

Movement 10 of April in Defense of the River Tabasará

ANNOUNCEMENT TO THE COUNTRY

The Movement 10 of April M10 makes public its rejection to the last activities taking place as the de facto entrance of machinery and excavators to the riverbed of our Tabasará River which we defend against these non consulted projects with the community, specifically the Hydroelectric Project Barro Blanco whose promoter is Generadores del Istmo S.A. GENISA

The project Barro Blanco is nothing more than another modified version of the sinister project Tabasará I that was designed to provide energy to the ominous Cerro Colorado mining project. We do not think that the government is seated obliging with the generalized rejection to their Law 8 already revoked in last instance and continues plotting with imposing their shady agenda by means of ignoring the legitimate winners and electorate manipulations within the Comarca.

This project was not consulted with the community above all mainly indigenous that would come to be the most affected since the impact area affects deeply the district of Müna within the Ngobe Bugle region since the company did not recognize the legitimate will of its inhabitants realizing fixed and anonymous surveys where it could even falsify the data, where they announced peculiarly that the opinions are divided in 50% also not acknowledging the legitimate will of the Ngobe people and peasants. when only notifying inhabitants of Tolé capital, one of the districts with greatest unemployment of the country of its public forum.

However to the communities truly affected on the banks of the Tabasará like those within the District of Müna as Bakama, Cerro Plata, Nibra, Alto Caballero, El Cristo and Bellavista (the 2 last ones within the district of Tolé) were not notified of this transcendental public forum. When finding out the affected communities they crowded themselves at the door where the entrance was refused to them. When insisting they were only told that this was an informal meeting without binding terms, thus in this manner not recognizing any universal legal rule and of legitimacy.

- ❖ Therefore The Movement 10 of April M10 requests to the Government and Company GENISA the immediate paralyzation of the work.

- ❖ We request to the Company GENISA to stop their project.

- ❖ We request to the international financial organizations as Bank FMO of Holland and Bank DEG of Germany not to fund this controversial work that violates all the universal principles of Human rights and free, prior and informed consultation, as also is violator of all norms and international rule that govern the indigenous peoples and communities as article 169 of the ILO (at the moment in ratification process) as of international treaties where the Republic of Panama is signatory.

- ❖ We request to the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) of the United Nations not to certify with its credits of reduction of emissions (or carbon bonds) to similar project violator of Universal Human Rights and the Environment.

- ❖ We request the collaboration to the administrative authorities, the security of our indigenous humble people and farmers of the Tabasará River in its worthy fight in Defense of its means of life and natural resources that comes to be its most appraised River Tabasará.

Kindly

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Given the 19 of March of 2011

City of Tolé, Province of Chiriquí, Republic of Panama

Signed:

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President Movimiento M10

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