



**VIII General Assembly,  
27 – 29 October 2006,  
Taipei, Taiwan**

## **Member Resolution On the Persecution of the Montagnard People of Vietnam**

*The UNPO General Assembly;*

Noting that the indigenous Montagnard Degar Peoples of Vietnam's Central Highlands have suffered decades of persecution by Vietnam, namely; confiscation of ancestral lands, Christian religious repression, torture, killings, unjust imprisonment, discrimination and violations of their civil and political rights;

Noting that Vietnam remains on the US State Department's "Country of Particular Concern" (CPC), a watch list of nations who violate religious freedom;

Concerned that Montagnard Degar Christians have been tortured for their faith, and have even been forced to renounce Christianity;

Distressed that Montagnard Degar refugees who flee to Cambodia have been returned to Vietnam without any protection;

Emphasising that despite Vietnam signing an agreement with the United States to respect religious freedom, the Vietnamese government has interpreted this to mean that they may still persecute, arrest, torture and kill unregistered Christian house churches;

Noting that the situation facing the indigenous Montagnard Degar people is as dire a situation as was faced by indigenous peoples 200 years ago under colonialism, and that Vietnam shows no substantial improvement of the situation;

*Therefore, we, the UNPO General Assembly:*

1. Strongly urge Vietnam to release all of the estimated 350 Montagnard Degar prisoners held in Vietnamese prisons and to cease the arrest of Montagnard Degar Christians;
2. Call upon Vietnam to seriously address the underlying concerns facing the Montagnard Degar peoples, namely the lack of indigenous land rights and lack of religious freedom;
3. Call upon the United Nations and international community to strongly pursue a permanent humanitarian presence in the Central Highland in order to monitor the human rights situation facing the Montagnard Degar peoples.

---

**Submitted by**

**Name:** Kok Ksor

**Organization:** Montagnard Foundation