

## **LETICIA PACT FOR THE AMAZON REGION**

The Heads of State and Heads of Delegation of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, the Federative Republic of Brazil, the Republic of Colombia, the Republic of Ecuador, the Republic of Guyana, the Republic of Peru and Republic of Suriname gathered in Leticia, Colombia, on 6 September 2019:

Reaffirming the sovereign rights of the countries of the Amazon region over their territories and their natural resources, including the development and sustainable use of those resources, as recognized by international law;

Aware of the value of the Amazon for the conservation and sustainable use of the biodiversity, as well as its tropical rainforest, which is the source of 20% of the planet's fresh water and a climate regulator, providing essential ecosystem services to support the sustainable development of Amazonian populations;

Having in mind that 34 million people inhabit the Amazon region, including indigenous and tribal peoples, and peoples in voluntary isolation and initial contact, possessing ancestral knowledge, traditional knowledge, and cultural and linguistic diversity, which must be considered and protected;

Reaffirming all the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, and taking into account the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, including the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in light of different national circumstances, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Convention to Combat Desertification and Land Degradation, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora; the Minamata Convention on Mercury; as well as regional agreements, such as the principles and purposes of Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO) and other relevant international agreements for the sustainable development of the Amazon region and global ecosystems;

Aware of the importance for the implementation and generation of synergies between the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals, the Paris Agreement, and the process of building a global framework for biodiversity after 2020;

Reaffirming that for the conservation and sustainable development of the Amazon the efforts of the Amazon countries are required, and expressing their concern about the deforestation and forest degradation that is occurring by different causes in each of the countries, bearing in mind their respective regulatory frameworks, including those causes of deforestation that, according to necessary evidence, could be linked to climate change and its structural causes, and expressing their commitment to

increase national and regional efforts to tackle this problem in a comprehensive and urgent way;

Reaffirming that the cooperation among Amazonian countries is an important condition for the conservation of the Amazon region, to generate opportunities for sustainable development and well-being of its populations;

Considering that, even though there are mechanisms and financial programs established, including multilateral banks, that complement the efforts of Amazonian countries and that contribute to the solution of these challenges, the provision and mobilization of financial resources must be increased to achieve the commitments established within the framework of these mechanisms in order to obtain this objective;

Encouraging the international community to cooperate for the conservation and sustainable development of the Amazon region, on the basis of respect for their respective national sovereignty, priorities, and national interests, we decide to sign the following:

### **LETICIA PACT FOR THE AMAZON REGION**

1. Strengthen coordinated action for forest and biodiversity assessment, as well as to fight against deforestation and forest degradation, based on national policies and their respective regulatory frameworks.
2. Establish regional cooperation mechanisms and the exchange of information allowing to combat illegal activities threatening the conservation of the Amazon region;
3. Create the Amazon Network for Natural Disaster Cooperation among the region's Emergency Operations Centers to coordinate and articulate national systems of disaster prevention and management in order to effectively address emergencies of regional impact, such as large forest fires scale.
4. Exchange and implement experiences to the comprehensive management of fires, encouraging the development of policies, instruments and technical actions, based on the prevention of forest fires, the promotion of alternatives to the use of fires in the rural areas and the strengthen of technical, scientific and institutional capabilities.
5. Specify accelerated restoration, rehabilitation, and reforestation initiatives in areas degraded by forest fires illegal activities, including, illegal extraction of minerals, with the goal of impact mitigation, recovery of species, and ecosystem functionality.

6. Increase efforts associated with monitoring forest cover and other strategic ecosystems in the region in order to have periodic reports, in particular, regarding the generation of an early deforestation and degradation alert system to act with a preventive approach.
7. Exchange information to improve the monitoring capabilities of climate, biodiversity, water, and hydrobiological resources of the region under a watershed approach, and based in communities.
8. Promote initiatives for connectivity of priority ecosystems and mechanisms for biodiversity conservation through sustainable use, restoration, and landscape management, respecting national sovereignty.
9. Exchange and implement experiences in the management of the systems of protected areas of the Amazon countries at regional, national and subnational levels for their effective management and for the benefit of the local populations, through the promotion of the development of conservation and sustainable use of programs and projects.
10. Strengthen the mechanisms that support and promote the sustainable use of forests, sustainable productive systems, responsible consumption and production patterns that promote value chains and other sustainable production approaches, including, those based on biodiversity.
11. Promote joint action aimed to the empowerment of women inhabiting the amazon region to encourage their active participation in the conservation and sustainable development of the Amazon region.
12. Strengthen the capacities and participation of indigenous and tribal peoples, and local communities in the sustainable development of the Amazon region, acknowledging their fundamental role in the conservation of the region.
13. Promote research, technological development, technology transfer, and knowledge management processes with the purpose of guiding the adequate decision-making and promoting the development of sustainable environmental, social and economic entrepreneurship.
14. Develop and articulate between the Amazon countries education and awareness-raising activities on the role and function of the Amazon, the main challenges and threats it faces for its conservation, the sustainable use of forests,

the protection of traditional knowledge of the communities that inhabit it, and disaster risk scenarios for strengthening the resilience of Amazonian populations.

15. Work together to strengthen the programs and financial mechanisms, reiterate the commitments made by countries in these scenarios, mobilize public and private resources, including the multilateral banks, as appropriate, for the implementation of this Pact.
16. Promptly move forward in the formulation of the second phase of the Amazon Sustainable Landscapes Program under the Global Environmental Facility.

### **WE DECLARE**

Our willingness to adhere to this Leticia Pact for the Amazon Region.

Our commitment to coordinate, through the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and the competent authorities, the formulation of a plan of action for the development of the actions adopted, as well as the convening of follow-up meetings to evaluate the progress in the formulation and implementation of the said plan.

Our intention to cooperate with and our call to other interested States, to the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO) and to other regional and international organizations to cooperate for the attainment of the actions here agreed, building in harmony with national efforts and in response to the national requests made by the Amazon countries that signed this Pact, and with full respect of their sovereignty.

**For the Plurinational State of Bolivia**  
**EVO MORALES AYMA**

**For the Federative Republic of Brazil**  
**JAIR BOLSONARO**

**For the Republic of Colombia**  
**IVÁN DUQUE MÁRQUEZ**

**For the Republic of Ecuador**  
**LENIN MORENO GARCÉS**

**For the Republic of Perú  
MARTÍN VIZCARRA CORNEJO**

**For the Cooperative Republic of  
Guyana  
RAPHAEL TROTMAN**

**For the Republic of Surinam  
MICHAEL A. ADHIN**

