

COP30 Wildfire Action Accelerator Pledge: *Speeding and Scaling a Paradigm Shift to Address Wildfire in Tropical Forest Countries*

Issued in Belém, Brazil, by Forest Nations, Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, and Partners

Preamble

In recognition of the COP30 Presidency's imperative for implementation, the cooperative spirit of *Global Mutirão*, and as a direct response to Brazil's Call to Action for Integrated Fire Management and Wildfire Resilience, we, the undersigned forest nations, Indigenous Peoples and Local Community (IPLC) representatives and civil society partners, and civil society organizations join forces to accelerate actions that strengthen resilience to wildfires and safeguard our forests and communities through the Wildfire Action Accelerator, a collaborative initiative designed to turn commitment into concrete action.

Gathered on the occasion of the 30th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), we unite in recognition of the escalating threat posed by wildfires to our people, our forests and biodiversity, our economies, and our shared climate goals.

Wildfires are no longer seasonal occurrences. While uncontrolled wildfires pose escalating risks, context-appropriate use of fire remains integral to many traditional land-management systems. Fire itself is fast becoming a defining feature of the global climate crisis—affecting forest-rich regions and Key Biodiversity Areas across the Amazon, Congo Basin, Mesoamerica, Southeast Asia, and boreal and Mediterranean landscapes, including dry tropical forests and savanna-woodland mosaics across Africa and Asia. As acknowledged by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the FAO, and the UNEP *Spreading Like Wildfire* report, fire regimes are intensifying in frequency, scale, and unpredictability.

In solidarity and shared responsibility, we affirm our commitment to elevating wildfire resilience to the same level of urgency as deforestation, biodiversity loss, and adaptation. This declaration builds upon existing global frameworks, including the Glasgow Leaders' Declaration on Forests and Land Use, the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, the Kananaskis Wildfire Charter adopted by the G7, and Brazil's Call to Action on Integrated Fire Management and Wildfire Resilience. We issue this pledge with the conviction that decisive, collective action is not only possible—but imperative. All actions under this pledge will be guided by respect for national priorities, legal frameworks, and governance systems of participating nations.

Geographical Scope

The Wildfire Action Accelerator will bring together the pledge's signatories to channel technical and financial resources into priority regions, driving concrete action in line with the four shared commitments outlined below.

This initiative will prioritize tropical forest countries, with an initial focus on the Amazon Basin, the world's largest tropical forest region and one of the most fire-threatened. While the first stage emphasizes Amazonian cooperation and resilience, the scope is not exclusive. In the spirit of South-South collaboration, the Wildfire Action Accelerator remains open to supporting and sharing lessons with other tropical regions facing similar wildfire risks.

Our Shared Commitments

1. Center Traditional Knowledge and IPLC Leadership

We affirm that Indigenous Peoples, Local Communities, and Afro-descendant People are the stewards of fire-resilient landscapes and must be recognized as equal partners in shaping fire governance. Their ancestral knowledge, cultural practices, gender roles, intergenerational knowledge, and territorial rights are essential to any legitimate and effective fire management strategy.

We commit to integrating traditional fire knowledge into national wildfire policies, approved fire management plans, and legal frameworks, securing legal recognition of customary fire practices, and co-designing inclusive governance mechanisms that respect the rights and voices of IPLCs.

2. Mobilize Sustainable and Equitable Fire Finance

We recognize that current funding flows overwhelmingly favor emergency response over prevention, preparedness, and community-based resilience. This imbalance must change.

We commit to promoting the development of national and regional funding instruments for integrated fire management, while also advocating for new and expanded global financing—potentially through dedicated windows in mechanisms such as the GEF, GCF, and multilateral development banks. Financial flows shall be aligned with national public finance and governance frameworks to ensure transparency, accountability, and complementarity with national climate and forest programs. We further support public-private models that incentivize long-term investment in fire resilience and sustainable forest economies, such as REDD+ and the Tropical Forest Forever Facility.

3. Embed Wildfire Management into National Climate and Forest Policy

We acknowledge that wildfire risk is a systemic challenge requiring cross-sectoral coordination. It must be embedded within broader frameworks for climate resilience, land governance, and sustainable development.

We commit to integrating wildfire governance into Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), REDD+ strategies, and forest policy frameworks; harmonizing institutional mandates and coordination across ministries; and transparently reporting wildfire-related emissions under the Enhanced Transparency Framework of the Paris Agreement.

4. Advance Global and Regional Collaboration

We recognize the value of coordinated international action. We affirm our support for existing platforms such as the Forest and Climate Leaders' Partnership (FCLP), The Global Fire Management Hub, the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO), the G20 Global Initiative on Reducing Land Degradation and Enhancing Conservation of Terrestrial Habitats, the AU Great Green Wall Initiative and IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Centre (ICPAC). We support further alignment and international cooperation on wildfire resilience.

In furtherance of this enhanced cooperation, we commit to advancing Tropical Dialogues to Speed and Scale Wildfire Response, contributing to shared learning, progress tracking, and South-South cooperation, with the vision of evolving these into an inclusive Global Dialogue on Wildfire Governance and North-South cooperation. These exchanges will foster stronger partnerships across regions, recognizing that global resilience depends on collaboration between tropical and non-tropical nations. We further support the creation of regional fire knowledge exchanges to amplify good practices and locally led solutions.

Milestones for 2030

In line with our political commitments, we set forth the following joint milestones to be achieved by 2030:

- At least 20 forest nations will formally recognize traditional fire knowledge within national policy frameworks.
- A minimum of \$100 million in climate and private finance will be mobilized for community-based fire resilience, with clear benefit-sharing mechanisms.
- At least 5 jurisdictions will allocate a portion of carbon revenues to fire prevention and early response.
- Wildfire risk will be embedded in NDCs or REDD+ strategies in at least 15 countries.
- A Tropical Dialogue on Wildfire Governance will be operational by 2026, complemented by regional peer-to-peer platforms.

This declaration is a call to action from civil society, Indigenous Peoples, local communities, and forest nations, united in partnership. To States, donors, investors, and climate finance institutions: we urge you to recognize wildfire resilience as a strategic climate priority. To all signatories and partners: let this pledge serve not merely as a statement of intent, but as a foundation for practical, measurable, and lasting transformation on the ground.

Together, let us ensure that the forests we protect today will remain standing for future generations—resilient, sovereign, community-driven, and transparently governed.

Signed in Belém, Brazil, this 13th day of November 2025.

In partnership with:

