in Paraguay there are 412 indigenous communities, 185 of which still do not have a legal and definite guarantee of this, 45 in the western region and 140 in the eastern region.
- 40. In the Western region (Chaco) each indigenous family has the right to a minimum of 100 hectares, that is established in Act 904/81 'Statute of the Indigenous People' in article 18, whereas the Constitution of the Republic (article 64) talks about community properties, sufficient in size and quality, establishing no foundation.
- 41. The extension of land to which the indigenous peoples who live in the Western Region have access is 662.296 hectares. This amount gives a lower percentage to the minimum legal requirement of 100 hectares established per family for the western region, making the extension 92 hectares with the aggravation that the availability of land per community can be a lot lower, if we deduct the amount mentioned taking as an equivalent category, be it each Group separately or each district of the Chaco in an independent way.
- 42. On the other hand, looking at the situation on the Eastern Region you can see an even more critical panorama, taking into account that the details give an even more alarming result than on the Western side, bearing in mind that the same assured surface of land for the indigenous communities is 78.254 hectares. The legal standard in force for this region is at least 20 hectares per family. This shows how each indigenous family is able to use, on average, only 50 % of the surface of the land (10.9 hectares) to which at the least they have the right to own, according to the same Act 904/81, in the article already mentioned.

#### **Social-economic considerations**

- 43. The indigenous communities and villages, the same as any other sectors of the impoverished people in Paraguay, suffer an equally negative impact due to the implementation of the agro-exporter model, based on the commercial agriculture of single crops in force in the country at this time. This fact is easy to verify in numerous native settlements, like at the one in Ñembiará of the Mby'a Guaraní people, in the department of Caaguazú, which was visited on the occasion for the execution of public hearings which the instigators of\_this report called for, as it was on visits made *in situ* to various Paí Tavyterâ communities in the Amambay department.
- 44. The critical situation of a permanent emergency that the majority of indigenous people go through is notorious, because of the lack of enough food, these people cannot be self sufficient and you could say that they live with hunger in an almost permanent way. The families who do not have their own land migrate to the cities to search through rubbish bins or beg on the main streets of the most important urban towns among them, the capital city.
- 45. In Eastern Paraguay, many communities who at this time have land, are merely like tiny islands, almost without forests, surrounded by pastures which come from the neighbouring cattle ranches a situation seen in the Paí Tavyterá Community called Tajy -, who invade their allotments and leave them exposed to fires in times of drought. In the more fertile areas the communities are surrounded by mechanised crops of soybean and wheat; they suffer the direct impact of the herbicides and pesticides, the streams are polluted and the water, (including that of the wells) is contaminated with agricultural chemicals used for the intensive and extensive agriculture practiced in vast areas.
- 46. Western Paraguay (Chaco) has also been drastically changed, deforestation extends as far as Alto Paraguay and the Chaco Central department which have become practically treeless, the frontiers of the cattle exploitation, in this case, have substituted forests for artificial pastures and cattle, where the indigenous people constitute the principal cheap labour, under conditions of exploitation that the very own ILO has classified as 'modern slavery' in a recent article (Document of work Debt subjection and Marginalising in the Paraguayan Chaco, Alvaro Bedoya Silva-Santisteban & Eduardo Bedoya Garland, International Labour Office Geneva, July 2005), in conformity with paragraphs 48 and 49.
- 47. The problems of health are intimately related to the social and environmental conditions strongly degraded in their habitats. In other words, it is hunger, contamination of the water and discrimination in the provision of public services that are the principal causes of the degradation and extreme poverty. There are no systematic studies made about the indigenous peoples health on a national level, however, the available information suggests that the indigenous peoples have indicators that show child mortality, malnourishment, tuberculosis and other transmittable diseases high above the rest of the rural population.

# Discrimination in the labour market and debt subjection.

- 48. The indigenous workers, temporary and permanent, of the ranches in the Chaco suffer systematic undervaluing of their work due to: 1) salaries below the legal minimum; 2) insufficient quantity of food provided to the workers; 3) the overpricing of food products available to them in the shops on the ranches; 4) partial payment, and in some cases almost total payment with articles which correspond to the 'provisions' (basic food basket of possessions and subsistence); and 5) the denial to the workers of access to external markets or other sources of subsistence, contributing to a considerable reduction in income of the same, leaving them with little or no net earnings when they leave their job.
- 49. For temporary workers who finish an "*changa*" a short term job clearing up dry fields and bringing in the harvest- this means that once this is done the discounts from their wages on the provisions bought at the ranch shops and after several weeks of work, have little or nothing left of their salary. Eventually, this can also mean that the temporary workers have to prolong their jobs because they have borrowed more or bought more "provisions" than their salary allowed. For permanent workers, generally employed as "labourers", and for the domestic servants this process very often leads to the creation of permanent debts, which can, in turn, lead to direct or indirect detention of the worker against his/her will. This group of mechanisms reduces the freedom of the workers. The worker and his family, in this way, find themselves tied to a ranch because of the form of payment (in species and in money) and the corresponding generating of debts.

