

Letter from Brazilian Parliamentarians and Civil Society to the United States of America, in defense of the Amazon

The parliamentarians and civil society organizations that compose the National Permanent Forum in Defense of the Amazon and all others who signed the attached "Manifesto Addressed to the Brazilian People and International Community" support and encourage international cooperation for the defense of the environment in Brazil. Brazil and the Amazon Rainforest's strategic role in combating the planet-wide climate crisis depends on international engagement within the limits of national sovereignty through funding protective measures for the rainforest and the indigenous peoples and traditional communities that live there. Because of this, we recognize and welcome the cooperation the United States has provided over the last three decades to strengthen pro-climate regulations and programs in Brazil.

However, as we approach the Climate Summit, negotiations for a possible cooperation agreement between the United States and the Bolsonaro administration are being held behind closed doors and without the cooperation of or consultation with those who will be directly affected, under the justification that this will help protect the Amazon. The terms of these negotiations are cause for concern for those committed to the climate agenda, democracy, and human rights. The conduct adopted by the Brazilian government by not informing the population about its activities toward establishing a possible accord is unacceptable. At the same time, it is alarming that the United States government has attributed trustworthiness to an administration that continues to deny the climate crisis and has designated the Amazon and those who struggle to preserve it their enemies. President Joe Biden has been alerted of the risks such an agreement may represent for the environment and society as a whole within the context of continual attacks against the environment in a number of recent letters to his administration, such as the letter from Coalition of Indigenous Peoples of Brazil (Articulação dos Povos Indígenas do Brasil or APIB) and the National Council of Extractivist Communities (Conselho Nacional das Populações Extrativistas or CNS) and a letter from Brazilian civil society signed by 200 organizations.

At the same time that Bolsonaro and his allies are negotiating this agreement, they are also working to pass laws that would encourage deforestation, conflicts, violence, and land grabbing in the Amazon, weaken environmental licensing requirements, and open indigenous lands to agribusiness and mining, among other measures that would eliminate land use and natural resources regulations. We warn that an agreement signed in the face of this situation would represent a means of validating and financing the agenda of environmental destruction promoted by the Bolsonaro administration, which is abruptly advancing through the National Congress. Likewise, it would represent an endorsement of Bolsonaro's policies, which have presented major setbacks to the country, right as Brazil faces the worst moment of the pandemic, when the country has reached 350,000 deaths from the coronavirus and been put back on the UN Hunger Map.

We see an accord with an openly anti-environment and anti-democratic administration attempting to push a battery of socio-environmental setback through the National Congress without transparency or any consultation or dialogue with civil society, the local governments of the Amazon region, or the local population as illegitimate and unsustainable, and affirm that any positive results would be improbable. International cooperation in favor of the Amazon is welcome; however, it must come with a commitment from both parties to environmental conservation and sustainable and fair development that will benefit the population and, thus, address the collective interest in protecting the Amazon and promoting democracy and human rights in Brazil.

Sign:

