



President Lula: For a Brazil and an Amazon Free of Oil and Gas!

Declaration of the Brazilian Civil Society: December 10, 2023

Esteemed President Lula and authorities of the Federal Government present at the 28th United Nations Conference on Climate Change (COP28),

We, as members of civil society, encompassing the youth, women's movement, black movement, residents of peripheries and favelas, as well as Indigenous and quilombola organizations (many of us present at COP28 in Dubai), repudiate the Brazilian government's intention to [hold a mega auction by the National Agency for Oil, Gas and Biofuels](#) (ANP) to designate 602 new areas for oil and gas exploration, including 21 blocks in the Amazon River basin. This move, coupled with [Brazil's initiative to join OPEC+](#), creates a deep contradiction in the government's stance. On the one hand, we see Brazil's leadership as ambitious in protecting its forests with the reduction of deforestation and initiatives in international environmental agreements. On the other hand, the advancement of exploration and the promotion of the oil agenda jeopardizes the country's potential to truly lead in decarbonization and comply with the international agreements to which it has committed. This stance is unacceptable, posing a threat to the lives of all Brazilians, particularly traditional communities, Indigenous peoples, quilombolas and black people, those from the peripheries and favelas, women, youth, and children.

We ask Mr. President to stop the mega auction of new oil and gas blocks and to take a stance against fossil fuel exploration in the Amazon and throughout Brazil, truly aligning the country's economic goals with a decarbonization strategy. Furthermore, at COP28, we urge Brazil to champion a position that reflects the climate and environmental ambition necessary to build a future with dignity for all Brazilians, taking into account science, the principle of climate justice, and the fight against environmental racism.

Oil and gas exploration in Brazil is an engine of poverty and suffering, not of sustainable development

As you said in your speech at the opening of COP28, paraphrasing activist Wangari Maathai, "The generation that destroys the environment is not the generation that pays the price." The price of oil expansion will be too expensive for future generations. Keeping the global

temperature increase at 1.5° C **is not just a target; it is a limit** that in itself signifies a world in constant danger for the most vulnerable- the poor, black people, women, Indigenous peoples, quilombolas, and other traditional communities, and for the youth and children who will inherit the destructive legacy of oil in Brazil.

The expansion of oil condemns our youth and children to a degraded and outdated economic and social reality. The current generation needs to respect the principle of intergenerational solidarity guaranteed in Article 3, paragraph b of Law No. 19/2014. It is also worth remembering that in July 2022, the UN General Assembly recognized the human right to a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment. This recognition followed Resolution 48/13 of the UN Human Rights Council.

To promote sustainable development in Brazil and ensure dignity and economic prosperity for all people, it is essential to distance ourselves from the oil economy. The fossil fuel market is a major contributor to the crisis, both in extraction and in emissions from the transportation sector. We need to invest in an economic model of the future, which includes investments in renewable and clean energies (ensuring a just transition and respect for the rights of indigenous and traditional communities, peripheries, and favelas); prioritizing investments in the most vulnerable territories (with less urban infrastructure), and implement strategies for mitigation and adoption of policies committed to the repair of losses and damages, as well as sustainable agriculture, forest management, and the promotion of a bioeconomy that keeps our forests standing, our rivers healthy, our air pure, and our biodiversity alive and vibrant.

The Amazon is approaching a point of no return

The announcement of the ANP mega auction and the stance of the Brazilian government is even more concerning when we observe that the Amazon, targeted for 21 oil and gas blocks in this mega auction, is [approaching a point of no return](#). Deforestation and forest degradation, mining, the expansion of megaprojects and highways are leading the forest to collapse. For example, [parts of the Amazon are now emitting more CO2 than they absorb](#).

In a recent article, [Pública highlighted that if Brazil continues oil exploration, it will negate the benefits of the emission reductions already achieved](#). This unprecedented calculation shows that the emissions from burning oil from the Equatorial Margin are three times the target that the country set for 2030. Such an initiative would take Brazil back to square one and put us at odds with the Paris Agreement. Moreover, oil exploration projects in the Amazon, beyond those on the Equatorial Margin, as announced in this mega auction, endanger dozens of vulnerable communities, particularly black people, residents of peripheral territories, and especially Indigenous peoples, quilombolas, and traditional communities. We cannot sacrifice these communities in the name of an outdated idea of economic progress.

