

THE COUNCILS OF THE FIVE ORIGINAL PEOPLES OF THE CORNUCHUAN PLAINS

Ha’pas · Kotos · Oxori · Morokhar · Ölafen

JOINT STATEMENT

We Have Asked the Court to Hear Us

SHIROMI, Month 3 after Hurricane Yolanda

Today the councils of Lampar, Ira’mas, Po-Kaya, Baia-Fa, Acio and Tamsk, together with the Southern Plains Fishers’ and Shellfish Growers’ Association and the Ira’ma Strait Fishers’ Cooperative, have submitted a petition to the Office of the Prosecutor of the High Court of Mir. The councils of the five original peoples stand behind it.

Our shellfish beds are dead or closed from Lampar to Tamsk. Our families have lost food and income. We were not consulted before the mine was approved, although the Council of Lampar asked to be.

The treaty that placed this seabed under the International Seabed Authority of Mir promises due regard to the traditional fishing of the original inhabitants of the shores of the Amarena Sea. It promises that the money from the seabed will be shared with particular regard to the needs of the peoples of Mir. We ask that these promises be kept.

We call for:

- **an independent investigation of what killed our beds;**
- **restoration of our shellfish beds and fishing grounds;**
- the money held in the Authority's special account to be used first for those who were harmed;
- no new license in the Amarena Sea without the consultation and consent of the peoples who live from it.

Issued at Shiromi on behalf of the Councils of the Five Original Peoples