Parliamentarians

- 1 Federal Deputy Alencar Santana Braga (PT/SP)
- 2 Federal Deputy Alessandro Lucciola Molon (PSB/RJ)
- 3 Federal Deputy Alice Portugal (PCdoB/BA)
- 4 Federal Deputy Arlindo Chinaglia (PT/SP)
- 5 Federal Deputy Áurea Carolina (PSOL/MG)
- 6 Federal Deputy Bira do Pindaré (PSB/MA)
- 7 Federal Deputy Camilo Capiberibe (PSB/AP)
- 8 Federal Deputy Célio Moura (PT/TO)
- 9 Federal Deputy Daniel Almeida (PCdoB-BA)
- 10 Federal Deputy David Miranda (PSOL/RJ)
- 11 Federal Deputy Elvino José Bohn Gass (PT/RS)
- 12 Federal Deputy Enio Verri (PT/PR)
- 13 Federal Deputy Erika Jucá Kokay (PT/DF)
- 14 Federal Deputy Fernanda Melchionna (PSOL/RS)
- 15 Federal Deputy Gustavo Fruet (PDT/PR)
- 16 Federal Deputy Henrique Fontana (PT/RS)
- 17 Federal Deputy Ivan Valente (PSOL/SP)
- 18 Federal Deputy Jandira Feghali (PCdoB/RJ)
- 19 Federal Deputy João Daniel (PT/SE)
- 20 Federal Deputy Joenia Wapichana (REDE/RR)
- 21 Federal Deputy Jorge Solla (PT/BA)
- 22 Federal Deputy José Guimarães (PT/CE)
- 23 Federal Deputy Joseildo Ramos (PT/BA)
- 24 Federal Deputy José Ricardo Wendling (PT/AM)
- 25 Federal Deputy Júlio Delgado (PSB/MG)
- 26 Federal Deputy Leo de Brito (PT/AC)
- 27 Federal Deputy Lidice da Mata (PSB/BA)
- 28 Federal Deputy Luiza Erundina de Souza (PSOL/SP)
- 29 Federal Deputy Maria do Rosário (PT/RS)
- 30 Federal Deputy Marcelo Freixo (PSOL/RJ)
- 31 Federal Deputy Marcon (PT/RS)
- 32 Federal Deputy Merlong Solano (PT/PI)
- 33 Federal Deputy Nilto Tatto (PT/SP)
- 34 Federal Deputy Orlando Silva - PCdoB-SP
- 35 Federal Deputy Padre João (PT/MG)
- 36 Federal Deputy Patrus Ananias (PT/MG)
- 37 Federal Deputy Rodrigo Agostinho (PSB/SP)
- 38 Federal Deputy Rogério Correia (PT/MG)
- 39 Federal Deputy Rosa Neide (PT/MT)
- 40 Federal Deputy Rubens Otoni (PT/GO)
- 41 Federal Deputy Sâmia Bonfim (PSOL/SP)

- 42 Federal Deputy Talíria Petrone (PSOL/RJ)
- 43 Federal Deputy Túlio Gadelha (PDT/PE)
- 44 Federal Deputy Vivi Reis (PSOL/PA)
- 45 Federal Deputy Zé Carlos (PT/MA)
- 46 Federal Deputy Zeca Dirceu (PT/PR)
- 47 Senator Eliziane Pereira Gama Melo (Cidadania/MA)
- 48 Senador Fabiano Contarato (rede/ES)
- 49 Senator Paulo Paim (PT/RS)
- 50 Senator Paulo Rocha (PT/PA)
- 51 Senator Jaques Wagner (PT/BA)
- 52 Senator Randolfe Frederich Rodrigues Alves (Rede/AP)
- 53 Senator Zenaide Maia (PROS/RN)
- 54 State Co-deputy Jo Cavalcanti da Mandata Coletiva das Juntas (Psol/PE)
- 55 State Co-deputy Joelma Carla da Mandata Coletiva das Juntas (Psol/PE)
- 56 State Deputy Doriel Barros (PT/PE)
- 57 State Deputy Estadual Isa Penna (PSOL/SP)
- 58 State Deputy Renato Roseno (PSOL/CE)
- 59 City councilor Gabriel Aguiar (PSOL - Fortaleza/CE)
- 60 City councilor Linda Brasil (PSOL-Aracaju/SE)
- 61 City councilor Linda Brasil (PSOL-Aracaju/SE)
- 62 Environmentalist Parliamentary Front
- 63 Mixed Parliamentary Front in Defense of the Rights of Indigenous