Brazil needs to be coherent and lead the negotiations for an immediate replacement of fossil fuels

We, as the Brazilian civil society present at COP28, welcome the government's speech demanding other countries meet the 1.5°C target, but we understand that Brazil's oil expansion is not just inconsistent, but impossible. We are aware of the principle of common

but differentiated responsibilities among developed and developing countries. However, there is no reality in which more than 600 new oil blocks from this mega auction align with a "phase down" strategy for developing countries as Brazil advocates.

At the beginning of COP28, [more than 130 organizations present in Dubai met with you and your delegation](#). There is a consensus among civil society for an ambitious future without oil for our country and for the planet. Brazil must assume a leading role in the negotiations here in Dubai for a rapid replacement of all fossil fuels with renewable energies, demanding clear deadlines from all Parties for a just transition to a low-carbon economic model.

We need Brazil to play its role as a global leader and to commit more than just discourse to truly addressing the climate crisis and its consequences on the lives of the population. This commitment will help to guide collective decisions globally towards a new reality where life, the environment, climate justice, and the prosperity of our societies are central. This will certainly contribute to giving everyone the dignity they deserve and sustainability to our planet.

This letter is signed by (in alphabetical order). Updated on Dec 11th - 7AM BRT:

- 1.100% Amazonia
- 2.350.org Brasil
- 3.A Vida no Cerrado
- 4.ADunicamp- Associação de Docentes da Unicamp
- 5.Agroflorestal Mantiqueira
- 6.Águas Resilientes
- 7.Amazon Watch
- 8.Amazonia Meu Amor Negócios Sociais Ltda
- 9.Articulação das Organizações e Povos Indígenas do Amazonas (APIAM)
- 10.Articulação dos Povos Indígenas do Brasil (APIB)
- 11.Articulação Nacional das Mulheres Indígenas, Guerreiras da Ancestralidade (ANMIGA)
- 12.Associação Acorde Oficinas para o Desenvolvimento Humano
- 13.Associação Alternativa Terrazul
- 14.Associação Amigos de Sete Praias
- 15.Associação da Economia Criativa do Brasil
- 16.Associação de Defesa Etnoambiental Kanindé
- 17.Associação de JovensEngajamundo
- 18.Associação de Silves Pela Preservação Ambiental e Cultural - ASPAC
- 19.Associação do Povo Indígena Mura - APIM
- 20.Associação Do Povo Indígena Uru Eu Wau Wau (JUPAU)
- 21.Associação dos Witoto do Alto Rio Solimões
AWAS
- 22.Associação dos Witotos do Alto Solimões -

AWAS

- 23.Associação Indígena Santo André
- 24.Associação Metareilá do Povo Indígena Suruí
- 25.Associação pra Povos Ameaçados (APA)
- 26.Associação Soluções Inclusivas Sustentáveis
- 27.Associação Stella4Praias
- 28.Avaaz
- 29.Ação Clima Popular
- 30.Baanko Negócios de Impacto
- 31.CAMEJA - Comissão Assessora Mudanca Ecológica e Justiça Ambiental/Diretoria Executiva de Direitos Humanos - Unicamp
- 32.Canal Novo Mundo
- 33.Carbon Trust
- 34.Carpediem Viagens de Experiência
- 35.Centro Brasil no Clima
- 36.Coalizão Não Fracking Brasil (COESUS)
- 37.Coalizão O Clima é de Mudança
- 38.Coletivo de Mulheres Indígenas As Karuana
- 39.Coletivo de Multisaberes Interculturais Levanta Amotara Zabelê
- 40.Coletivo Jovem de Meio Ambiente do Recife
- 41.Coletivo Papo Reto
- 42.Colisão por Direitos
- 43.Comissão Sócio Ambiental da Diocese de SJCampos-SP
- 44.Comitê Chico Mendes
- 45.Comite de Defesa da Vida na bacia do rio Madeira
- 46.Concertação pela Amazônia

