

Press Release

COICA announces the approval of IUCN Motion 068 for urgent action to protect and restore the Amazon by 2030

Gland, Switzerland, September 24, 2025 – The Coordinator of Indigenous Organizations of the Amazon Basin (COICA) announces the approval of Motion 068 at the IUCN World Conservation Congress with the vote of 709 IUCN member organizations worldwide and 99 governments and/or government agencies. In 2021, COICA presented for the first time a motion within IUCN as an indigenous organization, pioneering this advocacy strategy. On that occasion, in the midst of the pandemic, we received the support of 556 civil society and indigenous organizations and 36 votes from government agencies.

Resolution (068) responds to the urgent need to restore the Amazon after the 2023–2024 fires devastated an area larger than Italy and complements IUCN Resolution 129, led by COICA in 2021 to “Avoid the point of no return, protecting 80% by 2025,” with a new time horizon set for 2030. However, it is inevitable to clarify that we expect COP30 this year to be the scenario that enshrines a regional target to avoid an imminent tipping point at the regional level and ensure the life of our peoples, Amazonian citizens, and the planet.

In 2021, IUCN Resolution 129 propelled the initiative “Amazonia for Life: Protect 80% by 2025, avoiding the point of no return.” Indigenous leaders gathered at COICA acted as the architects of a vision that today underscores the urgency of conserving the Amazon rainforest on the global agenda as an irrevocable measure to prevent mass extinction. We are not alone: to date, more than 1,300 organizations worldwide have joined, including around 100 Amazonian indigenous organizations. The tipping point is highlighted as the most important challenge in the Belém Declaration (2023). The UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues issued two resolutions in 2023 urging Amazonian governments to protect 80% of the Amazon, prioritizing the recognition of indigenous territories. Colombia adopted the target in 2023, among other milestones.

Despite these efforts, data four years later show an increase in combined degradation and deforestation, which already reaches 28%. Science confirms that the tipping point occurs when combined deforestation and degradation surpass 20–25% and temperatures rise above 4–5 °C. According to Fany Kuiru, COICA's General Coordinator:

“The Amazon, and we who inhabit it, are in danger of extinction. Protecting and restoring its integrity is a vital urgency for humanity and a debt owed to the peoples who defend it. Resolution 129 opened the path to a joint vision in 2021, and it remains up to governments to protect the Amazon. Four years later, Resolution 068 calls for emergency action to also restore life in this forest and its waters, on which hundreds of indigenous peoples and about 50 million people living in this basin depend. In a world where ethics have been sidelined, we urge our governments and the global community to turn their words into policies in 2025. We live in a tipping point scenario where only time remains to act.”

The role of Indigenous Peoples

The approval of Motion 068 is not only a technical victory, it is a political mandate approved by a majority within IUCN, just like **Resolution 129**. Together, these add to the **Belém Declaration**, which identified the tipping point as the greatest regional challenge; to **Advisory Opinion 32 of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights** (2025), which established the link between the climate crisis and human rights; to the approval of the **Amazon Indigenous Peoples Mechanism (MAPI)** within ACTO, among other regional measures.

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The knowledge systems and governance of more than 500 Amazonian indigenous peoples — including 185 in voluntary isolation or initial contact — have safeguarded life in the Amazon for millennia. Their territories cover one-third of the Amazon, yet lack budget allocations and receive less than 1% of global climate financing, despite conservation results comparable to or greater than those of protected areas. Resolution 068 explicitly recognizes the need to guarantee legal, physical, and financial security for indigenous peoples, placing them at the center of solutions.

Commitments of Resolution 068

The resolution approved by IUCN calls for:

- **Halting deforestation and degradation by 2030**, prioritizing the restoration of critical areas.
- **Excluding extractive activities** in areas of high ecological integrity.
- **Incorporating indigenous territories** into national biodiversity strategies and NDCs, after obtaining free, prior, and informed consent.
- **Strengthening innovative financial mechanisms**, including debt forgiveness and swaps, and pan-Amazon funds with indigenous participation.

Today, with eyes on COP30 in Belém do Pará (Brazil, 2025), Motion 068 becomes the roadmap for governments, multilateral organizations, and civil society to assume binding commitments. COICA calls on governments, financial institutions, civil society organizations, and citizens worldwide to join the implementation of Resolution 068.

About COICA and the Initiative Amazonia for Life: Protect 80% by 2025

COICA was founded in 1984 with the goal of generating policies, proposals, and actions at the local, national, and international levels, from the perspective of Amazonian indigenous peoples, nationalities, and organizations. In 2021, COICA and indigenous leaders from the nine basin countries, together with allied organizations, made an urgent appeal to the international community through IUCN to prevent the tipping point in the Amazon by protecting 80% by 2025. Resolution 129 was approved with the vote of 541 global civil society organizations and 62 ministries. Today, more than 1,300 organizations support the target and the Initiative. The new Resolution, with the vote of 709 organizations worldwide and 99 governments, will enable actions until 2030 to avoid cascading tipping points through the protection and restoration of Amazon ecosystems. The Amazonia for Life Initiative calls for the protection and restoration of 80% of the Amazon by 2030 to prevent the tipping point in the planet's largest carbon sink.

Website: www.amazonia80x2025.earth

Press Contacts / Interview Opportunities

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Protecting and restoring the Amazon is protecting the future of life on the planet.

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