Civil Society Organizations

- 1 350.org Brasil
- 2 Amigos da Terra - Amazônia Brasileira
- 3 Articulação de Mulheres do Amazonas AMA
- 4 Articulação dos Povos Indígenas do Brasil - APIB
- 5 Associação dos Servidores Ibama e ICMBio Acre - Asibama/Acre
- 6 Associação Alternativa Terrazul
- 7 Associação Brasileira de ONGs - Abong
- 8 Associação de Preservação do Meio Ambiente e da Vida - Apremavi
- 9 Associação Nacional dos Servidores Especialistas em Meio Ambiente - ASCEMA Nacional
- 10 Campanha Antipetroleira Nem um poço a mais!
- 11 CEDECA Sapopemba
- 12 Centro de Promoção da Cidadania e Defesa dos Direitos Humanos Pe Josimo-MA
- 13 Comissão Pastoral da Terra - CPT
- 14 Congregação da Paixão de Jesus Cristo
- 15 Conselho Nacional das Populações Extrativistas-CNS
- 16 Conselho Pastoral dos Pescadores - CPP
- Confederação Nacional dos Trabalhadores e Trabalhadoras na Agricultura Familiar -
- 17 CONTRAF BRASIL/CUT

- 18 Confederação Nacional dos Trabalhadores Rurais Agricultores e Agricultoras Familiares – CONTAG/BRASIL
- 19 Coordenação Nacional de Articulação das comunidades negras rurais Quilombolas/CONAQ
- 20 ECO4.Santarritense
- 21 Ecosocialistas do Brasil
- 22 Engajamundo
- 23 Fórum da Amazônia Oriental - FAOR
- 24 Fórum de Mulheres da Amazônia Paraense - FMAP
- 25 Fórum Nacional Popular de Educação (FNPE)
- 26 Fórum Popular da Natureza
- 27 Fridays for Future Brasil
- 28 Fundação Amazônia Sustentável (FAS)
- 29 Fundação Avina
- 30 Fundação Vitória Amazônica - FVA
- 31 Gambá - Grupo Ambientalista da Bahia
- 32 Geografia Viva, Venezuela
- 33 Greenpeace Brasil
- 34 Imaflora
- 35 Instituto 5 Elementos - Educação para Sustentabilidade
- 36 Instituto Climainfo
- 37 Instituto de Conservação e Desenvolvimento Sustentável da Amazônia - IDESAM
- 38 Instituto de Estudos Amazônicos - IEA
- 39 Instituto de Estudos Socioeconômicos - INESC
- 40 Instituto de Pesquisa e Formação Indígena - Iepé
- 41 Instituto PACS
- 42 Instituto Sociedade, População e Natureza - ISPN
- 43 Instituto Socioambiental - ISA
- 44 Marcha Mundial por Justiça Climática/Marcha Mundial do Clima
- 45 Mater Natura - Instituto de Estudos Ambientais
- 46 Movimento Camponês Popular - MCP
- 47 Movimento dos Atingidos por Barragens - MAB
- 48 Movimento dos Trabalhadores Rurais Sem Terra - MST
- 49 Movimento Nacional Contra Corrupção e pela Democracia - MNCCD
- 50 Movimento Nacional ODS/Sergipe
- 51 Movimento Saúde Mental
- 52 Observatório de Direitos Humanos dos Povos Indígenas Isolados e de Recente Contato - Opi
- 53 Observatório do Clima - OC
- 54 Projeto Saúde e Alegria
- 55 Projeto Saúde, Cidadania e Direitos Humanos - IQ/UFPA
- 56 Província dos Missionários Combonianos do Brasil
- 57 Rede de Cooperação Amazônica - RCA
- 58 Rede Igrejas e Mineração
- 59 Semana social brasileira

- 60 SINDPRODEM-SP
- 61 Sinfrajupe -Serviço Interfranciscano de Justiça, Paz e Ecologia
- 62 Terra de Direitos
- 63 Via Trabalho

APPENDIX

MANIFESTO ADDRESSED TO THE BRAZILIAN PEOPLE AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

The National Permanent Forum in Defense of the Amazon and the civil society organizations identified below wish to alert Brazilian society and the international community, especially the populations that inhabit the Legal Amazon, that the Biden and Bolsonaro administrations are currently holding negotiations toward signing an agreement with the justification of containing deforestation and protecting the Amazon Rainforest. Any accord resulting from negotiations that do not include the presence of representatives from the National Congress, the states of the Amazon region, civil society organizations, and the peoples who live in the rainforest and depend on sustainable ways of living off its natural resources is illegitimate and unsustainable.

