

11th of June, 2025

H.E. André Aranha Corrêa do Lago

President

COP30 Presidency

Government of Brazil

Subject: Loss and Damage a people's priority to be upheld at COP30

Dear André,

As non-governmental organizations, we work on the ground with frontline communities. Our agenda is defined by the urgency and the rights of those enduring the adverse effects of climate change every day. We believe that connecting the international climate regime to people's real lives can be the driver that brings us closer to climate justice and accomplishing the climate goals we set more than 30 years ago.

As we write this letter, we have just visited communities enduring loss and damage in Chile, Honduras, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Colombia and El Salvador and other countries. For us in Latin America loss and damage is personal; it is destroying the livelihoods of our people, painting a bleak future for our youth and depriving us of our right to remain in our land with dignity.

Participation mechanisms are extremely limited, and community access to financial support is not a priority on the implementation of processes. Yet, frontline communities are taking actions to adapt and mitigate climate change and protect biodiversity and are responding to loss and damage out of their own sole pocket. There must be a shift in how we work together and move towards tangible efforts to repair the damage done to our communities and ecosystems.

We encourage you, as COP30 President and your fellow party negotiators to include frontline community needs on loss and damage in the Global Mutirão discussion on the action agenda and in the Circle of Peoples and Finance. An ethical review of the current response to loss and damage must be implemented at COP30, to restore the credibility of this multilateral process. It is not a secret that the current scheme to respond to and repair the harm suffered by our people does

not fit in scale with what is being lived nor to the rights and human dignity that we are all entitled to.

We need to build trust in the UNFCCC process. The creation of the Fund to Respond to Loss and Damage was a step forward. However, the hype of the moment seems to have faded; the funding pledged years ago is still a drop in the ocean compared to what is needed yearly to address loss and damage. Loss and damage funding needs to reach around 200-400 billion USD yearly; the current available funding amounting to 765 million USD does not match real-world priorities. The recurrent effort to avoid responsibility for loss and damage by some UNFCCC parties has given us mechanisms that respond to decades of tactical maneuvering but not to real needs or rights.

Moreover, to restore the credibility of this multilateral process, COP30 must be a moment for assessing and taking stock of what has been created to address loss and damage, and check if the structure, processes and outcomes are fit for purpose to respond to people's everyday realities.

There must also be a discussion led by the Presidency on funding to address loss and damage. For 2025, the FRLD had only 319 million USD available.¹ Loss and damage, a pillar of the Paris Agreement, was not adequately considered in the NCQG decision, impending implementation. Repairing the harm which causes death and destruction cannot be written out as a non-priority.

Parties cannot outsource the responsibility to fund loss and damage. At COP30 there must be substantial discussion and decision by parties on how the existing financial architecture of the climate regime will direct the appropriate scale of funds to address loss and damage. The funding goal must be clear and driven by parties at COP30. We need transparent, duty-driven, predictable, and fit for purpose financial flows for loss and damage. The FRLD has recently begun the Barbados Implementation Modalities (BIM), a 250 million USD first set of bottom-up intervention with the hope to test its approach and include the engagement of climate-vulnerable communities.² However, the BIM will only focus on direct access via direct budget support through national governments and possibly multi-lateral agencies, leaving aside communities' participation. Neglecting community grants - the only modality that truly guarantees access to funding to frontline communities - sends the wrong message to people who are suffering from loss and damage on a daily basis. COP30 must provide guidance to the FRLD to prioritize people at the frontlines and include the community grants modality in the BIM.

¹ [FRLD/B.5/13 Decisions of the fifth meeting of the Board Compendium](#)

² [FRLD/B.5/13 Decisions of the fifth meeting of the Board Compendium](#)

Loss and damage is found in the hands of farmers making furrows but receiving no harvest; it is there in lost dreams for a future when schools are flooded; and it's also there in the broken promises after hurricanes and surge waves destroy communities and people are forced to rebuild alone. After climate impacts happen, frontline communities stand to defend their right to remain and prosper. This should be the focus of a COP30 that strives to connect with real people's needs and priorities. To create real responses to what is lived on the ground.

Repair the harm, save our land. This dark time for the international community requires justice. Opening the space to have discussions on responsibility is the key task for COP30. Latin American and global south countries have said out loud that we have a right to climate reparations. And, that adequate finance for loss and damage is a matter of legal obligation. There is a historic responsibility of this Presidency not to ignore the discussions at the International Court of Justice and the Interamerican Court of Human Rights in the context of the upcoming advisory opinions. Coherence and the rule of law have to be at the heart of the climate regime like never before; success and trust can only come from equity. Any upcoming dialogue led by this presidency should be anchored in the obligation to provide effective remedies and should lead to a multilateral mechanism for climate reparations and financial flows based on justice.

