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Draft Political Commitment for the Ninth Summit of the Americas Our Green Future

We, the Heads of State and Government of the Americas recognize the urgent need to conserve and restore ecosystems, and commit:

1. To advance the Glasgow Leaders' Declaration on Forest and Land Use, national deforestation and conservation commitments, and regional efforts to eliminate deforestation and ecosystem conversion, we will strengthen our efforts:
 - a. To work through regional organizations to end deforestation; promote ecosystem restoration; enhance the sustainability of deforestation-linked activities and provide alternative paths for economic growth and development in areas facing ecosystem conversion; incorporate traditional ecological knowledge; and protect Indigenous cultural resources.
 - b. By the end of 2022, to develop, with strong stakeholder engagement especially from Indigenous, Afro-descendent, women and girls, and other disadvantaged communities: 1) a national plan for zero net deforestation by 2030, integrating, as appropriate, each country's nationally determined contribution (NDC), net zero emissions target, national commitments to conserve or protect 30 percent of lands and waters by 2030 (30x30) and Bonn Challenge commitments, and 2) a timeline for developing a corresponding finance and investment plan.
 - c. By COP27, to update, as appropriate, 2030 NDCs to incorporate national deforestation commitments.
 - d. To eliminate deforestation from agricultural production and consumption, including through policy and collaboration with producers, retailers, and commodity trading companies, and present action plans for net-zero deforestation agriculture at a meeting of ministers of agriculture of the Americas in early 2023 to be organized by the Inter-American Institute for Agricultural Cooperation (IICA).
 - e. To report progress annually starting in the second semester of 2022 on eliminating deforestation and propose concrete actions to implement sustainable, nature-based solutions and technologies to reduce deforestation and biodiversity loss consistent with the Principles for Locally-led Adaptation.
 - f. To increase the safety of environmental defenders by working with stakeholders to develop a national plan by early 2023 to 1) respond to and publicly report information from environmental defenders about threats or incidences of violence, 2) enact and enforce laws to protect environmental defenders and the resources they defend, and 3)

require the conducting of environmental impact assessments, where required by law, and complying with legal requirements during and after operations.

2. To decrease the amount of carbon emitted from land use and increase carbon storage, we will:
 - a. Support the role of the agriculture sector in reducing greenhouse gas emissions by improving on-farm practices that increase productivity and efficiency, and integrate inclusive climate-smart agriculture approaches that reduce carbon and methane emissions and enhance resilience to the impacts of climate change.
 - b. Join the Agriculture Innovation Mission for Climate and support increasing aggregate public investment in agricultural innovation for climate-smart agriculture and food systems over the next five years.
 - c. Conserve and restore high-carbon stock ecosystems, including old growth forest, wetlands, peatlands, and primary forest, in consultation with stakeholders including Indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants, including by reducing land conversion pressure through sustainable or alternative economic activities.
 - d. Maximize the potential contribution of nature-based solutions in strategies for achieving ambitious net zero emissions targets, and in the implementation of NDCs aligned with a 1.5 degree C pathway.

3. To harness the power of the ocean and other bodies of water to mitigate climate change, we will:
 - a. Establish an Ocean Plastic Pollution Task Force to coordinate efforts and facilitate exchanges among governments and stakeholders in support of global action to combat the discharge of plastic into the ocean, including through a potential new global instrument.
 - b. Work through the task force to build capacity on waste management; foster circular economy approaches along the plastic lifecycle; develop innovative actions taking into account national circumstances; better understand contributions from land-based, river-based, and sea-based sources of plastic pollution across the region, including abandoned, lost, or otherwise discarded fishing gear; consider the contribution of voluntary policy efforts to the common objective of combatting plastic pollution discharge into the ocean; and support strong stakeholder engagement, especially from Indigenous and other disadvantaged communities.
 - c. Implement pathways to decarbonize the shipping sector, including by establishing green corridors that use cleaner fuels and collaborating on decarbonization of American sea and river ports.
 - d. Conserve “blue carbon” ecosystems, such as mangroves, salt marshes, seagrass beds, and rivergrass beds.
 - e. Engage in the ocean-climate dialogue created under COP26 to promote ocean-based climate solutions and identify opportunities to incorporate those solutions into climate action.

4. To accelerate action on climate change adaptation, we will:
 - a. Finalize, publish, and implement national adaptation plans or strategies to communicate adaptation priorities that build resilience across sectors and scales.

- b. Embed climate risks into sectoral plans, policies, operations and budgets to build resilience across sectors.
- c. Establish robust systems for monitoring and evaluating adaptation actions.
- d. Enhance delivery of climate information services, decision support tools, and early warning systems to improve understanding and response to climate impacts across sectors and scales.
- e. Enhance education and training for the current and the next generation of adaptation policymakers, practitioners, and persons working in related industries.