It is alarming that the Biden administration is negotiating with an administration that has been intentionally dismantling socio-environmental policies and has taken negationist positions ostensibly against the environment and indifferent to or prejudiced against indigenous, quilombola (descended from escaped Afro-Brazilian slaves), and other traditional communities, in addition to leading the Brazilian people to disaster by facilitating the spread of the current health crisis and abandoning the socio-economically vulnerable. In light of these facts, any agreement would represent an endorsement of Bolsonaro's destructive policies.

Furthermore, at the same time they negotiate with the United States, Bolsonaro and his allies are working to pass through the National Congress a series of laws that would represent a grave threat to Brazil by promoting the interests of a few at the expense of the collective good and encouraging more deforestation, forest fires, violence, and social injustice. Such legislation includes bills that would facilitate and benefit the practice of land grabbing, weaken environmental licensing regulations, attempt to open indigenous lands to prospecting, mining, agribusiness, and hydroelectric exploitation, alter the demarcation process of indigenous lands and revise the borders of already established indigenous territories, permit the use of more pesticides, sale land to foreigner interests, reduce the protection of conservation areas, make changes to the Forest Code, and would promote the reduction of legal reserves, criminalize NGOs and social movements, in addition to facilitating the acquisition, registration, and possession of firearms that aggravate violence in rural areas.

Shamefully, during the worse situation the country has so far faced due to COVID-19, the administration and the agribusiness lobby have made trying to pass such legislation through the National Congress a priority. The legislature is currently working semi-remotely, which restricts the

participation of society and severely undermines democratic debate. In this scenario, congress members and citizens can't make the contributions necessary to ensure that the public policies passed by the People's House reflect the collective interests of society that they are meant to represent.

Establishing an agreement of this magnitude while Brazil faces a severe political, economic, and public health crisis is irresponsible. We find ourselves at the worst moment of the pandemic, during which Brazilians are being massacred by the devastating spread of COVID-19 and the government's terrible conduct in facing it, which has placed the country back on the UN's Hunger Map and fostered widespread misery and social degradation for the 20 million Brazilians who are currently at risk of dying either from the virus or hunger! With more than 350,000 dead, right now is time to take care of the people. All efforts by Congress and the executive branch must be focused on protecting Brazilians, buying vaccines, and stopping the pandemic's harmful effects on the population.

Social unity is needed to stop the advance of the agribusiness lobby's agenda, a veritable steamroller that now sees few obstacles on its path through the National Congress and is increasingly accelerating thanks to the fuel systematically fed it by Bolsonaro and his allies, who seek to legitimize their campaign against the environment, its defenders, and traditional peoples and communities!

A brief retrospective of the decimation carried out by the Bolsonaro administration is sufficient to demonstrate the absolute lack of credibility and legitimacy under which it negotiates, behind closed doors, a multilateral accord to defend the Amazon.

2 Years of Bolsonaro in Government, Decades Worth of Regression

By any standard, everything Brazil has built to protect the environment since the enactment of the Federal Constitution of 1988 has been severely undermined in just two years. The country has seen setbacks in both legal and institutional terms and in terms of participation of its society in decision-making and control, in terms of decentralization, the autonomy of environmental institutions, and access to information establishing common socio-environmental values.

Indeed, over the past few decades, the Brazilian government had succeeded in constituting a legal and institutional framework compatible with the specific challenges imposed by the serious environmental problems arising from its development model. Girded by the National Environment System (Sistema Nacional de Meio Ambiente or SISNAMA) and endowed with participative spaces such as the National Environment Council (Conselho Nacional de Meio Ambiente or CONAMA), this institutional framework had not only improved the country's legal framework of environmental protection but also played a strategic role in the debate concerning its development projects.

