



August 30, 2024

The Amazon Sacred Headwaters Alliance Ratifies its Unity and Calls for the Permanent Protection of the Amazon

We, the organizations gathered in the city of Tarapoto, Peru, within the framework of the General Assembly of Members of the Amazon Sacred Headwaters Alliance (ASHA), ratify our commitment and membership in this Alliance. Our union brings together Indigenous and non-Indigenous sisters and brothers, integrating the most important Indigenous organizations in the Amazon, as well as various civil society organizations. ASHA is led by Indigenous wisdomkeepers, leaders, and young people who represent Amazonian Indigenous territorial governance—a region that covers 7.8 million km², considered a common global treasure that we Amazonian peoples protect for climate stability, the preservation of biodiversity and future generations.

Our Alliance's mission and vision is to preserve life in the Amazon basin through the permanent protection of a territory that covers more than 35 million hectares of forest, known as the Sacred Headwaters bioregion.

Challenging the limits imposed by states, this cross-border Alliance strengthens our peoples, nations and nationalities in the construction of sustainable, responsible social and ecological transition proposals that allow us to guide the path, from the Amazon to the world, towards a dignified and full life in our territories, protecting the forest just as our ancestors have done since time immemorial.

Since its creation in 2017, our Alliance has grown in the number of member organizations. Currently, it is governed by a General Assembly of Members, made up of representatives of 25 Indigenous organizations and three from civil society, and a Board of Directors made up of 11 delegates with a three-year term. This governance structure ensures a close bond between the leaders of the Sacred Headwaters, both Indigenous and non-Indigenous, strengthening the leadership of the people in every step we take as an Alliance. In this context, we recognize that the role of women in the subsistence and caring of communities and in the management and reasonable use of natural resources has acquired unprecedented relevance. That is why our Alliance seeks to ensure the active participation of women and a gender focus in the conservation strategies to be developed. We recognize that their empowerment not only benefits the territories where they reside, but also constitutes a driving force for territorial strengthening and the material and spiritual well-being of all its inhabitants.

Gathered, we make an imperative call for the unity of the peoples, communities and organizations of the Amazon basin. The Amazon has reached a critical point of no return, not only in ecological terms, but also in economic, health and the very survival of its people. Additionally, Indigenous defenders—women and men—face criminalization, violence and, in



many cases, death for protecting collective territories and rights. Faced with this brutal reality, we strengthen our unity, between Indigenous and non-Indigenous, in the permanent fight for the present and future of our people, the Amazon, and all of humanity.

Finally, we remind the world that the Amazonian Indigenous peoples will continue to ensure climate security and the protection of the forest in accordance with the ways of life and ancient knowledge of the people. The international community must consider these perspectives in climate decision-making in solidarity with those facing, first-hand, the global metacrisis. Therefore, we call on governments, international organizations, donors, philanthropists, allies, the business sector, the media, and activists to join our fight in defending the present and future of life for present and future generations.

We protect the Amazon. We protect the future.

1. The Coordinator of Indigenous Organizations of the Amazon Basin (COICA)
2. The Interethnic Association for the Development of the Peruvian Jungle (AIDSEP)
3. Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of the Ecuadorian Amazon (CONFENIAE)
4. Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of Ecuador (CONAIE)
5. Achuar Nationality of Ecuador (NAE)
6. Kichwa Nationality of Pastaza, Ecuador (PAKKIRU)
7. Siekopai Nation of Ecuador (SIEKOPAI)
8. Shuar Arutam Peoples (PSHA)
9. Indigenous Quijos Nation of Ecuador (NAOQUI)
10. Federation of the Achuar Nationality of Peru (FENAP)
11. Autonomous Territorial Government of the Wampis Nation (GTANW)
12. Kukama Kukamiria Autonomous Territorial Government
13. Shiwilu Autonomous Territorial Government
14. Shawi Autonomous Territorial Government
15. Kandozi Autonomous Territorial Government
16. Awajún Autonomous Territorial Government (GTAA)
17. Autonomous Territorial Government of the Chapra Nation (GTANCH)
18. Autonomous Territorial Government of the Inka Nation
19. Regional Organization of Indigenous Peoples of the East (ORPIO)
20. Regional Coordinator of the Indigenous Peoples of San Lorenzo (CORPI-SL)
21. Secoya Indigenous Organization of Peru (OISPE)
22. Regional Organization of the Indigenous Peoples of the Northern Amazon of Peru (ORPIAN)
23. Binational Coordinator of the Achuar Nationality of Ecuador and Peru (COBNAEP)
24. Sapara Binational Federation of Ecuador and Peru (FEBSEP)
25. Pachamama Foundation
26. The Pachamama Alliance
27. Rainforest Foundation-US
28. Coordinator of Development and Defense of the Indigenous Peoples of the San Martín Region (CODEPISAM)