

# OE FOUNDATION AT FICAMAZONIA

Mocoa, Putuamyo, Colombia October 2019



The OE Foundation is a non-profit organisation based in Colombia, which has been working for 25 years with the main objective of defending the rights of Mother Earth, hand in hand with the wisdom of the elders and leaders of the native peoples of Abya Yala (America).

Was invited to be part of the first edition of the FICAMAZONIA FESTIVAL 2019. To coordinate and hold the space for the Amozones Elders Council. Gathering 9 Elders and leaders from the original peoples of the Amazon areas of Ecuador, Colombia, Venezuela and Peru. In order to strengthen the relationships between the ancestral communities leaders, for the exchange, share and offer the festival's participants their wisdom, knowledge, traditions and sacred plants through ceremonies and lectures.

The main goal of the Elders was create a manifest to communicate their statements, based on their laws of origin in their cosmogonies, to promote and defend Mother Earth's rights, for the well being of all human race and the sustainability of our planet.

This document will be the starting point for the next "Ancestral Wisdom Dialogue of the Elders Council" at FICAMAZONIA FESTIVAL 2020.

# MOCOA ELDERS MANIFEST

"THE ORIGINAL PEOPLES HAVE NO FRONTIERS"



***"We, grandmothers and grandparents, as legitimate spiritual authorities of the original peoples of the Amazon, Muina Murui, Siona, Cofan, Kamentsa, Inga, from Putumayo, Caqueta and Amazonas departamentos, U'wa from Boyaca and the Huottojas from Atures Municipality in the Venezuelan Amazon.***

***Gathered on October 3,4,5 and 6, 2019 at the headquarters of the Indigenous Women's Association "Chagra of life" in Mocoa municipality, Putumayo, Colombia.***

- *Attending to the Mother Earth and our ancestors call.*
- *Acting under the mandate, example of wisdom left by our wise "elders" of the ancestral knowledge, for the defense and care of the territory and life on planet earth.*
- *Based on our own rights, law of origin, thought and cosmogony of our peoples, as it was given to us by our creator.*
- *Considering that Mother Earth is the one who provides us with life, and being herself a living being: that manifests, feels, thinks.*
- *Understanding the need to take consciousness and retake our original forms for the defence of territory and life.*
- *Assuming our co-responsibility in the care of life, and the survival of the original peoples.*
- *Thinking, that peace cannot be built away from defence and protection and territory, water, air, jungle, moorland and snowy mountain. If territory and water is life for our peoples, peace necessarily depends on it.*
- *Remembering the role we all have in our communities: to guarantee life, the transmission of knowledge, language, culture, medicines, autonomy and self-education.*
- *Considering that our body is the first territory that must be free of violence, threats and risk.*



# MOCOA ELDERS MANIFEST



*"Protected by the rights recognised in 169 agreement of 1989 ILO, the political constitution of Colombia in 1991 and the political constitution of Venezuela 1999, the United Nations declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples in 2007, the 160 decree law of 1994, the 2164 decree of 1995, the decree law 4633 of 2011, the 2333 decree of 2014, the T-025 verdict of 2004, the STC-4360 of 2018 among others of the Colombian State and the Organic Law of Indigenous Peoples and Communities of 2005 of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.*

## WE MANIFEST

- *That our wealth and the foundation of the existence of our life is territory, water, spirituality and our original cultures.*
- *That the territories, rivers, mountains, lakes, lagoons, wetlands, snowfalls, moorlands are fundamental for life, having a given order with our mother tongues.*
- *That our creator made his daughter Mother Earth so that we were born in her, and as good daughters and sons we will take care of her and respect her, under her law and norm of origin.*
- *That our spiritual medicinal plants such as yage, coca, tobacco, capi, yopo traditional uses and customs are not of demonic practices as some sectors of society has expressed by the old and new forms of colonisation, and currently have been put at risk, for the misuse and commercialisation by people outside our cultures.*
- *That the natives are not folk objects for image use and exploitation, but subjects of collective rights and authorities in our ancestral territories.*
- *That the original peoples shared territories since ancient times, so we never had borders*
- *With concern that mining and other mega projects are suspending the legalisation and expansion of ancestral indigenous territories.*
- *That meanwhile the government is illegitimate we will not sit down to talk with them.*

