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**We help tribal peoples  
defend their lives, protect  
their lands and determine  
their own futures.**

Professor James Anaya  
Special Rapporteur on Rights of Indigenous Peoples  
Co OHCHR-UNOG  
Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights  
Palais Wilson  
1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland

5<sup>th</sup> November 2013

Dear Professor Anaya,

Oil and gas projects threaten uncontacted Indians' lives

In light of your upcoming trip to Peru this month, I am writing to inform you of dangerous developments in the oil and gas sector that directly threaten the lives of indigenous peoples.

A consortium of oil companies, led by Argentina's Pluspetrol, and the Peruvian government are aggressively campaigning for further expansion of the country's largest gas project, Camisea. Expansion plans include seismic testing and drilling exploratory wells in the heart of the Nahua-Nanti Reserve for uncontacted and isolated tribal peoples.

The lives of local Indians have already been devastated by the Camisea gas project, and the new plans threaten to wipe out the region's remaining uncontacted groups. Any work in this area directly contravenes both Peruvian and international laws that uphold indigenous peoples' right to be consulted about projects that affect them and their lands. Moreover, their human rights, under international law and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, would be directly contravened by any further work in the Reserve.

In Peru's northern Loreto department, Colombian-Canadian oil company Pacific Rubiales has already begun seismic testing in block 135. The block lies directly over the Yavari-Tapiche proposed reserve, where a large amount of evidence has been collected showing that uncontacted Indians inhabit the area.

Uncontacted Indians lack immunity to diseases brought by outsiders,

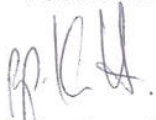
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and could be decimated if contact between oil workers and the Indians occurs.

Despite the government's recent signing of the Free, Prior and Informed Consent law for indigenous peoples, and its announcement on the creation of five new reserves for uncontacted tribes, little has been done to ensure that the rights of uncontacted and isolated peoples are protected. Instead, the government is aggressively pushing for further oil and gas development on indigenous lands.

I urge you to raise this issue with President Humala, and to ask that he upholds international laws that ensure the rights of indigenous peoples to their lands and lives.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Corry".

Stephen Corry  
Director