



INDIGENOUS WOMEN AND YOUTH GLOBAL SUMMIT

POLITICAL DECLARATION

We, Indigenous Women and Youth from the seven socio-cultural regions of the world, gathered at the Global Summit of Indigenous Women and Youth in Belém do Pará, Brazil, in the context of the 30th Conference of the Parties (COP30) to the UNFCCC, bring with us the voices of our Peoples, the wisdom of our ancestors, and our shared commitment to protect Mother Earth and confront the climate crisis.

We express our deep concern over the escalating ecological and climate emergency that threatens the continuity of life on Earth. This environmental crisis is also spiritual, cultural, social, and political. It stems from a model of development based on exploitation, domination, and structural inequalities that disproportionately affect Indigenous Peoples, Women, Women with disability and Youth.

We call on governments, institutions, and climate actors to act with urgency, justice, and respect for Indigenous rights, knowledge, and leadership.

WE URGE STATES, INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, AND THE UNFCCC TO:

1. Recognize and secure the full protection of Indigenous lands, territories, and waters as essential to global mitigation and adaptation efforts, and explicitly reaffirm this commitment in the COP30 Action Document, acknowledging that Indigenous lands, territories and waters across all the 7 social cultural regions play a decisive role in regulating the Earth's climate and preserving biodiversity.
2. Ensure that climate finance mechanisms under the UNFCCC; including the Green Climate Fund, the Adaptation Fund, and the Loss and Damage Fund; operationalize Indigenous-specific funding windows that guarantee direct,



simplified, and culturally appropriate access to resources, and ensuring the inclusion of Indigenous Peoples in the governance structures of these mechanisms while recognizing Indigenous-led funds as key actors in the direct allocation of resources.

3. Ensure that the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA) fully reflects the rights, knowledge systems, and lived realities of Indigenous Peoples, Women and Youth by adopting indicators that are disaggregated by gender, age, ethnicity, indigeneity, and lands and territory, and by integrating the contributions of Indigenous women's knowledge; such as seed saving, agroecology, and water and forest management; as measurable components of national and global adaptation strategies.
4. Guarantee that a Just Transition is rooted in human rights, Indigenous self-determination, and social equity, and that the Just Transition Work Programme includes clear provisions to prevent harm from transition-related projects, such as mining for critical minerals or large-scale bioenergy plantations; through the establishment of monitoring and accountability mechanisms that center Indigenous Peoples' rights.
5. Guarantee the full, effective, and adequately resourced participation of Indigenous Peoples, Women and Youth at all levels of the UNFCCC process, including COPs, subsidiary bodies, and national delegations, through accreditation, funding, interpretation, and logistical support that ensure our meaningful engagement in negotiations and the shaping of national and international climate policies.
6. Ensure the full implementation of international human rights standards that protect Indigenous Women and Girls, particularly **CEDAW General Recommendation No. 39**, that recognizes individual and collective rights as well as the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and ILO Convention 169. These instruments provide binding guidance for States to guarantee the rights, safety, and participation of Indigenous Women in all



areas of climate policy, and must be reflected in national climate action plans, financing mechanisms, and the outcomes of COP30.

7. Respect, protect, and integrate Indigenous knowledge systems, languages, and cultural practices into climate governance at all levels, recognizing them as vital sources of science, innovation, and resilience. Implement Free, Prior and Informed Consent as a first step toward meaningful, rights-based climate action that prevents violations of Indigenous Peoples' rights and ensures their voices and traditional knowledge guide effective solutions, while Loss and Damage mechanisms must also recognize the loss of culture, language, and knowledge as non-economic harms requiring redress and restoration.
8. Treat the protection of Indigenous Environmental Defenders as a climate justice priority by implementing national and international measures to prevent violence, criminalization, and persecution, particularly of Indigenous Women and Youth, and ensure access to justice, safety, and recognition for those who defend their territories and the wellbeing of the planet.
9. Recognize and protect, Indigenous Peoples and Women displaced due to climate change, by establishing special visa pathways and permanent protections aligned with The Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, acknowledging that climate impacts force irreversible displacement and demand urgent, rights-based responses.
10. Indigenous Women, Youth and Indigenous Women with disabilities call for an ambitious, measurable, and gender-transformative Gender Action Plan, ensuring that it centers and strengthens the leadership, rights, Free, Prior and Informed Consent and knowledge of Indigenous Women and Youth across all climate actions. The Gender Action Plan should integrate traditional knowledge alongside scientific approaches, secure adequate resources for implementation, and include culturally appropriate capacity-building for Indigenous Women, Youth, Girls and Women with disabilities from all the seven social cultural regions.



Humanity stands at a tipping point, and reversing the climate crisis will only be possible by honoring the solutions Indigenous Peoples have practiced for millennia.

Climate justice is inseparable from justice for Indigenous Peoples, and every decision about the future of the planet must be made with us, not for us.

We offer our deepest gratitude to the Indigenous Peoples, Women and Youth of Brazil for welcoming us into their sacred territories; spaces of life, resistance, and biodiversity and for grounding this moment in the spirit of solidarity, ceremony, and care.

Belém do Pará, Brazil – November 13th, 2025