

(Translated from the original Spanish into English)

Declaration of Iquitos

There is no Redd+ without Territories, Rights and Autonomy for Indigenous People

Assembled in Iquitos (Peru), from the 25th to 29th of April, 2011, during the National Workshop "Climate Crisis, Redd+ and indigenous Redd" organized by COICA and AIDSEP, the eight regional organizations, federations and representative communities of the Amazonian indigenous people, with the solidarity of CONACAMI, we express the following in relation to the indicated processes, the national situation and the collective rights of our people and communities.

We condemn the risk of catastrophe and destruction of the Amazon River Basin, shown by the irregularity of the seasons, gigantic floods, frequent droughts, disappearing rivers, extinction of species, natural disasters, agricultural losses, and increases in disease. It is not only natural climate change, but global warming produced by the model of development that generates aggressive global climate change from polluting gases in the industrialized countries, exacerbated by deforestation, predation and pollution by the local extractive industries, agricultural monocultures, plantations of biofuels, large hydroelectric dams, and improper practices of subsistence.

We demand the reduction of the gases that cause global warming and the changing of the lifestyle, the economic system, and the social domination of this wasteful civilization of a few countries together with the social and environmental destruction of most of the planet. One must recognize the historic ecological debt of a handful of powerful countries which use 3.8 hectares per capita for their consumerism while the majority survives in poverty using only 1.4 hectares per inhabitant on a global average. At the same time one must recognize the contribution of the indigenous people to humanity in keeping this planet alive for thousands of years and that they wanted to destroy these people during the last century.

We reject that rather than recognize and pay this historical ecological debt, that the global powers keep polluting, deforesting and degrading, and seek to gloss over them through the "carbon market," by means of contracts between companies that falsely "offset" such damage, with payments to indigenous and local communities to conserve forests that clean up the pollution. We reject contracts that increase the loss of control over our ancestral lands, way of life and rights with these contracts to be negotiated in the stock markets with huge profits. It is unacceptable to risk the self-destruction of all our ways of life by insisting on more and more businesses.

We alert that "Redd+" or "Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation" with sustainable management of resources, adopted at the Cancun Summit of 2010 of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Convention (UNFCCC) can be manipulated in such a scenario of false solutions to global climate warming which will give gains in speculative financial markets, but will not prevent reaching the goal of limiting the global temperature increase by no more than three degrees at which point the climate and environmental disasters will be irreversible. We warn that even if the Amazon is thus preserved, the global climate crisis will not be stopped because the pollution will continue.

We condemn and reject the Hong Kong company SCRL (“Sustainable Carbon Resources Limited,” represented by the Australian national David John Nilsson) that is dividing and pressuring the Matsés indigenous people of Peru, to sign a business contract for carbon offsets, in which our brothers have 420,000 hectares of conserved forests, giving complete control to a company that has only \$10,000 of capital, which ends up controlling the carbon, forests, intellectual property and the way of life of the Matsés people, and reveals his ulterior motives, by forcing them to sign a contract in English that is subject to English laws and courts, without a date of expiration, and he is threatening to press charges against all those who condemn this scam. We demand the intervention of the public prosecutor's office and the expulsion of this capitalist Nilsson from Peru. This is an unscrupulous example of the “Redd bubble” similar to 100 other carbon projects involving scams worldwide (Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, the Congo, etc.) and others who are trying to make contracts under false pretenses in the Madre de Dios, Amazon and San Martin regions of Peru, among others, where they run over the rights of indigenous peoples seeking to control the forest and carbon of indigenous territories, dividing our people with non-existent illusions of being millionaires; the promoters of Redd+ (the Peruvian Government, multilateral banks and the UN) have the duty to intervene and stop this "bubble" and scams such as the above example.

We support the initiative of the national indigenous organization of the Peruvian Amazon, AIDSESEP, to fight to change the threat presented by Redd+ into an opportunity for the people and for humanity, demanding an "Indigenous Redd+" which is its adaptation to the cultures, rights and objectives of indigenous peoples in fulfillment of Convention 169-ILO, the UN Declaration of Rights of Indigenous peoples and other international instruments that protect us. "Indigenous Redd+" is a proposal to be debated, analyzed in-depth and readjusted in regional, local and community organizations. ***Indigenous Redd defends the forests and territories for the Life; It rejects scams veiled in the name of the carbon market; it promotes cooperation outside of these scams and calls for stopping them, suspending the signing of community contracts until the clarification of the governmental and international regulations on Redd+; challenging approaches and proposing alternatives and conditions in the case of the Peru as they are among others:***

- ✓ **There is no Redd+ without Territories, Rights and Autonomy for Indigenous People**
- ✓ **Territories:** Titling of 20 million hectares of land for thousands of communities to recognize indigenous territories, demarcating, expanding and establishing collective ancestral territories as indigenous communities; in addition to establishing Communal Reserves and Territorial Reserves (for uncontacted indigenous peoples living in voluntary isolation).
- ✓ **Rights:** Enactment of the law that provides a framework for free and prior informed consent (FPIC) passed by the National Congress of Peru on May 5, 2010. Enact effective consultation and consent of indigenous peoples with respect to new laws, forests and environmental services, to prevent new forest dominions, respect occupied indigenous territories and to truly promote community forest management. These three laws should be debated and approved by the new Congress that has already been elected, and not by the current one, avoiding that a political party with a tiny minority leaves three time bombs for the new Government.