# MOCOA ELDERS MANIFEST



## WE DEMAND

- *The right to self-demarcation, ordering, extension, legalisation and delivery of collective property titles of our ancestral territories, which we do from our law of origin.*
- *The fulfilment, respect and recognition from the modern states, to the traditional ways of life, habits and customs of our original nations.*
- *Stop the entry of transgenic seeds, fungicides, processed foods to our territories, as this is destroying the life, health, biodiversity, autonomy and food sovereignty of our nations.*
- *That our own indigenous education system, the chagras, conucos, houses of knowledge, houses of healing, malocas, churuatas, liwiesibo, be respected, strengthened and promoted, as fundamental places for the exercise of knowledge transmission.*
- *Respect and recognition of traditional spiritual knowledge doctors, recognised by their communities, and as environmental authorities of their territories.*
- *That the states trace methodologies to accomplished Mother Earth's rights, recognising, since ancient times, the planet as the great maloka of humanity.*
- *The non-criminalisation of our fights and demands towards the government, as the non-persecution and stigmatisation of our leaders as well.*
- *The recognition of soil, subsoil and airspace as an integral part of our territories.*
- *The closing, cessation, and cancellation of the licenses and concessions granted to transnationals, for the exploration and exploitation of the natural resources of our mother earth.*
- *That the Amazon be declared free of mining and energy companies concessions.*



# MOCOA ELDERS MANIFEST



## NO TO FRACKING IN OUR MOTHER EARTH.

- *Coordination exercises between traditional environmental authorities and the government for the control of illegal mining.*
- *Implementation of the safeguard plans for the peoples which are declared at risk of disappearing physically and culturally.*
- **Commitments between our communities:**
- *Share this preliminary document, and the document prepared by ASOMI in each of our territories, to strengthen them.*
- *Hold new meetings of knowledge dialogues, to unify and retake the council of Abya Yala traditional spiritual authorities formed in Guatemala in 1995 and 1997 in Araracuara, heart of the Colombian Amazon.*
- *To guide our peoples on the use of politicking, as a means of deception in popular, local and national elections, for the election of rulers who take advantage of our needs and do not represent the legitimate interests of the communities.*
- *Strengthen the exchange of traditional seeds*
- *To resume the indigenous unity, the fight, the visibility of displacements, confinements, persecutions, violation of fundamental rights and discrimination in national and international organisations as well.*
- *Educate children and youth to defend and protect our mother earth, and identify and act against all forms of violence that occur in our territories.*
- *Strengthen the transmission of mother tongues in the practice of our uses and customs to the new generations.*
- *Strengthen the voice of indigenous women in different organisational and community spaces."*

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MOCOA, PUTUMAYO, COLOMBIA OCTOBER 2019



Since the meeting Elders Council in 1995 in Guatemala, leaders and elders of the Abya Yala council said, it was time for ancestral knowledge and plants to reach large cities. In order for the people to realise that "the integral health of being" it is only possible in a harmonic connection with the environment and with Mother Earth as a living element.

**Attending to their prophecies**, it is time to awaken this consciousness globally, for the sustainable continuity of our planet. The prophecies of "The Return of the Times" and "The Eagle and The Condor" manifest the need of the union of all peoples and the transmission of ancestral wisdom, for the balance of the planet and the human health.

The OE foundation contributes to this purpose generating spaces for meeting and dialogue of ancestral knowledge with the elders of the original peoples of Abya Yala in different countries. The aim is to create bridges of knowledge, wisdom and heart worldwide in order to bring ancestral wisdom to new generations.



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