Online petitions

There are problems with some of the independent 'online petition' organizations, which is why Survival International does not recommend them.

- 1) Some publish misleading, or incorrect, information.
- 2) Some wrongly claim that signing a petition or a letter has 'saved' peoples. In fact, such actions are only useful as a part of integrated and sustained campaigning activity running for years.
- 3) Some wrongly claim that peoples have been saved when they haven't.
- 4) Some wrongly promote the idea that signing their petitions is all that is needed: this undermines efforts to foment a permanent groundswell of informed public opinion, the only thing which will bring long-term change.
- 5) Some solicit donations for actions they cannot confirm they will actually carry out, and which may not be relevant anyway.
- 6) Some of the biggest are profit-making ventures, collecting email addresses for commercial purposes.