The Center for Inter-American Policy and Research (CIPR) and the Law School’s Payson Center for International Development and Eason Weinmann Center for Comparative Law, invite you to explore the unusual and landmark case of Awas Tingi v. Nicaragua, when the Mayagna people claimed the first legal victory of an indigenous community in the Inter-American Court of Human Rights.

A lead lawyer in the case and member of the Nicaraguan Miskito community, Lottie Cunningham, will present the 45-minute film “Children of the Sun” documenting the rise and success of the Awas Tingi community against the local government’s attempt to create a foreign logging company on their land. Following the film, Cunningham will lecture on indigenous land rights and environmental protection in Latin America.

Cunningham plays a significant role in the struggle for autonomy of the Nicaraguan Atlantic coast communities. As legal field officer for the International Human Rights Law Group (IHRLG) in Puerto Cabezas, she conducts human rights training for indigenous and community leaders, women and NGOs, while teaching International Law and Human Rights at the University of Autonomous Regions of the Caribbean Coast of Nicaragua (URRACAN). She has served as public prosecutor for the North Atlantic Autonomous Region, legal consultant for the Centro Integral a La Mujer y Familia, Director of the Rio Coco Ministry of Health, and in a number of senior posts in the Atlantic Coast Ministry of Health training leaders in settlement camps relocated because of the war.

To RSVP or for more information
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