

## **DECLARATION OF THE APIWTXA INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS - THREATS, PROTECTION AND DEVELOPMENT ON THE AMAZON BORDER**

The Asháninka, Ashéninka, Arara, Kuntanawa, Huni Kuin-Kashinawa, Yaminahua and Amahuaca Indigenous Peoples, represented by the organizations OPIRJ, Apiwtxa, Instituto Yorenka Tasorentsi, AJRBI, Associação Arara do Rio Amônia, ACONADIYSH, ACCY, AACAPPY, AKARIB, AARIB, inhabitants of the border zone between Peru and Brazil, of the regions of the Yurúa and Upper Tamaya (Ucayali, Peru) and Upper Juruá (Acre, Brazil) – who together protect more than three million hectares, in one of the best preserved and most biodiverse regions of the Amazon – met in an assembly of our leaders and authorities, in the face of the serious threats that impact us on both sides of the border of Peru and Brazil, we declare the following:

We, Indigenous Peoples, reaffirm that our territories were never discovered. We are the ancestral owners of our lands, which have been taken from us and destroyed by invaders, extractive companies, and mafias of all kinds.

The threats we face are enormous, but drug trafficking, illegal roads, loggers, miners, and land traffickers, protected by state corruption, continue to destroy our lands and forests. For years they have been assassinating our leaders, without any punishment for their acts, and many of our leaders continue to be threatened by those who want to appropriate our lands and resources. Despite our complaints, and the awareness of the government and law enforcement authorities, the guilty remain unpunished.

We, Indigenous Peoples, reiterate our commitment to a harmonious and peaceful existence with the forest and with those who live in towns and cities. We do not want to take anything away from them, nor do we treat them as we have been treated for centuries. Our peoples are noble, and they do not retaliate upon the abuses and offenses that we have been receiving for years. However, we do not accept that the destruction of the forest also becomes our own destruction.

We, Indigenous Peoples, know that it is possible to make every part of the world the best place to live, that is why we take care of our forest, our home, and by doing so we generate clean air, clean water, biodiversity, wisdom and culture for our countries and the entire world. Our Peoples believe in life. For this reason, we declare to our governments, our allies, our authorities at all levels and the international community, the following points:

1. We demand that the competent authorities of Brazil and Peru comply with their obligation to protect borders, the rights of Indigenous Peoples and the environment. In Brazil, a greater presence of state authorities and action in defence of those of us who inhabit the country boundaries is required. In Peru, we demand that the State monitor, punish and act on local and regional authorities which are constantly violating the rights of the indigenous population.
2. We demand that the Peruvian Government take immediate action for the rights violations suffered by the Sawawo Hito 40 native community, on the border with Brazil. Despite the clear denunciations and evidence of invasions into its territory by

illegal loggers and land traffickers, the Peruvian Judicial Power once again favours the invaders, the criminals, instead of protecting its citizens. We call the attention of the international community for the constant violations of indigenous rights in Peru. We do not accept that impunity for crimes against Indigenous Peoples continues in Peru, Brazil, and other parts of the world.

3. We demand respect for our management of our own development. We do not want an external development model to be imposed on us, which destroys forests, and is abusive and cruel to people. For this reason, we call on the rights recognized by the United Nations and other national and international organizations. It is essential that the rights to health, education, territory, and self-determination are respected. We demand Governments to be at the service of citizens and not to be controlled by companies and other interests that directly affect the self-determination of Indigenous Peoples.
4. We firmly reject that States and companies make decisions about our territories without prior consultation and prior, free, and informed consent, guaranteed by law; as well as other infrastructure and extractive projects that affect us and endanger our existence, such as the planned “Masisea – Alto Tamaya Road” and the “Pucallpa Cruzeiro do Sul Road”.
5. We will not allow the advance of illegal projects such as the “Nueva Italia – Sawawo – Puerto Breu Road” and we demand that all existing terrestrial access routes be closed immediately.
6. In the case of the Peruvian district of Yurúa, we demand from the Regional Government of the Ucayali the immediate construction of the airport in Puerto Breu, along with a greater presence of the Peruvian State and improvement of public services for the population.
7. We demand the Peruvian government to meet the needs of the Alto Tamaya – Saweto indigenous community, also on the border between Brazil and Peru. We demand that the Peruvian Judicial Power condemn the murders of the leaders of the community, whose crime has gone unpunished for seven years, and the expulsion of the illegal loggers and invaders who continue to threaten the lives of Saweto’s inhabitants.
8. Finally, we reaffirm the bonds of brotherhood between the Peoples of the borderlands of the Yurúa and Upper Tamaya regions of Ucayali, Peru, and the Upper Juruá of Acre, Brazil, with which we strengthen the Alliance to protect the lives of Indigenous Peoples, the forests that are our home, and the source of livelihood, as well as helping to maintain the planet’s stable climate on which we all depend. We are committed to working together, as brothers and sisters to face together the threats to our lives and our territories.

