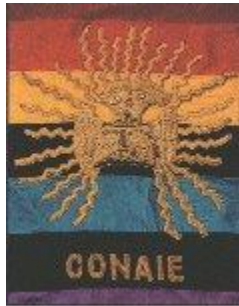


Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of Ecuador (CONAIE) Statement on Coup Attempt

[From: Frontlines of Revolutionary Struggle at <http://www.revolutionaryfrontlines.wordpress.com>]

[For information on CONAIE, see their website at <http://conaie.org> or <http://conaie.nativeweb.org/> —ed.]



Saturday, 02 October 2010

CONAIE Calls For Unity In Order To Establish The Plurinational State of The Peoples In Ecuador

Today, the Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of Ecuador (CONAIE) expressed its opposition to the actions of the right that covertly attempt to encourage a coup attempt.

It also condemned the economic and social policy of the government of Rubén Correa and reiterated that it will continue fighting for the construction of a Plurinational State with a true democracy.

In a statement released today, the largest indigenous organization of Ecuador noted that the process of change “runs the risk of being defeated (...), if it does not establish alliances with organized popular sectors”.

The social crisis that broke out today has been caused “by the government and the refusal to engage in dialogue regarding the drafting of laws,” the organization indicated.

CONAIE: CONAIE called for Unity in order to establish the Plurinational State of the Peoples

Quito, September 30, 2010 – A process of change, however weak it may be, runs the risk of being defeated or overtaken by the right, new or old, if it does not establish alliances with organized popular social sectors or deepen progressively.

The insubordination of the police, beyond their immediate demands, reveals at least four substantial points:

1. While the government has exclusively engaged in attacking and delegitimizing the organized sectors, such as the indigenous movement, the workers' unions, etc., it has not weakened the structures of power of the right in the least, not even within the State apparatus, which has been made evident by the speed with which public forces reacted.
2. The social crisis that broke out today has been caused by the government and the refusal to engage in dialogue regarding the drafting of laws. We have seen how laws agreed upon were vetoed by the President of the Republic ending any possibility of agreement.
3. Faced with the criticism and mobilization of the communities against multinational mining, oil and agro-industrial companies, the government, instead of encouraging dialogue, responds with violent repression, as in the case of the events that occurred in Zamora Chinchipe.
4. The conservative sectors feed off this scenario. Various sectors and figures of the old right will ask for the government to be overthrown and a civil or military dictatorship to be installed. However, the new right, in and outside of the government, will use this situation to justify its total alliance with the most reactionary sectors and emerging business interests.

The Ecuadorian indigenous movement, CONAIE, with its regional confederations and its grassroots organizations, expresses its rejection of the economic and social policy of the government to Ecuadorian society and the international community. With the same energy, we also reject the actions of the right that disguisedly form part of a coup attempt; on the contrary, we will continue to fight for the construction of the Plurinational State with a true democracy.

Consistent with the mandate of the communities, peoples and nationalities and faithful to our history of struggle and resistance against colonialism, discrimination and exploitation of the downtrodden and the poor, we will defend democracy and the rights of the peoples: no concessions will be granted to the right.

At this critical moment, our position is as follows:

1. We call on our grass roots to remain alert in order to mobilize in defense of the true plurinational democracy against the actions of the right.

2. We deepen our mobilization against the extractive industry and the implementation of large-scale mining, the privatization and concentration of water, as well as the expansion of the oil frontier.
3. We call upon and join together with different organized sectors to defend the rights of workers affected by the arbitrariness with which this legislative process has been handled, with the understanding that they are legitimate claims.
4. We demand that the national government refrains from granting concessions to the right. We demand that the government abandons its authoritarian attitude against the popular sectors and that it refrain from criminalizing social protest and persecuting leaders. These types of policies only provide the right with opportunities and create scenarios of destabilization.

The best way to defend democracy is to promote a true revolution in order to resolve the most urgent and structural issues in the interest of the majority. This way, the following will be achieved: the effective construction of the plurinational state, the immediate commencement of an agricultural revolutionary process and the deprivatization of water.

This is our position in this situation and in this historic period.

Marlon Santi, President of CONAIE

Delfín Tenesaca, President of Confederation of Peoples of Kichwa Nationality (ECUARUNARI)

Tito Puanchir, President of the Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of the Ecuadorian Amazon (CONFENIAE)

Olindo Nastacuaz, President of the Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of the Ecuadorian Coast (CONAICE)