

TARAPOTO CHARTER

Tarapoto, 1 May 2017

Pan-Amazonia is made up of territories historically constructed by the environment and indigenous peoples, local communities, river communities, peasant communities and others, and our meaning of life is infused with these realities and imaginaries. A sense of territoriality based on relationships of respect and integration with the Amazonian fabric in all its dimensions, not just material but also spiritual, cultural, and in the use of the territory; all these have historically been in dispute since the violent arrival of colonialist, mercantile, pillaging societies and visions.

This dispute was framed by the unfurling of the capitalist system and the predatory, patriarchal and racist development model, established from the imposition of colonialism that generated inequality in all its forms. The development of this system, accompanied by diverse fundamentalisms, has a bearing in the form of setbacks to the validity of the rights of the peoples, especially women. Despite this, we the Amazonian and Andean peoples resist and survive with the unwavering commitment to defending life in our territories. Consequently, and following on from the work done in Macapá, representatives of the nine countries of the Amazonian basin met in Tarapoto, Peru, alongside brothers and sisters from other latitudes, to answer the call of the Amazon and its people at the 8th Pan-Amazonian Social Forum.

The civilizing capitalist model is currently made manifest in extractivist development. This is implemented through transnational companies and national companies backed by Pan-Amazonian states who neglect their role as guarantors of the rights of peoples and the environment, seriously endangering the sustainability of the territories and food sovereignty, increasing our vulnerability to the impact of climate change, and bringing about serious sociocultural changes in the environment and the lives of indigenous peoples.

Under this scenario, sovereignty and self-determination are increasingly limited, and rights are recognized less and violated more, as has been happening with the previous free and informed consultation, the application of which is becoming an administrative procedure, when we know that it must be based on respect for the rights of the indigenous peoples, environmental standards and intercultural dialogue. Furthermore, the legislative powers of Pan-Amazonian countries pass laws that are an attack on the spirituality and the rights of the indigenous peoples, especially against women's right to autonomy and their bodies.

Faced with this, we the Amazonian and Andean peoples continue to resist and mobilize to transform societies and states, questioning the extractivist development model and establishing new proposal-based paradigms like Vida Plena, Buen Vivir, Vivir Bien and territorial self-government. The response of the states is the criminalization of social protest to weaken the indigenous organizations, women, social movements and civil society institutions, and expand their model and their alliance with oil, mining, logging and agro-industrial companies and with hydroelectric mega-projects.

In this context, the 8th Pan-Amazonian Social Forum (FOSPA) aims to strengthen the alliance, coordination and mobilization of Amazonian and Andean peoples, based on respect for the environment, the territory and life.

Therefore, the proposals made at the Forum are presented as follows:

- Construct new paradigms, from the proposals Vida Plena, Buen Vivir, Vivir Bien, territorial self-government, etc., which raise up the Amazonian and Andean indigenous peoples, among other groups.
- Demand of the states that national policies and laws comply with international laws on the rights of the Amazonian and Andean indigenous peoples.
- Denounce and fight corruption related to the extractivist model and the mega-projects of infrastructure and exploitation in the Amazon and the Andes.
- Strengthen the coordination and unity of Amazonian and Andean indigenous and African-Amazonian social organizations, LGBTBIQ communities, academics, organizations of youths, teenagers, children, and other social movements.
- Demand the recognition of the collective rights of the communal territories and integral territories through territorial diversity, and of the scenarios that exist in the Pan-Amazon, valuing indigenous peoples' knowledge, wisdom and practices.
- Recognize and strengthen the Amazonian and Andean identities, the product of a rich, complex exchange that has led to the strengthening of the cultures of our peoples.
- Demand a territorial ordering based on respect for our world view, water sources and ways of understanding our territory.
- Demand that the states guarantee the right of Amazonian and Andean peoples to communication, democratizing effectively media and technology.
- Demand the end to all types of violence against women both in the communities and outside of them, especially against women defending their rights.
- We women demand that the states leave aside religious precepts when passing laws and deciding on public policies that affect our rights, our bodies, and our territories, and that they be guided by international standards of human rights and secularism.
- The Pan-Amazonian Social Forum adopts as its own the Court of Justice of the Rights of Pan-Amazonian-Andean Women.
- We demand that the work we women do in our homes, communities and organizations be recognized and valued as contributing sustainability to life and to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of our countries.

- We declare our solidarity with the people of the so-called French Guyana and we reject the existence of colonial territories in the Pan-Amazon.
- Defend the peoples in voluntary isolation and first contact. We demand that the states respect their right to free determination, recognize them, demark and protect their territories and guarantee their transfrontier nature.
- We young people, children and teenagers demand the States recognize and respect environmental rights. We also demand that the states guarantee our right to grow in a safe and healthy environment to live a full life.
- We demand the recognition of intercultural community education as an expression of respect for Amazonian and Andean cultures and the construction of an intercultural citizenship.
- Encourage public policies that approach the management of diversity, recognizing, valuing and taking advantage of the cultural diversity of the indigenous peoples in cities, integrating youth and childhood.
- Promote new relationships between the urban-rural, countryside-city, generating and promoting responsible consumption based on ecological agriculture, among other things.
- Promote ecological agro-forestry and sustainable management of Amazonian-Andean forests by indigenous organizations for food sovereignty and safety.
- Recover native products and species through the exchange of seeds and crops within the communities, between different communities, and with the general population, with the active participation of women.
- Claim and strengthen the identities of the Amazonian and Andean peoples, recovering the use of indigenous languages.
- Incorporate the wise elders as a source of historically accumulated knowledge to orient and defend the identity of Amazonian and Andean peoples.
- Encourage participative environmental surveillance and monitoring by local organizations to prevent the impairment of rights and the increase in conflicts caused by extractivism.
- To consult international justice to seek sanctions against multinational companies that violate rights. Propose and promote political instruments for this.

The FOSPA declares its solidarity with the peoples affected by wars, intervention in their territories and the criminalization of protest of the defenders of rights that force them to abandon their territories.

We, the Amazonian and Andean peoples meeting at the 8th FOSPA reaffirm our commitment to life and the environment, calling to construct and strengthen a great alliance of the peoples based on recognition and respect for our diversity and convictions but also for our dissent. Continuing along the path drawn out by the Pan-Amazonian Social Forums, the call to the struggle and resistance continues.