

# UNI, CIMI AND OTHERS SIGN AGREEMENT TO COOPERATE

(Brazil) July 21-24, the Federation of Indigenous Organizations of the Rio Negro held an Indigenous assembly in São Gabriel da Cachoeira, in Amazonas, Brazil. Ten indigenous organizations of the Rio Negro participated in the assembly, as well as Manoel Moura, director of Coordinating Group of Indigenous People of the Brazilian Amazon (COIAB), and Ailton Krenak, of the national office of the Union of Indigenous Nations (UNI). The local and national indigenous leaders at the meeting signed a letter of agreement, with significant implications for the future of the indigenous movement in Brazil. A translation of the document follows.

1. Considering that this meeting of indigenous organizations of the Rio Negro, called by FOIRN - the Federation of Indigenous Organizations of the Rio Negro - has broad participation of local leaders, throughout the directorates of the associations;

2. Considering the presence of representatives of the directorate of COIAB (Coordinating Group of Indigenous People of the Brazilian Amazon);

3. Considering the presence of representatives of the National Coordination of UNI (Union of Indigenous Nations), and the themes and proposals discussed at this meeting;

We resolve:

a) to sign this protocol defining an agenda for work on three levels of organization;

b) to prepare a common agenda to formulate a program for structuring the local, regional and national indigenous movement;

c) to declare together a public commitment, with all of the legally constituted indigenous organizations, associations, councils, etc., to define the form and date to convene the voting members of each organization for the definition of the model of national organization that we want, and its structure and mandate;

d) to inform all our grassroots supporters through the channels of communication of the groups that support

the indigenous struggle of the positive result of the meeting and the urgent necessity of having a civil organization;

e) to communicate with the groups that support the indigenous struggle, in order that they cease the dissidence that hinders the indigenous movement when they undertake parallel programs of a paternalistic, academic nature;

f) that the indigenous organizations and support groups are responsible for national mobilization so that the Congress does not alter indigenous rights assured by the Constitution; being in agreement, all the indigenous organizations represented sign this protocol. (signed by 34 indigenous leaders, representing the organizations listed below)



UNI - Union of Indigenous Nations (National)

COIAB - Coordinating Group of the Indigenous Organizations of Amazonia

FOIRN - Federation of the Indigenous Organizations of the Rio Negro

ACIRI - Association of the Indigenous Communities of the Rio Icana

ACITRUT - Association of the Indigenous Communities of Tarawa, Rios Vaupes and Tiquie

UNIDI - Union of Indigenous Nations of the laurarete District

UCIDI - Union of the Indigenous Communities of the laurarete District

UNIRT - Union of Indigenous Nations of the Rio Tiquie

ACIBRN - Association of the Indigenous Communities of the Lower Rio Negro

AINBAL - Balaio Indigenous Association

ACIRNE - Association of the Indigenous Communities of the Rio Negro

AMITRUT - Association of Indigenous Women of Tarauaca, Rios Vaupes and Tiquie

ARCINE - Rural Association of Indigenous Communities of the Rio Negro

In agreement with item d), the support groups listed below sign:

CEDI - Ecumenical Center for Documentation and Information

NDI - Nucleus of Indigenous Rights

CIMI - Indigenous Missionary Council