

Statement Of Participation In The For Nature Coalition Of States

A Space for Dialogue among Member States on Evolving Approaches to Humanity's Relationship with Nature, including a Proposed United Nations Universal Declaration of the Rights of Nature

Recalling the relevant United Nations General Assembly resolutions on Harmony with Nature since 2009, including resolution 64/196 of 21 December 2009 and, most recently, resolution 79/210 of 19 December 2024;

Mindful of the triple planetary crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, the ongoing international dialogue on humanity's relationship with Nature, and evolving national, regional and international approaches to the Rights of Nature as a possible complement to existing environmental protection frameworks and efforts to safeguard the interests of present and future generations;

Recognizing the diversity of legal traditions and national experiences among Member States;

Considering that an open, transparent, inclusive and State-led intergovernmental process could enable Member States to explore the possible content, scope and added value of a proposed United Nations Universal Declaration of the Rights of Nature;

Recognizing the work undertaken by civil society, academia, scientists, Indigenous Peoples, local communities and governments in advancing international dialogue on humanity's relationship with Nature;

The undersigned Member States hereby express their willingness to participate in the For Nature Coalition of States.

The For Nature Coalition of States is an informal, decentralized group in which interested United Nations Member States can share experiences, discuss, and reflect together.

The Coalition aims to help Member States exchange views on evolving approaches to humanity's relationship with Nature, including the proposed intergovernmental negotiation process towards a proposed United Nations Universal Declaration of the Rights of Nature.

The Coalition seeks to facilitate constructive dialogue among interested Member States from all regions and groupings of the United Nations.

The Coalition seeks to support open, transparent and inclusive intergovernmental dialogue among interested Member States and relevant stakeholders, consistent with the objectives and principles of the Harmony with Nature process.

The Coalition is an informal initiative of interested Member States and is distinct from any Group of Friends or other mechanism that may be established within the Harmony with Nature process.

The Permanent Mission of Panama to the United Nations supports outreach and technical coordination for the Coalition, working with participating Member States. The Mission provides regular written updates to designated contact points, circulates relevant information and convenes meetings of the coalition.

Meetings will normally be held quarterly, unless otherwise agreed by participating Member States, and may take place virtually or in person. Participation in meetings is encouraged but remains voluntary. Communication may also take place through email, written updates and briefings, as appropriate.

No participating Member State exercises authority over another. The Coalition operates on the basis of consultation, mutual respect and voluntary cooperation, and no collective position is attributed to a participating Member State without its consent.

Participating Member States:

- a. Recognize the diversity of legal, cultural, philosophical, sociological, and policy approaches among Member States, and acknowledge the contributions of Indigenous Peoples' worldviews, traditional knowledge, and stewardship practices to the evolving international dialogue;
- b. Support open, transparent, and inclusive multilateral dialogue under the Harmony with Nature process;
- c. Seek to exchange national experiences, perspectives, lessons learned, and good practices concerning evolving approaches to humanity's relationship with Nature;
- d. Intend to contribute constructively to international reflection and, as appropriate, to the proposed intergovernmental process concerning a proposed United Nations Universal Declaration of the Rights of Nature, without prejudging its content or outcome;
- e. Affirm that participation in the Coalition is voluntary, non-binding, and conducted on an equal footing among participating Member States;
- f. Reaffirm the full sovereignty of each participating State over its national positions, policies, and future decisions;
- g. Understand that participation in the Coalition does not constitute endorsement of any specific legal framework, negotiated outcome, future instrument or text, including the final content of any proposed United Nations Universal Declaration of the Rights of Nature that may be considered within the United Nations system; and
- h. Understand that participation in the Coalition does not affect the positions or voting decisions of participating Member States in the General Assembly or in any other intergovernmental process.

Discussions within the Coalition are conducted in a spirit of mutual respect and without prejudice to formal national positions in any negotiating context.

Signature of this Statement, or another written expression of interest communicated through diplomatic channels, is sufficient to indicate participation in the Coalition.

Signed statements and expressions of interest should be transmitted to the Permanent Mission of Panama to the United Nations and the Minister of the Environment via emails to:

Marilyn Thompson - mthompson@panama-un.org,

Ana Luisa Aguilar - aaquilarc@miambiente.gob.pa

Participating Member States may designate a main contact person at their Permanent Mission to the United Nations for ongoing discussions. Each State should provide the name, title, and contact details (e.g., email address) of this representative to the Permanent Mission of Panama to facilitate communication within the Coalition. States may withdraw from the Coalition at any time by providing written notice to the Permanent Mission of Panama.

First Participant Member States

New York City, 24 September 2026

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