

RECOMMENDATIONS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND ORGANIZATIONS REGARDING THE PROCESS OF THE FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

CONSIDERING That Agenda 21 in chapter 26 recognizes Indigenous Peoples as a Major Group with the right to participate fully in all the national and international processes on sustainable development. That Indigenous Peoples historically have fulfilled and continue to fulfill an important role in the conservation of forests, biological diversity, and the maintenance of natural ecosystems. That, presently Indigenous Peoples, as well as the environment and the climate are threatened by destructive commercial and extractive activities, such as mining, logging, emission of greenhouse gases, excessive consumption, etc. That distinct Declarations, Agendas and International Conventions such as the Draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Convention 169 of the ILO, the Rio de Janeiro Declaration, the Convention on Biodiversity and instruments of the United Nations System including the Sustainable Development Commission, the Human Rights Commission, the Inter-Governmental Panel and Forum on Forests recognize the fundamental rights of Indigenous Peoples as well as the role that these peoples play in the conservation and sustainable use of Nature including biodiversity and the forests. That the 1992 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, as well as the Kyoto Protocol have been negotiated without the participation of the Indigenous Peoples and Organizations and do not take into account our rights. That the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol and the proposal for a Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) may have a tremendous impact on our life, survival, cultures, spirituality and on the lands and territories that Indigenous Peoples inhabit and use. Taking into consideration the intervention of the representative from COICA and the Climate Alliance at the conference of the parties in COP 4 and the resolution of the Indigenous Organizations in the International Workshop on International Policies on Climate and Indigenous Peoples held in Geneva in 1999 regarding the need for adequate participation of Indigenous Peoples both in the conferences of the parties as well as in the meetings, That the Indigenous Peoples are convinced that our effective and equal participation can contribute substantially to a constructive dialogue for achieving Sustainable Development as it relates to Climate Change and the recognition of our rights. Therefore: The representatives of the Indigenous organizations convened in Quito, Ecuador: