



75

October
2017

the small world foundation

PRESENTATION BAARLE-NASSAU

As mentioned in the previous Newsletter, there was an annual Small World Foundation presentation last October 7th in Baarle-Nassau. For the second time also José Gregorio Vásquez was present. For over 15 years he has been the leading person in the process of recognition and management of the ancestral lands of San Martin de Amacayacu and Palmeras.

Almost 100 participants could hear personally what have been the achievements and the challenges since the summer of 2016.



SMALL WORLD MEETING

A few times a year the Small World Foundation has a meeting. Only with the presence of Heike van Gils, the board is complete. This time, Jose Gregorio Vasquez was able to be there as well. It was very interesting for him to experience how the foundation works. He was also pleased to see how everyone is dedicated to creating a solid platform to support the community's initiatives.

The details of the activities in San Martin were also part of the agenda during the meeting. With lots of attention the expenses were discussed: To what extent did the different activities contribute to the main goal of the Small World Foundation (recognition and protection of the ancestral territory of San Martin de Amacayacu)? Why was and is it so important to participate in specific events and meetings organized by several institutions (National Parks, governments, indigenous organizations and communities) and at different political levels (local, regional, and national)? What has been paid during those meetings or participations?

Also, Jose could personally thank all the people of the Small World Foundation for their contribution: Tonny van Gils, Jos Withagen en Cissie Laurijssen. Again, ladies: THANKS A LOT!!

IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS READY!

When the 74th newsletter was written, the National Land Agency (ANT) asked for one more document: A declaration of San Martin de Amacayacu and Palmeras to officially renounce from the indigenous reserve of Ticuna Cocama and Yagua (TICOYA). As a consequence, these communities will represent the hopefully soon to be established indigenous reserve and will receive the government subsidy separately from the TICOYA reserve.

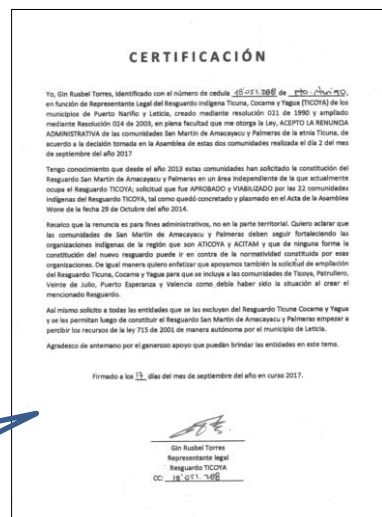
The ANT also asked for an official approval of the renunciation by the legal representative of the TICOYA reserve and of the mayor of Puerto Nariño.

Eventually the habitants of San Martin and Palmeras came together on the 11th of September to sign the declaration. The general impression of the meeting was that the people were more or less bored: The participants made it clear they have had enough of having to fulfill all kinds of requirements all the time. In the month after the meeting it cost a lot of effort to receive the letters of approval from the TICOYA reserve and the municipality of

Puerto Nariño. Mid October they were finally ready! All the paperwork was directly sent to the ANT and the other concerned organizations. Now, all we can do is patiently wait...Exciting!



Approval mayor Puerto Nariño



Approval TICOYA reserve



Minutes meetings Sept 11



Would you like to support the Tikuna indigenous community of San Martin together with the Small World Foundation, and stay in touch about the local developments in this remote corner of Colombia?

Please transfer 15 euro yearly (or more!) to the following bank account in the Netherlands:

Account name: Stichting SMALL WORLD FOUNDATION

SWIFT/BIC Code: RABONL2U

IBAN code: NL28 RABO 0132 7262 03

Or check out the online contribution module on: www.smallworldfoundation.org/?page_id=68

Please DON'T FORGET TO INFORM US ABOUT YOUR NAME AND EMAIL ADDRESS!!

(heike_van_gils@hotmail.com)

The contributions will be spent exclusively on the development and realization of local initiatives in San Martin de Amacayacu in the Colombian Amazon. No wages are being paid to anyone. The expenses will be mentioned as much as possible in the newsletters. For alternative contributions, please contact Heike van Gils at: heike_van_gils@hotmail.com.

For more information about this initiative, please check the website:

www.smallworldfoundation.org.