**We signed in agreement, on November 19, 2021 - Aldeia Apiwtxa, Marechal  
Thaumaturgo, Acre**

**Associação Ashaninka do Rio Amônia – Apiwtxa**

**Organização dos Povos Indígenas do Rio Juruá - OPIRJ**

**Organización Regional AIDSESEP Ucayali - ORAU**

**Asociación de Comunidades Nativas para el Desarrollo Integral de Yurúa Yono Sharakoiai –  
ACONADIYSH**

**Asociación de Conservación Comunal Yurúa – ACCY**

**Asociación Ambiental de la Comunidad Ashéninka Pocharipankoky Pikiyaco Yurúa –  
AACAPPY**

**Associação Ashaninka de Rio Breu – AARIB**

**Associação Jaminawa Arara do Rio Bagé – AJRBI**

**Associação Kaxinawá do Rio Breu - AKARIB**

**Associação Arara do Rio Amônia - ARARA**



MANIFESTO DO CONGRESSO INTERNACIONAL APIWTXA – AMEAÇAS, PROTEÇÃO E DESENVOLVIMENTO NA FRONTEIRA AMAZÔNICA  
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 DECLARATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF APIWTXA – THREATS, TERRITORIAL PROTECTION AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE AMAZON  
 BORDER REGION  
 16,17,18, 19 /11/2021

Lista de Assinaturas/Firmas/ Signatures

Nome / Nombre / Name	Comunidade e/ou Organização // Comunidad y/o organización // Community and/or organization
Alise Asheminka	APIWTXA Associação Asheminka do Rio Amonia
Nedina Luiza Alves Yauranawa	SITOKORE Organização de Mulheres Indígenas do Acre
Elaine Luiza Alves Yauranawa	APIWTXA - Associação Asheminka do Rio Amonia
KOSHORIHE ASHENINKA	APIWTXA
PETXA ASHANINKA	NOYAMORADA
MEVETXO ASHANINKA	SAWAWO
Silone PIYAKO P. ASHENINKA	APIWTXA
Tonkixari ASHANINKA PIYAKO	APIWTXA
Piyanko Ashaminka	APIWTXA
Beanca Piyako	APIWTXA
Tayzi Piyanko	APIWTXA
Eriya Pinhanta	APIWTXA
Luiza Piyako	APIWTXA
<del>Luiza</del> Luiza Pinhanta	APIWTXA - ASSOCIAÇÃO ASHANINKA DO RIO AMONIA
Francisco Piyako	APIWTXA/OPIRS
M: Dirante do Silvo Pinhanta	APIWTXA



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Moisés da Silva PIVAKO	APIWTXA / ASSOCIAÇÃO ASHAWIUXA DO RIO AMENÉA
Maldete da Silva Branco / Bemki	YORENKA Insorentsi / Estiluto
Andrei Azevalo Peraz	CC.NM. Alto Tamayo - Sawicko
Estefania Azevalo Cushmanba	cc. nm. Alto Tamayo Sawicko
Antonio Ramos	cc. nm. Alto Tamayo - Sawicko
Jorge Batista de Magalhães	Aldeia Sete Estrelas - T.I Kuntorawa
Osvaldo Silva da Conceição	Aldeia Sete Estrelas - T.I Kuntorawa
WILLIAM VILLACORTA PORTOCARRERO	UPPER AMAZON CONSERVANCY - UAC
Arlindo Ruiz Santos	Associação AACAPPY
Enoc Ruiz Santos	CCNM Dulce Gloria
ESAU RAMIREZ TELLO	CCNM San Pablo
ALFONSO RENGIFO PEREZ	A CONADRYSH
Edwin Perez Castro	ACCY - CC. Ori
ISTONY PEREZ QUINONES	A CONADRYSH - CCNM DE "BEU"
JOSE PAVI	Aldeia Sequencia Apalima Arara
Jose Angelo Macedo Avelino	Novo Destino Apalima Arara
Antônia Luciana Marques Avelino	Associação Arara do Rio Araram Apalima Arara
Antônia Elisandiro Lima Mareiro	Novo Destino Apalima Arara