47. Conselho de Juventudes pela Ação Climática de São Paulo (CONJUCLI)
48. Conselho Nacional das Populações Extrativistas- CNS
49. Coordenação das Organizações Indígenas da Amazônia Brasileira (COIAB)
50. Correnteza
51. Custódia Autônoma São Benedito da Amazônia
52. Din4mo
53. Eco Pelo Clima
54. Entre Parques BR
55. Essendi
56. FADA Força Ação e Defesa Ambiental
57. Família Rasta
58. Famílias pelo Clima
59. FBOMS - Forum Brasileiro de ONGs e Movimentos Sociais para o Meio Ambiente e Desenvolvimento
60. Federação das Organizações indígenas do Rio Negro - FOIRN
61. Federação dos Povos Indígenas do Pará - FEPIPA
62. Forum Internacional da Juventude Indígena sobre Mudanças Climáticas
63. Forum Mudanças Climáticas e Justiça Socioambiental
64. Forum Sergipano das Religiões de Matriz Africana
65. Fórum Verde Permanente de Parques, Praças e Áreas Verdes (São Paulo - SP)
66. Frente Ambientalista do Vale do Paraíba paulista
67. Frente de Defesa do Direito à Cidade desperta São José
68. Frente Parlamentar Ambientalista do estado de SP
69. Fridays for Future Brasil
70. Fundação Grupo Esquel Brasil
71. GAIA Social
72. Global Shapers Brasília
73. GovAmb/IEE
74. Green Biat
75. Greenpeace Brasil
76. Grupo de Trabalho Amazônico-GTA
77. Grupo Gaia
78. Grupo no WhatsApp voluntariado
79. Grupo Triê
80. Grupo Voluntários do Bem
81. GYBN Brazil
82. Helena
83. INESC - Instituto de Estudos Socioeconômicos
84. Iniciativa PIPA
85. Instituto Alana
86. Instituto Alceu Karipuna-Akari
87. Instituto Árvores Vivas para Conservação e Cultura Ambiental
88. Instituto Cerrado do Brasil
89. Instituto Clima de Eleição
90. Instituto Clima e Sociedade
91. Instituto Climainfo
92. Instituto COJOVEM
93. Instituto Democracia e Sustentabilidade - IDS
94. Instituto DuClima
95. Instituto Ethos de Empresas e Responsabilidade Social
96. Instituto Floresta Viva
97. Instituto Internacional ARAYARA
98. Instituto Lamparina
99. Instituto Lilar
100. Instituto Madeira Vivo
101. Instituto PerifaLAB
102. Instituto Romã de Vivências com a Natureza
103. Instituto Sagres Brasil
104. Instituto Sea Shepherd Brasil
105. Instituto Socioambiental
106. Instituto SustentAção
107. Instituto Talanoa
108. Instituto Terra Luminous
109. Instituto Verdelluz
110. International Rivers
111. Jovens Negociadores pelo Clima
112. Juventude Travessia
113. LabJaca
114. LITIGA - Litigância Climática e de Direitos
115. Megafone Ativismo
116. Movimento Baía Viva (RJ)
117. Movimento da Juventude Indígena de Rondônia
118. Movimento dos Atingidos por Barragens - MAB
119. Movimento Mulheres Negras Decidem
120. Movimento Tapajós Vivo
121. Movimento Urbano de Agroecologia MUDA
122. Movimento Viva Cantareira
123. Mulheres liderando a ação climática em territórios insulares
124. NÃO FRACKING BRASIL
125. Nativas Brasil Associação Brasileira dos Produtores de Sementes e Mudanças Nativas
126. NDR
127. Nossa Terra Firme
128. Observatório de Justiça e Conservação
129. Observatório do Carvão Mineral (OCM)
130. Observatório do Clima

- 131.Observatório do Petróleo e Gás (OGP)
- 132.Observatório dos Trens
- 133.ONG CANASTRA
- 134.Organização de Lideranças Indígenas Mura de Careiro da Várzea - OLIMCV
- 135.Organização indígena Bacia do Içana - OIBI
- 136.PADI agência de mergulho profissional
- 137.PerifaConnection
- 138.Pimp My Carroça
- 139.Plant-for-the-Planet Brasil
- 140.Plataforma Arquitetura e Biosfera
- 141.Povos indígenas Karipuna Poika- Ro
- 142.Projeto Bagagem
- 143.Projeto Saúde e Alegria
- 144.Projeto Subcentro
- 145.Rede Brasileira de Educação Ambiental
- 146.Rede Emancipa de Educação Popular (Núcleo Manaus/AM)
- 147.Rede Fé Paz e Clima
- 148.Rede Nacional de Pesquisa e Conservação de Lepidópteros-RedeLep
- 149.Rede Saúde e Natureza Brasil
- 150.SABS
- 151.SOA Brasil
- 152.Sustainable ocean alliance
- 153.Teia Carta da Terra
- 154.The Good Food Institute Brasil
- 155.UFMG
- 156.Uma Gota no Oceano
- 157.Vem de Áudio
- 158.Visão Coop
- 159.Voz das Comunidades
- 160.WWF-BRASIL