# V. Conclusions and recommendations

- 50. The principal cause of these violations detected in the Alternative Report of the Civil Society about the Compliance of the ICESCR in the rural context, is, on the one hand, the growing process of concentration of land for the extensive and intensive exploitation of the same destined to the production of single crops (soy bean, wheat, cotton and sunflower) and on the other hand, the cattle exploitation in the main agricultural areas and of pastures, without the State having protected the rural population with government policies of the ESCR.
- 51. As a result of this, the rights of the rural and indigenous peoples have been violated and have generated the expulsion of rural families towards urban centres and even a growing international migration, for lack of land and/or agricultural jobs.
- 52. Though the State has launched some actions, these have not been enough. Therefore, by not endorsing policies that protect the rural people from the expulsion to which they are being subjected, there is no guarantee the minimum content of the ESCR for rural populations, having the clear obligation to better these conditions of privilege and to exercise these rights.
- 53. Neither has it taken responsibility for progressively improving the conditions of privilege and rights of the ESCR as it has adopted measures which favour the interests of the capital city rather than the ones of the much more vulnerable rural peoples, who have lost their lands that is to say, their homes and their means of

nourishment and work – through the advancing of the models of single crops, which have not been restrained by the State in any way.

- 54. Discrimination towards the rural peoples, has been recurrent in many of the states actions, there are no housing policies, nor generating of jobs or a guarantee of income for the peasant and indigenous. This situation is even more severe in the case of women of the rural sector.
- 55. The State has not shown any respect or protection for the rural population, there have been many violent evictions, the destruction of dwellings and crops by the police, and also murders that have not been cleared up judicially and arrests on mass, as can be established by the cases included in the Alternative Report and in the International Mission FIAN.

#### Recommendations

- 56. With the need to promote a better control of the ICESCR, the social and human rights organisations that are part of the present initiative, joined together to write up the First Report of the Civil Society about the Fulfilment of the ICESCR in Paraguay, at the same time, with the points raised in the "Report of the fact finding mission on the state of the Agrarian Reform regarding the duty of human rights" headed by FIAN International, created the following recommendations.
- 57. Put into practice a policy of agricultural reform aimed at promoting and protecting rural families' agriculture that includes the access to land and guarantees its permanency, supplying the financial resources to the relevant State's organisations, for the effective settlement of the rural families established there, as well as technical assistance, access to credits, the market and the necessary infrastructure for the development of the same. It must also guarantee access, without discrimination of the women, to credit, land and also to technologies and an adequate infrastructure for rural producers. It must be pointed out that the CESCR back in 1995 recommended that the Paraguayan government implement the integral agrarian reform, which to this date has not been done.
- 58. The right to land/territory of the indigenous peoples should be wholly recognised, for this the State must modify its internal legislation, establishing laws of specific application that permit the communities and people groups interested in getting access to suitable procedures for them to get an answer to their claims, based on the standards of their rights established by the International Rights and Constitution of the Republic and the allocation of sufficient funds for the payment of corresponding compensation and projects for development.
- 59. Put into practice policies of control for the expansion of mechanised agriculture of single crops, which lead to the compliance of the human rights to the benefit of the rural communities and the indigenous people.
- 60. Establish practical mechanisms for customs control of agrochemicals entering the country and to control its use.

- 61. Revise the public agricultural and agrarian policies to encourage and promote rural family agriculture and self-sufficiency in food production so that they become priorities. Use the maximum of available resources for the financial and technical support intended for the small and medium producers of both sexes.
- 62. Promote diversity of productivity which reduces risks and generates staged activities throughout the year-, encourage the use of intensive technology at work, suitable for small scale farming, looking to absorb seasonal farming unemployment and underemployment, as well as improving the interchange between the countryside the cities.
- 63. Promote policies focussing on rural area housing creating conditions so that the most impoverished sectors can have access to a comfortable house since they represent 79 % of the insufficiency in this matter.
- 64. Establish public policies directed to the satisfaction of the rights to water due to the fact that the consumption of it for 83 % of the population is not guaranteed in its being drinkable.
- 65. The execution of public policies which directly benefit the indigenous peoples, designed to fight extreme poverty, and primarily directed to the fulfilment of the rights to food and to water, accompanied by programmes for generating income and rural jobs, professional training and promoting handcrafts.

Asuncion, 1st September 2007