

URGENT ACTION

VICTORY OF INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY IN THE SENATE

On 24 April the plenary of the Paraguayan Senate voted on a bill to return 14,404 hectares of traditional land to the Sawhoyamaxa indigenous community. The decision of the Senate is a major step forward to ensure compliance with the 2006 judgement of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights.

The passing of the bill will allow the State to expropriate the land and to return it to the **Sawhoyamaxa indigenous community** by paying the landowner compensation. After the Senate, the bill will have to be discussed and approved by the Lower Chamber (Cámara de Diputados) and subsequently enacted (*promulgada*) by the President of Paraguay.

The Sawhoyamaxa indigenous community has been fighting for their traditional land for over 20 years and has celebrated this important decision. The positive outcome achieved by the community in the Senate may be crucial to secure final approval of the bill.

Many thanks to all those who sent appeals. We will continue to monitor the situation, however no further action required from the UA network at this time.

This is a first update of UA 95/14. Further information: <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/AMR45/004/2014/en>

Name: Sawhoyamaxa indigenous community
Gender m/f: both

Further information on UA: 95/14 Index: AMR 45/005/2014 Issue Date: 25 April 2014

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