

Around 200 residents of Ugimba, Paniai regency in Papua, yesterday insisted that the Mimika Regent resolve the issue concerning the border between Mimika and Paniai regencies. Those who claimed to be the owners of the communal land rights of the Grassberg area have demanded compensation for PT Freeport Indonesia's mining operations. They also insisted the Mimika regional government resolve this issue with the Papua governor using customary laws. "This has been discussed with Mimika regent," said one protestor, Samuel Tabuni. The Mimika regent, Klemen Tinal, said the government was ready to facilitate a meeting between Ugimba residents and the Papua governor. When the Mimika Regency was set up in 2000, the residents of Ugimba were included in the Mimika Regency area.