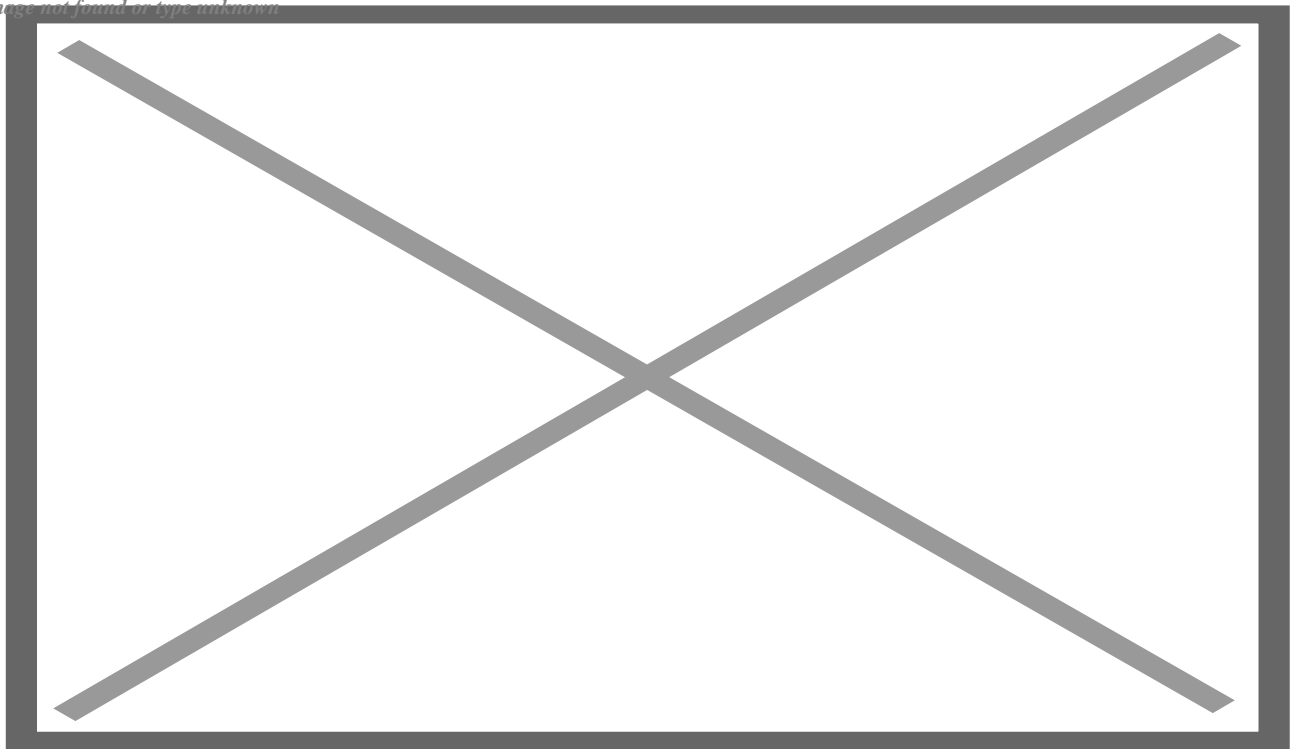


Indigenous leader denies new dialogue with Ecuadorian government

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The indigenous leader reiterated that the mobilizations will continue in the capital Quito and other regions of the country despite increased repression. | Photo: www.eluniverso.com

Quito, June 26 (RHC)-- The president of the Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of Ecuador, Leonidas Iza, has denied having initiated a new process of dialogue with the Government of Guillermo Lasso after having had a first contact with several of his officials.

The indigenous leader addressed representatives of indigenous and social organizations that support him to deny rumors about the resumption of dialogue with representatives of President Lasso.

Leonidas Iza reiterated that the mobilizations will continue in the capital Quito and other regions of the country despite the increase in repression and until the Ecuadorian government responds to each of the demands made by the indigenous groups.

The president of Conaie affirmed that they attended a meeting held in the Basilica del Voto Nacional, in Quito, "out of respect" to the president of the National Assembly, Virgilio Saquicela, who facilitated this first contact between both parties.

Saquicela informed that in the meeting it was proposed to form a technical table with delegates from the indigenous movement and the Government to initiate the dialogue process and analyze each of the proposals made by the demonstrators.

Hours later, Leonidas Iza indicated that the meeting did not touch a single point of the ten demands that led Conaie and other organizations to call for a national and indefinite mobilization since Monday, June 13.

"Without the possibility of touching any point, we have withdrawn," said Iza, who clarified that any decision to initiate a dialogue will be consulted with the 53 authorities of indigenous peoples and nationalities that make up the Conaie's decision-making body.

So far, the repression of the demonstrations in Ecuador has left at least six demonstrators dead and around 300 people injured.

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