



Puyo, August 29, 2024

STATEMENT OF THE WAORANI NATIONALITY OF ECUADOR ALONG WITH INDIGENOUS AND SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE INTERNATIONAL SUMMIT FOR YASUNÍ

We, the Waorani, sons and daughters of the Eagle and the Jaguar, ancestral inhabitants of this vast and biodiverse Waorani territory known globally as Yasuní, gathered in the city of Puyo, Pastaza, Ecuador, together with national and international Indigenous leaders, experts, activists, philanthropists, NGOs, and members of the community and international organizations present at the International Summit for Yasuní: A Historic Opportunity to Halt the Climate Crisis, considering that:

- For us, Yasuní is much more than a National Park or a protected area. Yasuní is the territory inherited from our ancestors, the living space and home of the Waorani people and our brother peoples, the Tagaeri and Taromenane, who live in isolation, internationally known as PIACIs (Pueblos Indígenas en Aislamiento y Contacto Inicial). Yasuní is the land where we coexist with our spirits, where the Eagle flies free and the Jaguar walks confidently, defending its territory. We are the children and protectors of this space that scientists have called "the most biodiverse place on the planet."
- In the popular consultation held on August 20, 2023, with 58.95% of the vote, Ecuadorians decided to leave Yasuní's oil underground, marking a historic milestone regionally and globally. Therefore, we express our gratitude and recognition to the Ecuadorian people, the men and women who, with their vote, contributed to ensuring that our ancestral territory, known as Yasuní, can continue to be our home and the most important natural heritage for future generations of Ecuador and the world.
- The climate crisis demands urgent action to protect the Amazon basin and all its megadiverse territories, which are considered the biological heart of the planet due to their role as climate regulators.
- Within the framework of the Yasuní Summit, a historic gathering, we have built a post-referendum action plan that includes defining comprehensive actions for the implementation of the popular decision regarding Yasuní and the construction of



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post-extractive alternative development models that guarantee the livelihoods of the Waorani people and the protection of Yasuní as an international precedent and a reference for global action in response to the climate crisis, aligned with the regional Amazonian agenda leading up to COP30.

In this context, the Waorani Nationality, united with all allied organizations and participants of the International Summit for Yasuní:

1. We demand that the Ecuadorian State, Government, and Legislature comply with and enforce the mandate given by the Ecuadorian people in the popular consultation of August 2023, ratified by the Constitutional Court, to: permanently close oil extraction operations in Block 43 of Yasuní. The decommissioning of oil operations in Block 43 is the first step in the right direction for the conservation of Yasuní, and there is no other way to guarantee the future of humanity.
2. We call on the National Government to take a clear, transparent, and inclusive democratic approach with Indigenous Peoples to carry out the decommissioning process and comprehensive restoration of Yasuní.
3. We demand to be part of the comprehensive restoration process in the environmental, territorial, social, cultural, and spiritual dimensions of the peoples inhabiting Yasuní. Restoration must ensure that the territory and its ecological, social, cultural, and spiritual functions are harmonized with the lives of all human and non-human beings that are part of this immense living forest.
4. We demand the full guarantee of the collective and territorial rights of our brothers, the Tagaeri and Taromenane, who have suffered severe impacts due to the misguided and uninformed decisions of the Ecuadorian State for more than five decades in this territory. These rights are recognized in international legislation, such as the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the ILO Convention 169 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples, ratified by the Ecuadorian State, and international jurisprudence.
5. We call on the international community, our partners, and allies to ensure effective coordination of all necessary financial and technical efforts to support this post-extractive transition process, which has begun with the sovereign decision of the Ecuadorian people to conserve and protect the most biodiverse place on Earth. Now is



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the time for political will to converge toward an international plan that supports the efforts Indigenous peoples who have led the defense of the Amazon. In this context, Yasuní must be prioritized as an example that the solution to the climate crisis is possible.

6. We call on the people of Ecuador, citizens, and organizations that promoted the national referendum to stay alert and ready for action alongside the Waorani Nationality to demand compliance with the voter mandate regarding Yasuní. This is undoubtedly one of the most important historical milestones on the path to an ecological transition for the world and the conservation of the great Amazon forest, home to Indigenous peoples and a reservoir of life for millions of species, upon which the balance of our planet depends.

7. We ask allies, the international community, social organizations, non-governmental organizations, philanthropists, donors, academics, and activists worldwide, and those who actively participated in the construction of the Post Popular Consultation Action Plan to understand the technical and financial support needed for the implementation of the actions stipulated in the Plan, prioritizing the real needs of the Waorani Nationality, ensuring our livelihoods and, with them, the protection of Yasuní.

8. In the path toward ecological transition, we announce the formal adhesion of the Waorani Nationality to the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty for the defense of Yasuní and all our territory.

The Waorani Nationality, along with its entire organizational structure in the three provinces: Napo, Pastaza, and Orellana, remains united to ensure the implementation of the post-referendum action plan we have constructed. With this, we aim to defend our home and ensure our "Waemo Kewengi" (Good Living) for our families and communities who have historically defended this megadiverse territory.

The Waorani resist disappearing. Together we can build a world as vast as our dreams



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