

Human Rights Council: Submitting an NGO written statement

NGOs in consultative status with ECOSOC (General, Special or Roster status) may submit written statements to the Human Rights Council (HRC).

The written statement is formatted and issued, unedited, in the language(s) received from the submitting NGO. English, Spanish and French versions can be published at this time.

In order for your statement to be published before the session, the deadline for submission is exactly two weeks prior to the start of a session. See the deadline on the web site. All submissions are final.

Please fill out **this** FORM and CHECKLIST to submit your statement and send it to the address indicated below. Your information goes after each arrow.

1. Please indicate the contact information for the representative submitting this statement (i.e. name, mobile, email) here: ➡ **Ulrich Delius, 0049(0)16085671403, asien@gfbv.de**
2. Indicate the Agenda item number (1-10) of statement, including the segment *: (Interactive Dialogue, ID; General Debate, GD; or Panel): ➡ **Item # 4** Segment: **General Debate**
- 3.a) If this is an individual statement, indicate your organization's name as in the ECOSOC NGO database and indicate its consultative status in brackets (i.e. General, Special, or Roster). ➡
Society for Threatened Peoples (Special Consultative Status)
- or,
- 3.b) If this is a joint statement, list the main sponsor first, and then the co-sponsoring ECOSOC NGOs as they appear in the ECOSOC database and status (in brackets): Group all General NGOs first, group the Special second and group the Roster third. ➡
4. Indicate here any non-ECOSOC NGO(s) supporting this statement (they will appear as a footnote to the statement title): ➡
5. Indicate the exact TITLE for this statement here: ➡ **Destruction of Maasai livelihood in Loliondo Game Reserve in Tanzania**

Please make sure that:

- This statement is in MS WORD document format (Font Times New Roman 10; no bold; no underline; no italics).
- Check word count: (Go to Tools, Word count, # of words) Indicate the length of text (excluding footnotes/endnotes) here: ➡ **399**
 - NGOs in general consultative status are allowed 2,000 words
 - NGOs in special consultative status and on the roster are allowed 1,500 words
- Please use the Spell/grammar check on your text. (Go to Tools, Spelling & Grammar)
- If in doubt about Member States' names and correct UN terminology when referring to certain territories, use UNTERM database: <http://unterm.un.org/>
- Different language versions of one statement should be sent in the same email, but using **a separate form** for each.
- Email this document to: hrcngo@ohchr.org

* See the HRC Practical Guide for participants, page 9, which refers to segments in the session

PLEASE PASTE THE FINAL TEXT BELOW:



On 21 March 2013, Tanzania's ministry of tourism announced that it would reduce the Loliondo Game Controlled Area from 4,000 to 1,500 square kilometres.

The government stated in 2013 that the grabbing of 1,500 square kilometres bordering the Serengeti national park was necessary for wildlife conservation and the protection of water resources. It also stated that local herders were given 2,500 square kilometres of land for grazing.

Loliondo is home to at least 66,000 mostly nomadic Maasai pastoralists who own over 100,000 animals. Within the Game Controlled Area there are eight registered villages. These are Ololosokwan, Soitsambu, Oleipiri, Oleirien/ Maigaduru, Losoito, Maloni, Arash and Piyaya. The villages are recognized by the Land Act No. 5 of 1999 and the Local Government Act No. 7 of 1982. Even though the Director of Wildlife has the legal power to grant hunting permits, he does not have the legal mandate over the villages. The 21 March 2013 announcement prohibits farming and livestock grazing the in 1,500 square kilometres area.

The Maasai living in Loliondo originally come from the Serengeti. When the famous national park was established there in 1951, they were forcibly resettled in Loliondo. In 2009 more than 350 Maasai homes were set ablaze after Maasai refused to leave the area to make room for hunting activities. The conflict left 20,000 homeless.

The Emirati hunting company Ortello Business Corporation (OCB) has been operating in the Loliondo area since 1992. Its hunting permit has been renewed every five years since then. However, the permit did not remove the rights of the people to own, use and live in the legally established villages. With the establishment of the wildlife corridor the company OCB is given exclusive access to the 1,500 square kilometers area by the Tanzanian government. 30,000 Maasai herders will be evicted from their ancestral lands to make room for exclusive commercial hunting and tourism. Their traditional cattle-herding livelihood will be destroyed because they cannot let their cattle graze there in the dry season. The government's claim that the 1,500 square kilometers area has suffered from overgrazing is incorrect.

Society for Threatened Peoples calls on the Human Rights Council to urge the Government of Tanzania:

- to cease the grabbing of land belonging to the villages,
- to refrain from reducing the Loliondo Game Reserve from 4,000 square kilometres to 1,500 square kilometres.
- to protect the Maasai from being forcibly removed.