The Action Plan for Prevention and Control of Deforestation in the Legal Amazon (Prevenção e Controle do Desmatamento da Amazônia Legal or PPCDAm), created in 2003 and whose accomplishment was to bring together different ministries and civil society entities over a structural foundation to contain deforestation in the Amazon by promoting structural initiatives for local development based on environmental conservation and the rights of traditional peoples and communities, family farmers, and riverside peoples, has been simply shelved. The current government does not even mention its name. There is a reason for this. It was through the PPCDAm that Brazil was able to reduce around 80% of deforestation in the Amazon between 2005 and 2012, establishing the

country as a global example in terms of deforestation reduction policy. Throughout this period, Brazil played an essential role as a leader in global climate negotiations and introduced voluntary targets for reducing its emissions.

Now taking the opposite path, Bolsonaro's Brazil has taken on the role of the environment's number one enemy in the world. Over the last two years, due to policies marked by the weakening and dismantling of the public structures geared toward protecting nature, the country has suffered an increase of deforestation, forest fires, mining in protected areas, and violence in rural areas and on the lands of traditional communities. In a coordinated effort with its allies in the National Congress, the Bolsonaro administration has supported the demolition of environmental legislation while, at the same time, using its executive powers to paralyze the enforcement of environmental laws and regulations and hinder the reporting of environmental crimes. Another hallmark of the administration has been its countless declarations explicitly geared toward encouraging criminal activity against nature and indigenous and traditional peoples.

Thus, the Bolsonaro administration has sought to delegitimize and dismantle Brazil's institutional environmental protection architecture under the pretext of removing obstacles to the country's economic development. The primary concrete measures it has adopted toward this purpose has been to drastically reduce the powers and duties of the Ministry of the Environment and transfer them to other governmental bodies such as the National Water Agency (Agência Nacional de Águas or ANA) and the Brazilian Forest Service (Serviço Florestal Brasileiro SFB). In the same vein, among its many assaults against the powers and duties of the country's leading environmental agencies, it has militarized the management of the Chico Mendes Institute for Biodiversity Conservation (ICMbio) and extended to the army the task of taking action against deforestation in the Amazon while reducing the capacity of the Brazilian Institute of Environment and Renewable Natural Resources (IBAMA) to do so and depriving these environmental institutions of the autonomy that such independent agencies legally hold in Brazil.

At the regulatory level, it has revoked, altered, and weakened regulations and regulatory procedures with a few strokes of a pen. Only a few of these measures could be reversed within the judiciary's scope since Congress has failed to introduce any Legislative Decree Bill capable of stopping the administration's actions undermining environmental protections.

With CONAMA cleared out, SISNAMA's agencies weakened and disjointed, society denied participation, and the reduction of regulations, norms, and federal environmental agencies' capacity to act autonomously, added to the continual ideological attack against the legacy of the institutions that he inherited, Bolsonaro continues to impose measures to significantly dismantle the framework built throughout the years to deal with environmental issues.

With regard to commitments to international goals, the president has rescinded the central public policies, programs, and projects that were being implemented to meet the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, the targets of the Paris Agreement, and all other treaties and conventions to revert environmental, climate, biodiversity, and water crises and prevent the collapse of ecosystems, all of which threaten and compromise the future of Brazilian society and all of humanity. Thus, Bolsonaro has put us on the sidelines in the international arena, completely alienating us from the state of affairs

related to dealing with current and potential risks to the planet and distancing us from the world community's leading countries' efforts regarding climate negotiations.

In short, during these two years of the Bolsonaro administration, environmental anti-politics has prevailed, which is aimed at favoring illegal activities that promote deforestation and the abuse of natural resources and has generated an environment of territorial conflicts and disputes that threaten traditional and indigenous populations.

Ricardo Salles: A Secretary Who Attacks his Own Charge

Before assuming the presidency, Bolsonaro had already demonstrated his desire to dissolve the Ministry of the Environment. Due to pressure from civil society, environmental officials, environmental leaders, congress members, and even economic sectors, he ended up not doing so. However, he named to its leadership an individual that he could be sure would serve his pro-agribusiness agenda and have no qualms about destroying the Ministry from the inside: lawyer Ricardo Salles.