- ✓ **Autonomy:** Establishment of Indigenous Boards of Redd+, based on local indigenous organizations, in each region and at the national level as a direct partner with the governmental authorities and national and international entities. There should be a moratorium on the signing of any Redd+ contracts at the present time, and if so, they should guarantee the indigenous territorial and intellectual control, the predominance of Convention 169 and the UNDRIP (United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples) above any clause in the contract, signed by guarantors such as the Peruvian Office of the Ombudsman (Defensoría del Pueblo) and pertinent indigenous organizations of Peru.
- ✓ Compliance of the agreement between AIDESEP and MINAM (Peruvian Ministry of the Environment) for **territorial land titling in the Loreto Region funded with one million dollars**, including recognition, georeferencing, demarcation, boundary marking, titling, boundary amplification, among others; with a contribution of \$200,000 from the FCPF (Forest Carbon Partnership Facility) and the balance for the project in Peru from the FIP (Forest Investment Program) of \$50 million. This is not to fund governmental bureaucracy nor be wasted, but for concrete solutions for the communities.
- ✓ Continuation with the true legal reparation and territorial consolidation in the other Amazonian regions of Peru, using for this purpose the hundreds of millions of dollars allocated for already existing and for potential projects with respect to climate change, forests, Redd+ in Peru, that are being funded by the World Bank, Inter-American Bank of Development and from international cooperation.
- ✓ Compliance with the **14 agreements established between AIDESEP and the MINAM** (Peruvian Ministry of the Environment) in the meetings of the 7th, 9th and 10th of March 2011, including part of the previous proposals and others in the direction of "Indigenous Redd", collected in the Preparatory Plan for Redd+ in Peru (RPP) adopted by the Assembly of the FCPF (Forest Carbon Partnership Facility) of 23-24 March 2011, and in fulfillment of the "indigenous right to choose our own priorities for development" (Article 7 of Convention 169 of the ILO); and to be respected and complied with at all levels of the State at the level of the new national government and regional and local governments. Private organizations must also respect those agreements and rights.

We welcome the understanding and solidarity towards the proposals of indigenous peoples, shown by various exhibitors from participating institutions and scientific organizations, advocacy, research, training, at national and international levels, and we call upon them to strengthen the intercultural dialogue, cooperation and joint actions, and the opportunity, to defend the rights of Nature and Mother Earth and the People, communities and citizens of the world, for the survival of all forms of Life, without pollution, predation, exploitation and discrimination.

Iquitos, April 27, 2011

Coordinator of Indigenous Organizations of the Amazon Basin, COICA
Interethnic Association for the Development of the Peruvian Rainforest, AIDESEP
National Confederation of Communities of Peru Affected by Mining, CONACAMI
Regional Organization of Indigenous Peoples of the Eastern Amazon Region, ORPIO

Regional Coordinator of Indigenous Peoples in San Lorenzo, CORPI
Regional Organization of indigenous Peoples of the North Amazon Region, ORPIAN
Regional Organization of AIDSEP Ucayali, ORAU
Regional Association of Indigenous Peoples of the Central Rainforest, ARPI-SC
Coordinator of Development and Defense of Indigenous Peoples of the San Martin Region, CODEPISAM
Native Federation of Madre de Dios, FENAMAD
Machiguenga Council of the Urubamba River, COMARU
Federation of Native Communities of the Corrientes River, FECONACO
Federation of the District for the Quechua of Pastaza, FEDIQUEP
Federation of Indigenous Kichwa Peoples in the Region of San Martin, FEPIKRESAM
Central Asháninka of the Ene River, CARE
Indigenous Council of the Lower Zone of Madre de Dios, COINBAMAD
Federation of the Basin of the Curaray Arabela of the Middle Napo, FECUNCUNA
Federation of the Native Communities of Chayahuita, FECONACHA
Organization of Students of the Indigenous Peoples of the Peruvian Amazon, OEPIAP
Community of Callena, Shipibo Indigenous People (Ucayali)
Community of Candungos, Wampis Indigenous People (Amazonas)
Community of Yurilamas, Kichwa Indigenous People (San Martin)