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Kakari Asheninka	APIWtxa Associação do Rio Amônia
ANTONIO PETXANKA ASHANINKA	Nova margem de Rio Leme
ANTONIO PIYAKO	APIWTXA/ASSOCIAÇÃO ASHANINKA DO RIO AMÔNIA
HENRIQUE ASHANINKA	APIWTXA/ASSOCIAÇÃO ASHANINKA DO RIO AMÔNIA
Jcomayuri Asheninka	APIWtxa - Associação Ashaninka do Rio Amônia
JOHN HILDER PEREZ	APIWtxa - Associação Asheninka do rio Amônia
Enisson Piyako Pison Asheninka	APIWtxa - Associação Asheninka do Rio Amônia
Geovani Gomes de Almeida	APIWtxa Associação Asheninka do Rio Amônia
Valdeir da Silva Pinhata	APIWtxa
Isaac da Silva Piyako	Prefeito
HODIYOWA PIYAKO ASHENINKA	APIWtxa
Imyva PIYAKO ASHENINKA	APIWtxa
ERIWIRA ASHANINKA	APIWtxa
JUAN PERÉS TELLO	CCNN STA ROSA
Lastenia Meléndez Davila	Saweto
LITA ROTAS Pinedo	JAFN CN Saweto
Francisco Rodriguez Díaz	<del>JAFN Saweto</del> C.N. SAWETO
Inime Piyako Pinedo ASHENINKA	APIWtxa Associação Asheninka do Rio Amônia



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DAVIWANE ASHANINKA	
Fernando Henrique Kaxinawa	AKARIB Associação Kaxinawa Breu
Maurivaldo Teixeira Ashaninka	APIWTXA/ASSOCIAÇÃO ASHANINKA
IRIVASHE ASHENINKA	APIWTXA / ASSOCIAÇÃO ASHANINKA
ATAQUINOYO ASHANINKA	APIWTXA/ASSOCIAÇÃO ASHANINKA DO RIO AMONEA
Jose Luis Maszal KAXINA	AKARIB ASSOCIAÇÃO KAXINAWA
WARIKO PIXAKO ASHENINKA	APIWTXA ASSOCIAÇÃO ASHANINKA
Kona Pixako Ashaninka	APIWTXA ASSOCIAÇÃO ASHANINKA
TSIWAKIRI ASHANINKA	APIWTXA ASSOCIAÇÃO ASHANINKA
PATKÉ TSI ASHANINKA	APIWTXA / ASSOCIAÇÃO ASHANINKA DO RIO AMONEA
PISHIRO ASHANINKA	APIWTXA/ASSOCIAÇÃO ASHANINKA DO RIO AMONEA
Ramundo Samuira Ama	AIRBI. Buntjal Bote.
Mateuskelchomay Ashaninka.	AKARIB ASSOCIAÇÃO ASHANINKA
WADYAKO KAMAXO	MORADA NOVA/AKARIB ASSOCIAÇÃO ASHANINKA
SIHOMA DEKIGO ASHANINKA	MORADA NOVA/AKARIB ASSOCIAÇÃO ASHANINKA
Miriam Ashaninka	APIWTXA / ASSOCIAÇÃO ASHANINKA KAMPÁ DO RIO AMONIA
Tore homo Thimbo Ashaninka	APIWTXA - Associação Ashaninka Kampa do Rio Amônia
chico Petyanka Ashaninka	Nova morada AAFIS do Rio Buni