In his first year at the helm of the Ministry, Salles worked hard to remove autonomy from civil servants, appointed military officers without any familiarity of the issues to positions that, until then, had been occupied by civil servants, extinguished or crippled important councils and committees with the explicit intention of removing civil society's participation in the decision-making process regarding public policies that affect it, drastically reduced the issuance of environmental sanctions, and created the Conciliation Centers, which are nothing more than public offices to facilitate the forgiveness of fines for environmental offenses. Bolsonaro, at his side, made a series of pronouncements and speeches to legitimize and encourage illegal predatory practices. The infamous "Day of Fire" was carried out by his supporters in August 2019, which, in just two days, increased the bush and forest fires in the state of Pará by 1,923% compared to the previous year. Despite all the evidence available, only [5% of those involved](#) in this criminal action have had economic sanctions imposed on their operations.

In April 2020, even at the beginning of the pandemic, if anyone still tried to ignore Minister Salles' actions or believed he had good intentions, they could deny reality no more. In the national and international press, his famous recommendation to "drive the herd through" (take advantage of the pandemic to sneak a battery of anti-environmental legislation through the legislature) made clear, without any room for doubt, what many had been warning for a long time: Ricardo Salles had been working against the purpose of his own ministry. This administration's policy is environmental destruction. The strategy they use is to loosen/deregulate the country's environmental policy.

The attempt to put the military at the forefront of environmental inspection and the fight against deforestation, premeditatedly made to look innocuous, has proven to be a complete failure. While the Armed Forces spent the equivalent of the budgets of IBAMA, ICMBio, and the National Institute for Space Research (Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas Espaciais or INPE) together on an inefficient satellite, the rate of deforestation in the Amazon reached its highest point in 12 years, and the Pantanal (the world's largest tropical wetland) recorded a record number of forest fires in 2020.

Brazil has watched both its forests and its international reputation go up in flames, generating diplomatic and economic repercussions and impasses for the country. The government has tried to

soften its image by removing Salles from the center of the international spotlight. However, it hasn't changed the direction of its policies.

Ricardo Salles must be removed from his position immediately. His legacy is rife with tragedies for Brazil's natural heritage. His defense of economic sectors responsible for environmental devastation, such as agribusiness, makes him an illegitimate representative of the country in any negotiations for international cooperation at restoring the Amazon and protecting its peoples. However, his removal alone is not enough to correct the course of environmental policy in Brazil or restore its international image. This is because, as long as the government's anti-environmental project remains, we will continue to face the same type of measures that threaten life, the rainforest, and its communities and peoples.

The Bolsonaro Administration and the Agribusiness Steamroller in the National Congress: United Against the Environment

In addition to changes to the regulatory framework, Bolsonaro's administration is known for its strategy and interest in eliminating regulations regarding land use and natural resources and safeguards for human rights, democracy, and social participation. The executive branch's introduction of Provisional Presidential Decree 910/2019 (the "Land Grabbing Decree") at the end of 2019 and a bill to open indigenous lands to mining and other economic activities at the beginning of 2020 are evidence of his intentions.

In May 2020, even with the pandemic at the center of all Brazilians' concerns and with the National Congress operating remotely, which hinders democratic debate and dialogue with society about the issues concerning it, there was a shameful attempt to hold a vote to ratify the Land Grabbing Decree. Due to strong repercussions and social and international pressure, the vote was not held. However, the maneuver now being attempted is to turn it into bills that can still be put to a vote. If approved, such legislation will benefit those who invade public lands at a medium and large scale, thus encouraging new invasions and prompting more deforestation and land conflicts.

Such is also the case with bills related to environmental licensing. The text of the bills being introduced and promoted by the agribusiness and infrastructure sectors pose grave threats to the prevention, regulation, and control of projects or activities that negatively impact the environment, could reduce the participation of the impacted populations in the decision-making process regarding such projects and activities, and introduce legal uncertainty for the business people conducting them.

