



TÁRCOLES DECLARATION ICCAs Territories of Life Network – Latin America

We, representatives of more than 50 Indigenous Peoples, local communities, and civil society organizations from Latin America, gathered in Tárcoles, Costa Rica, between January 25 - 27, 2023, in our Third Latin American Assembly, to give continuity to the work of defending and strengthening of the ICCAs – territories of life;

WE CONFIRM

ONE: Our region is going through a systemic crisis due to the intensification of the capitalist accumulation process via the expansion of extractivism of natural heritage and the transformation of populations into migrants and day laborers.

TWO: In Latin America, Indigenous Peoples and local communities inhabit at least 500 million hectares, half of which are home to forests and marine life that store millions of metric tons of carbon and, based on our uses, knowledge, and traditional practices, we have conserved its original biodiversity, as well as its ecosystem functions.

THREE: These territories, as a consequence of their traditional sustainable use and a spiritual relationship with nature, constitute the basis of the continuity of our life and our contribution to the planet's future; for this reason, we consider them as territories of life.

FOUR: Aware of the severe deterioration of our biocultural heritage, and climate crisis, various international entities concerned with the environment and human rights have recognized, in recent years, the contribution that our territories and ways of life make to the sustainability of ecosystems and socio-environmental actions to confront climate change.

As a consequence of the exchange of experiences, reflections, lessons learned, and conclusions that we have reached during this third Regional Assembly, we inform the states, private actors, the international community, and the population of our region of the following agreements:

WE AGREE

First: To demand from the authorities at all levels of government in Latin America unrestricted respect for our ways of life, territory, governance, and biocultural heritage, within the framework of human rights, in particular, our right to self-determination.

Second: To urge states and international entities to recognize, respect, and support the contribution of Indigenous Peoples and local communities to conserving biodiversity in the territories of life and to confront climate change.

Consistent with this, we call for positioning the defending of land-based territories of life against the extractivism that is now dominant in the region and the defending of marine-coastal territories against the blue economy and other threats that face them today.

Third: To demand that the states adopt the legal frameworks, public policies, and financial policies, by international environmental and human rights standards, guaranteeing the existence, security, and sustainability of our territories of life.

Fourth: To demand that all authorities ensure the protection of defenders of our territories and ways of life whose rights to life, integrity, and security have been constantly violated by the region's public and private actors.

Fifth: To demand transparency and respect of the state for Indigenous Peoples and local communities, to fight corruption, development models, and other vertical and authoritarian forms of the exercise of power, destroying the essential bases for the continuity of life.

Sixth: To demand supervision and control methods from governments to curb impunity for the actions of extractivist companies, both private and public, those that monopolize, degrade and invade valuable natural assets and terrestrial and marine biodiversity, preventing and/or responsibly compensating for damage to biocultural heritage.

For our part, as ICCAs Territories of Life Network – Latin America, and bearing in mind the values and principles that guide us, the international conventions and norms that support human rights, in particular ILO Convention 169, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Global Biodiversity Framework, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, United Nations Declaration on the Peasants' Rights and the International Decade of African Descendant Peoples, among others;

WE COMMIT TO

1. Strengthen our regional organizational structure, governance, and local, national, and international articulation to achieve effective advocacy in favor of territories of life and the search for socio-environmental justice.

2. Implement the strategies to document, defend, sustain, and communicate the development and threats of the territories of life, participatory and promote their strengthening and contribution to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.

3. Commit to a gender-equity approach as a principle of equality to position more supportive relationships between human beings and eradicate gaps in access to opportunities and decision-making.

4. Generate spaces for joint solidarity and learning among young people, cultivating an intergenerational dialogue of knowledge that strengthens the territories of Indigenous Peoples and local communities and their "life plans."

Signed on January 27, 2023, in Tárcoles, Garabito county, Puntarenas province, Costa Rica, by the member organizations participating in the III Regional Assembly of the Latin American ICCA Network:

- 1. Alianza de Pueblos Indígenas y Afrodescendientes de Nicaragua APIAN
- 2. Asociación Interétnica de Desarrollo de la Selva Peruana AIDESEP
- 3. Asociación Agroambiental Santa Clara Serranía el Pinche
- 4. Asociación Ambiental Budi Anumka
- 5. Asociación de Comunidades Territorio Williche Chono
- 6. Asociación Indígena Mapu Lahual
- 7. Cabildo Indígena Inga Musuiuiai
- 8. Central Indígena de Comunidades Originarias de Lomerío CICOL
- 9. Central de Comunidades Indígenas de Chiquitos, Turubó
- 10. Centro AWÁ Pambilar Nacionalidad AWÁ de Esmeraldas
- 11. Centro de Estudios de la Cultura y Ciencia Maya Oxlajuj B'aktun
- 12. Centro de Estudios Médicos Interculturales CEMI
- 13. Centro para el Desarrollo Social y la Sustentabilidad, Nuiwari, A.C
- 14. Comuna Ancestral Indígena Agua Blanca
- 15. Comuna Puerto Cabuyal
- 16. Comunidad Cayun Panicheo Puelo
- 17. Comunidad Indígena de Quinquén
- 18. Confederación Indígena Tayrona de la Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta
- 19. Confederación Mapuche de Neuquén, Lof Newen Mapu
- 20. Congreso Indígena Maje Emberá Drua
- 21. CoopeSoliDar R.L.
- 22. Consejo Nacional de Ajq'ijab' Oxlajuj Ajpop
- 23. Consejo Shipibo Konibo Xetebo- COSHIKOX
- 24. Costa Humboldt
- 25. Ejido San Crisanto
- 26. Federación por la Autodeterminación de los Pueblos Indígenas FAPI
- 27. Federación Nativa del Río Madre de Dios y Afluentes FENAMAD
- 28. Fundación para la Investigación y el Desarrollo Social FIDES
- 29. Fundación ALDEA
- 30. Fundación Los Pasos del Jaguar
- 31. Fundación Ser Ambiente
- 32. Gobierno Territorial autónomo de la Nación Wampis GTANW
- 33. Grupo de Jóvenes Kereimbas
- 34. Kanan Derechos Humanos
- 35. Mancomunidad de Comunidades del río Tuichi, Beni y Quiquibey
- 36. Mulheres em Ação no Pantanal Mupan
- 37. Observatorio Ciudadano
- 38. Pueblo Originario Kichwa de Sarayaku

- 39. Pueblo Shuar Arutam PSHA
- 40. Red Ticca Colombia-Territorios de vida
- 41. Red de Patrimonio Biocultural de México
- 42. SAVIA Asociación para la Conservación, Investigación de la Biodiversidad y el Desarrollo Sostenible
- 43. Sindicato de Trabajadores del Mar SITRAMAR, Gnöbe Bugle
- 44. U Yich Lu'um A.C Centro Interdisciplinario de Investigación y Desarrollo Alternativo