

**Mining rights are granted while explicitly and openly ignoring  
the right to consultation and free determination  
of the Awajún and Wampís peoples**

The right of the indigenous peoples to consultation is ignored (it is not respected) when such consultation is, or could be, unfavourable for the interests of extractive industries.

Thus, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued **an unfavourable opinion** on the first proposal regarding the Ichigkat Muja National Park, which protected the Awajún territory from the mining sector, arguing that it was important to *“prepare a document reporting on the result of the consultation with the local populations insofar as their approval or disapproval of the creation of the proposed protected natural area is concerned,”* concluding that *“it could not consent to the proposal submitted by INRENA”* without such consultation.<sup>1</sup>

Nevertheless, once such ecological area was reduced in order to favour the mining claims, the Minister of Foreign Affairs changed his position, adopting a **favourable opinion**, without failing to simultaneously observe *“the need to thoroughly guarantee full compliance with the proper participatory processes, as established in Section Forty-Three of the Regulations governing the General Protected Natural Areas Act and Article Fifteen of ILO Convention 169 “with regard to indigenous and tribal peoples.”*<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Official Letter RE (SAA-SUD-APA-ECU) 2-9-B/9 dated January 18, 2006 and its attached Report.

<sup>2</sup> Official Letter RE (SAA-SUD-APA-ECU) 2-9-B/43 dated April 18, 2007, signed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, José Antonio García Belaúnde.