In addition to these issues, despite society's mobilization against it in 2018, the Poison Pact has come back to haunt us. This legislation and its attached measures seek to permit the widespread and massive use of pesticides, resulting in more chemicals in our food, more contamination of the soil and water, and more poisoning of pollinizers such as bees. The antidote for this legislation already exists: The National Pesticide Reduction Policy (Política Nacional de Redução de Agrotóxicos or PNaRA).

Thus, it is imperative that the National Congress concentrate its efforts on guaranteeing the health and livelihood of the Brazilian population and that it does not allow the "herd" to be driven through the legislature. Brazil is currently facing a dark period in its history. We cannot accept the continued dismantling of the country's environmental laws for the benefit segments of the private sector and the

interests of a small group of individuals, many of them criminals, that continue to increase deforestation and violence in rural areas and the rainforest and that will worsen the climate, reputational, environmental, social, health, and economic crises Brazil currently faces.

What We Want for Brazil

The Brazilian population wants no more environmental devastation and forest fires. Brazil is a socio-environmental power and has an enormous natural heritage of global importance. We want adequate public policies and a government interested in protecting nature and the peoples of the forest.

Bilateral or multilateral agreements regarding the Amazon must have a solid foundation of governance capable of guaranteeing the full and legitimate participation and social control of those who will be most directly affected by such policies. Agreements cannot be negotiated with a government that continues to ignite the matches of an incendiary and destructive policy on a daily basis and encourages and promotes the deregulation of environmental protection.

We demand public and democratic debate aimed at establishing an agenda capable of meeting climate commitments, promoting inclusive economic growth, and safeguarding our forests, traditional communities, and indigenous peoples. Such fundamental dialogue will only be possible with the return to the regular functioning of the National Congress and with the broad participation of society. As long as attempts are being made to quickly push legislation to dismantle environmental laws and regulations through the legislature and without public debate, which represents substantial social and environmental setbacks for the country, there is no way to establish an accord genuinely beneficial to society.

We want cooperation based on social-environmental responsibility and geared toward climate policy that promotes the reconstruction of what we have lost with the destruction wrought by Bolsonaro. Such cooperation should foster actions that prioritize an alternative agenda to that of Bolsonaro and Salles and the return of structural policies and programs for effective Brazilian environmental management. This will not be possible without ensuring an adequate budget for protecting Brazil's environment and guaranteeing that structural and inter-ministerial policies, such as PPCDAm, are reinstated and implemented.

From an institutional point of view, it is essential that we resume full and effective environmental inspection, strengthening and restoring the autonomy of IBAMA, a body that has the expertise and responsibility for such actions. We must also strengthen FUNAI and restore policies for demarcating and certifying indigenous lands, and we must restore the budget of ICMBio so that it can resume its studies to create and improve the implementation of conservation units. Furthermore, it is vital that we ensure that the National Institute for Colonization and Agrarian Reform (Instituto Nacional de Colonização e Reforma Agrária or INCRA) has the structure and autonomy to resume the land regularization processes for family farmers and identify and certify quilombola territories.

For the country to promote fair, inclusive, and socially and environmentally responsible development, it is essential that the government expand investments in science and technology to seek opportunities to generate jobs and income that enhance biodiversity and improve the quality of life of Amazonian peoples in both the rainforest and the cities and that it resume support for the chains of production of

local communities' sustainable development projects, as well as for sustainable agriculture, forest management, and products of socio-biodiversity. Furthermore, it must implement public policies for access to electricity, communication, health, and education appropriate to the reality of Amazonian communities.

Last but not least, it is crucial that all these actions, among so many other vital ones that need to be included and discussed with transparency and the participation of society, include the prior and informed consultation processes established by ILO Convention 169 for projects with possible social and environmental impact. It is also of the utmost importance that the spaces for social participation in councils and for the discussion and definition of policies regarding the Amazon be restored and strengthened to include civil society and government agencies.

We want a plural, diverse, and inclusive country where all forms of life are valued and respected.