From Latin America and the Caribbean, a region already facing multiple crises exacerbated by climate change—such as food insecurity, biodiversity loss, and forced displacement—we reaffirm the urgency of ensuring that people's needs are at the forefront. Our communities have demonstrated leadership and commitment to climate goals, based on ancestral knowledge, ecosystem protection, and community action. To reform the process of implementation is to put communities first.

We invite you, as the president of COP30, to listen to the priorities and urgency of frontline communities. Let's make repairing the harm and providing fund for communities a priority at COP30.

Signatory organizations:



- AbibiNsroma Foundation
- Acceso a la Justicia
- ACEPESA
- AIDA
- Alianza Ecuatoriana Costa Rica
- Amnistía Internacional
- Asociación Interamericana para la Defensa del Ambiente
- Asia Indigenous Peoples Network on Extractive Industries and Energy (AIPNEE)
- Asociación Ambiente y Sociedad
- Association for Farmers Rights Defense, AFRD
- Brigada Cimarrona Sebastian Lemba
- Caleidoscopio Humano
- Care About Climate
- Center for International Environmental Law
- Centre for Citizens Conserving Environment & Management (CECIC)
- Centro de Desarrollo Humano-CDH
- Clima de Política
- Clima21
- CLIMATE ACTION NETWORK ZIMBABWE
- Climate Refugees
- Climate Trace PR
- Colectivo Poder Habitar
- Community Empowerment and Social Justice Network (CEMSOJ)
- Conectas Direitos Humanos
- Consejo Climático de Juventudes de Costa Rica
- Cosmopolíticas
- Corporación bioered
- Disability Peoples Forum Uganda

- Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR)
- EXCUBITUS DHE
- Fundaci'on Aguaclara Fundación
- GFLAC, Grupo de Financiamiento Climático Para LAC
- Heinrich Böll Oficina Bogotá, Colombia
- Fundación Agua Clara
- Fundación para la Reparación del Sur Global (RepaSur)
- Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
- Good Health Community Programmes
- Greenpeace
- Habitat Defenders Africa (HDA)
- Hábitat Internacional Coalition
- Hawai'i Institute for Human Rights
- Health Poverty Action (HPA)
- INDIGENOUS WOMEN INDIA NETWORK
- InfoSostenible
- Instituto Talanoa
- Justice And Prosperity For All (JP4A)
- La pirámide
- Latindadd
- Manushya Foundation
- Movimiento Ciudadano Frente al Cambio Climático-MOCICC
- Observatorio de Derechos Humanos Universidad de Los Andes
- Oficina para América Latina de la Coalición Internacional para el Hábitat (HIC-AL)
- ONG CEUS Chile
- PAH (Plataforma de Afectados por la Hipoteca)
- Pakistan Fisherfolk Forum
- Plataforma Boliviana Frente al Cambio Climático
- Plataforma Semiaridos de América Latina
- Porgera Red Wara (River)
- Red Latinoamericana y del Caribe por Justicia Económica, Social y Climática - LATINDADD
- Resilient40
- RVNPC/ Rede Vozes Negras pelo Clima
- Spire
- Terranusa Indonesia
- Transforma
- Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC)
- Women's Association Incorporated (PRW/VA INC.)
- World's Youth for Climate Justice

Individual signatures:

- Pedro Malavo Nsene, Punto Focal Nacional de Cambio Climático, Malabo, Guinea Ecuatorial
- Ingrid Hausinger, El Salvador
- Léandre Auguste, France
- Juan Carlos La Rosa, Venezuela
- Martha Patty, Indonesia
- Esteban Francisco Morales Cama, Peru
- Lindomar Dias Padilha, Brazil
- Mary Finley-Brook, United States of America (USA)
- Lisa Henrito, Venezuela
- Jackson Shaa, Kenya
- Ericka Carolina Murillo Rodriguez, Costa Rica
- Raul Cubas, Venezuela
- Gabriela Buada, Venezuela
- Gimena Segnini Leandro, Costa Rica
- Angela Caita, Colombia
- María José Cervantes Calderón, Costa Rica
- Alejandro Aleman, Guatemala
- María D. Maldonado, Venezuela
- Adriana Camacho, Colombia
- Nirel Vásquez, Costa Rica
- Noelia, Spain
- Hildebrando Arangú Santelíz, Venezuela
- Pedro Martin Heras, Spain
- Isabel Abrams, Spain
- Oday, Lebanon
- María Fernanda, Costa Rica
- Christen Dobson, Portugal
- Natalia Andrea López Acero, Colombia
- Adrián Martínez, Costa Rica
- Adriana Vasquez, Costa Rica
- Analyah, United States of America
- María Angélica Cordero Gamboa, Costa Rica
- Ariel Enrique Solano Sancho, Costa Rica
- Wesly Mackenzie Cisneros Quiel, Costa Rica
- Angela Caita, Colombia
- Jose Pablo Diaz Arrieta, Costa Rica

