



Organización Nacional de los
Pueblos Indígenas de la
Amazonía Colombiana

October 12, 2021

“Casa de Pensamiento OPIAC” Cundinamarca – Colombia

MANDATE

FIRST SUMMIT OF WOMEN FROM THE AMAZON BASIN

"Indigenous Amazonian Women in Movement for the protection of our “greatest home: the Amazon”

Within the framework of the Summit of Indigenous Women of the Amazon Basin held from October 8 to 12, 2021, at the OPIAC House of Thought, more than 170 women spokespersons of the 511 indigenous people of the Amazon basin, bases of the Coordinator of the Indigenous Organizations of the Amazon Basin - COICA, consisting of : AIDSESEP - Peru, APA - Guyana, CONFENIAE - Ecuador, CIDOB - Bolivia, COIAB - Brazil, ORPIA - Venezuela, OIS - Suriname, French Guyana and OPIAC - Colombia, along with women from the six departments (provinces) of Putumayo, Caquetá, Amazonas, Guainía, Vaupés, and Guaviare; in the search for effective participation of indigenous women in the Amazon, we present the following results:

- The emergence of the Movement of Indigenous Women of the Colombian Amazon.
- The Construction of the Agenda of Women from the Amazon Basin.

Every human being comes from the womb of a woman, the woman comes from the womb of Mother Earth and for this reason we are the ones who understand and teach the value of life. Women have historically undergone the pain of all abuses and the violation of rights to the Amazon, due to the pressure of a capitalist economic system that devours the jungle and pollutes the great Amazon basin, with the influence of various megaprojects that rapidly devastate all sources of life in the Amazon and the planet.

Faced with this scenario, in which science warns that the Amazon is on the verge of an irreversible turning point that can translate into the regressive death of the entire ecosystem, our role as protectors and defenders of the world's lung is life expectancy for planet Earth.

During the five days of the Summit, women shared the sweet word, the wise thought, the joys and sorrows; We made deep reflections on five major issues: current situation of the Amazon, defense of the territory, human rights, own economies and the impact of COVID and their strategies to face it. In addition, we concreted proposals to continue walking, sharing, and learning in unity, but, above all, recognizing our great strength in diversity as indigenous peoples and in leadership within our organizations.

Today, we confirm that the multiple conflicts and problems that affect our territories and ways of life are shared realities throughout the entire Amazon basin.

Consequently, in unity, from here and now, we, the women from the Amazon basin, ratify and recognize the Amazon for Life Initiative: let's protect 80% by 2025 as a priority and urgency for the planet, and, we build this mandate to raise our voice in an energetic and collective way, to oblige us and demand the following:





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Mandate 1. Establishment of the Fund for Indigenous Women of the Amazon Basin, for the financing and implementation of the common agenda established at this Summit. The fund will have a priority focus on strengthening their own economies, food autonomy and the actions established in the network of women defenders of the Amazon territory. Considering the fundamental role of indigenous women in the fight against climate change, this fund will be constituted with resources from the “Amazon for Life initiative: Let's protect 80% by 2025”, among other sources of financing. The management of the fund's resources and its structuring will be in charge of the Coordination of Women and the Family of COICA and its Council of Women.

Mandate 2. Establishment of a NETWORK of Indigenous Women Defenders of the Amazonian Territory, which will seek to strengthen the fight for the defense of the territory and promote the participation of women in all decision-making spaces at the territorial, regional and global levels. As a key axis of the network, the structuring of leadership schools at the territorial level will be promoted throughout the Basin with the purpose of promoting the training of indigenous women and youth in their own thinking, communication, legislation and rights, among other aspects that set the network as priority. A specialized line of work will be emphasized to confront all forms of violence against women, especially sexual violence.

Mandate 3. Development of the Movement of Original Women of the Colombian Amazon, that arises within the framework of the GREAT SUMMIT OF WOMEN FROM THE AMAZON BASIN and within the affiliated organizational structures of OPIAC, as self-recognition of the role of women as protectors, defenders, caregivers and givers of life in the Amazonian territories. Similarly, the “Movement of Indigenous Women Defenders and Protectors of the Amazon - OPIAC” will be the articulation space to follow up on the road map and the mobilization of women in the six departments of Colombia.

Mandate 4. Parity in the participation of women in all decision-making spaces at the organizational, local, national and regional level. Aware that sustainable processes are built from below, we demand our effective and equitable participation in leadership positions and organizational responsibilities in our base organizations, as well as in COICA, through the full normative recognition of the right to parity. We indigenous women of the Amazon basin are committed to a complementary leadership model, between men and women, for the protection of the territory and the defense of the Amazon. In addition, following this model, we urge governments and international bodies to promote the active participation of indigenous women of the Amazon in the different decision-making spaces.

Mandate 5. Follow-up and monitoring, the effective implementation of the above detailed, will be under the responsibility of the Coordination of Women and Family of COICA and its Council of Women made up of AIDSEF - Peru, APA - Guyana, CONFENIAE - Ecuador, CIDOB - Bolivia, COIAB - Brazil, ORPIA - Venezuela, OPIAC - Colombia, OIS - Suriname and French Guyana.

We are ready to apply this mandate, as our commitment to continue fighting for our territory and turn what is on paper into action. This is a fight that corresponds to all of us for the present and future of our planet.

We are indigenous women, we are resistance.

Amazon alive, Safe Humanity.

