

## **119 Porgera Remediation Framework Association (PRFA) RAPE VICTIMS**

Porgera Station Yanjakale

**WABAG**

Enga Province

Papua New Guinea

To: **United Nations Working Group on Business and Human Rights (mailed and hand delivered)**

From: **119 PRFA Rape Victims**

Dated: 04<sup>th</sup> of November, 2016

Dear Members of the United Nations Working Group,

**SUBJECT: 119 PRFA VICTIMS CLAIM TO BARRICK TO PAY FOR FAIR COMPENSATION**

This is an open letter to United Nations Working Group on Business and Human Rights. We are **119 Indigenous Women from Porgera in Papua New Guinea. We survived rape and sexual violence committed over several years by the Porgera Joint Venture mine and Barrick Gold's Security Personnel. Although we are the victims of these rapes we are also survivors and Wanda Kioro, which in our Ipili language means strong women.**

We would like to take this opportunity and say thank you to United Nation for your great supports and in assisting us to **Speak Directly to the World** through our video and raise the voices of 119 Women Raped by Barrick's Security Personnel in United Nation Forum.

**Barrick Gold Corporation** has a mine in our place here in **Porgera** surrounded by our villages, and mining is in the center of our food gardens, rivers, animals, vegetation, houses etc. You may be quite aware of this issue. Over many years women like us who live in Porgera with our families have experienced rapes and beatings by security guards and police guarding the Porgera Joint Venture mine. For that, Barrick has set up **Porgera Remediation Framework Association (PRFA)** sometime in 2012 and in next years paid us **K50 000.00** each and told us to sign legal waivers. We 119 women, went to the remedy program. But we did not get everything that we were promised and our financial remedy was not fair. Therefore, we have engaged **Human Rights** and other **International and National Supporters** to support us and demand for compensation.

We call for your support because **Barrick Gold** is ignoring our call to pay us equal compensation as eleven (11) other women rape victims received. These 11 women are just like us, raped by security guards of the mine, but they had lawyers from EarthRights International to argue for them with Barrick and they got four (4) times more financial compensation that we did. Thus, we ask **Barrick** to make equal financial compensation.

Furthermore, Barrick has promised to look after us and our children for three years in terms of **School Fees, Medical Supports, Business Grants and Start Up**, but, mostly this has not been done. These must be included in fair compensation so that we can settle our lives better.

We have decided to bring this issue to your attention and raise it internationally at the **United Nations Forum on Business and Human Rights** so that **Barrick** can pay us the **Fair Compensation**.

**We ask the Working Group for Business and Human Rights to make a recommendation to Barrick for fair compensation and remedy for us. We also ask the Working Group to make a public statement raising concerns about human rights in Porgera and the need for fair remedy.**

All in all, we stand united and speak for our rights so that **Barrick MUST** make equal compensation to us (**119 PRFA VICTIMS OF BARRICK RAPE**). Moreover, we have a short video emphasizing what is written on this letter.

We thank you for your great support.

Agreed and signed by 119 PRFA Raped Victims. Please do not make these names public without our express approval.

---