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## **Brazil Criticizes European Community's Plan To Force Changes In Carajas Mining Complex**

*by John Neagle*

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On May 26, the European Parliament recommended that the 12-member European Economic Community boycott iron ore imports from Brazil's Carajas mining complex in an effort to assist in conservation of the Amazon and protection of the region's indigenous peoples. Carajas is the world's largest iron ore mining and processing facility. EEC nations reportedly requested that the Brazilian government modify plans for its cast iron production facility under construction at Carajas. Plans include the use of trees from the surrounding rain forest as fuel. On June 16, Foreign Ministry official Paulo Tarso Flecha de Lima called the EEC action "regrettable." He said the EEC is using environmentalism as an excuse to impede Brazil's economic development. Flecha de Lima described European alleged concern about the Amazonian environment "a stupid game." He said all necessary steps have been adopted to protect the environment surrounding Carajas, and that all trees will be replaced. Regarding protection of the indigenous population, Flecha de Lima asserted that this matter is the solely the concern of the Brazilian government. (Basic data from Xinhua, 06/17/89)

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