

Item 5: Thematic Discussion: Global Reparatory justice

Statement by Neles Tandamat – Secretary Solidarity for Indigenous Papuans, Papua Indonesia

Madam Chair,

The Solidarity for Indigenous Papuans in support of the statements made by the speakers on the subject of Global Reparatory Justice would like to reiterate and highlight the significance of the subject in the lives of the people of African descent globally. As highlighted by earlier speakers, reparation cannot be counted in terms of how much will be paid out but also in terms of other aspects as rightly highlighted by Tendayi in her statement.

This is due to the fact that people of African descent throughout the world both those originated out of the continent of Africa and those who are indigenous to other parts of the world have experienced different mistreatments by the colonizers. In this regard, the Solidarity for Indigenous Papuans would like to reiterate our earlier statement made during the First Session of the Permanent Forum on People of African Descent in Geneva on the same subject.

The Solidarity for Indigenous Papuans endorse and support the full implementation of the CARICOM TEN POINT PLAN FOR REPARATORY JUSTICE and wish to add DECOLONIZATION as well for the people of West Papua. The case of West Papua was the denial of their right to self-determination under UNGA Res. 1514 (XV) by the colonizer the Netherlands government. We are appealing to the United Nations through this forum to ensure the people of West Papua are not neglected in the agenda of REPARATORY JUSTICE and DECOLONIZATION pursued by this forum.

We have seen from the past years that state parties have not been taking seriously to address the reparation agenda and we would like to highlight here the parties who have in one way or another have contributed to the current state of our people in West Papua. The people of West Papua are currently experiencing a slow-motion genocide under Indonesia's settler colonialism agenda slowly killing off indigenous people and replace them with its population. We are appealing to the United Nations through the Permanent Forum on People of African Descent to please address our people's plight.

The Solidarity for Indigenous Papuans have identified the Netherlands – former colonizer, Indonesia – current colonizer, Freeport McMorran Inc – the exploiter, and the United Nations – the facilitator as the parties that contributed in one way or another towards the genocide and exploitation of the people of West Papua.¹ We are appealing to the Permanent Forum to assist in addressing our case through the reparatory justice channel.

We recommend that decolonization be part of the reparation agenda for the people of African descent who satisfy the requirement as per the UNGA res. 1514 of 14th December 1960 on the granting of independence to colonial peoples and territories.

I thank you.

¹ See further information the submission attached.

