



**36a. Sesión del Consejo de Derechos Humanos de la ONU
Pronunciamento Oral, Ítem 6
RPU Brasil (setembro 2017)**

Réplica da Embaixadora do Brasil na ONU
Maria Nazareth Farani Azevedo
Mr. Vice-President,

Brazil welcomes this opportunity to clarify the issues regarding indigenous peoples raised today.

With respect to the demarcation of indigenous lands, it is important to stress that there are 462 demarcated indigenous lands in my country, covering around 13% of our territory, that is, more than one million square kilometers, an area larger than France, Germany Belgium, Luxemburg and the Netherlands combined.

The government has neither suspended nor is undermining the process of demarcating and titling of lands. To mention a recent example, earlier this month, our Minister of Justice issued a decree recognizing the Jurubaxi-Téa Indigenous Land, with an area of 12 thousand square kilometers, as traditionally occupied by 10 indigenous communities. The indigenous land will be included in the demarcation schedule.

The Brazilian Government is working and will continue its work as determined by the Constitution, in matters of demarcation.

I would also like to refer to comments made with regard to austerity measures taken by the Brazilian Government.

Despite the most serious economic recession recorded in our history, Brazil has steadily managed to find its course to recovery. Austerity measures were approved and other reforms are under discussion all aimed to preserve social policies and to promote the rights to education, health, housing an adequate standard of living and, of course the rights of indigenous peoples.

It should be noted that the expansion of public expenditure at the levels observed in the past years would not ensure social progress in Brazil.

As President Temer stated yesterday at the General Assembly, “without fiscal responsibility, social responsibility is nothing more than empty speech”.

Despite necessary budgetary cuts implemented in many governmental agencies and bodies, social programmes for indigenous peoples continue to receive significant budgetary resources. Last year, more than US\$ 700 million were invested in public policies directed at indigenous peoples, particularly indigenous health.

As a result, there was a reduction of 20% in malaria cases in indigenous communities. Today the majority of indigenous children under 5 years of age receive medical care and 80% of indigenous children are with their vaccination schedule up to date

Finally, the Brazilian Government works consistently to protect indigenous individuals and peoples from any sort of violence.

At the request of Funai, the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office has been investigating, together with the Federal Police, an alleged attack on isolated indigenous peoples living in the region of the Jandiatuba River, in the Javari Valley Indigenous Land, in the Amazonas.



At the end of August an operation to combat illegal mining occurred in the same region, which resulted in the destruction of four mining dredges and the imposition of a substantive fine on the miners for environmental crime.

We remain open to discuss this issue further and to share our efforts and best practices in this regard.

Thank you.