

## **Declaration of Asunción by the Parties and Institutions Associated with the IAI on Water Security, Biodiversity, and Climate Resilience in the Americas**

Within the framework of the 33rd Meeting of the Conference of the Parties of the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research (IAI), held in Asunción, Paraguay, from May 29 to 30, 2025, with IAI member countries and associated institutions, and drawing on previous events—the side event “Regional Priorities in Early Warning Systems, Droughts, and Sustainable Development” and the workshop “Scientific Diplomacy for Drought Management in the Agricultural, Energy, and River Transport Sectors”, co-organized by the IAI, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the Global Change Research Center (CICAG) of the National University of Asunción, and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)—guided by the principles of scientific excellence, international cooperation, open data sharing, regional resilience, and environmental governance in the Americas, we express the following:

Considering:

1. That recent WMO reports on the state of the global climate and in Latin America and the Caribbean show an increase in the intensity and frequency of extreme weather events such as droughts, floods, forest fires, and heat waves, which have caused significant human and economic losses, as well as negative impacts on biodiversity in the Americas.
2. Monitoring atmospheric parameters and extreme weather events is important to reduce disaster risk and ensure a timely response to safeguard water, food, health, and energy security in pursuit of sustainable development.
3. The positive advances in the region in energy generation and transition, with a 69% share of renewable energy (WMO, The State of the Climate in Latin America and the Caribbean 2024) and, at the same time, the risks posed by droughts and other extreme weather events to energy sources and distribution, especially in relation to water, solar, and wind resources.
4. The relevance of the United Nations Global Initiative “Early Warning for All” (EW4All), which seeks to ensure that all people are protected by multi-hazard early warning systems by 2027, and whose implementation in the Americas requires regional cooperation, institutional capacity building, technology transfer, financial resources, and the integration of scientific, indigenous, and traditional knowledge.
5. The synergies and cooperation between the mandates of the IAI, WMO, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the World Health Assembly Global Action Plan on Climate Change and Health, and the Rio Initiative on Biodiversity, Climate Change and Drought, which strengthen coherence, complementarity, and innovation through integrated and intersectoral approaches to achieve more resilient and sustainable Americas.

*We reaffirm our commitment to:*

1. Strengthen regional early warning and response systems for extreme weather events by leveraging transdisciplinary science, including meteorology, hydrology, economics, social sciences, and other related disciplines, with key sectors such as health, water, sanitation, agriculture, energy, transportation, and other sectors linked to risk reduction and climate resilience.

2. Promote transdisciplinary approaches that integrate diverse sectors and knowledge systems—from the academic, public, private, civil society, and indigenous and traditional sectors—to generate knowledge and tools for climate risk reduction and sustainable management of ecosystems and water resources.
3. Promote scientific diplomacy initiatives that foster regional dialogue and collaboration at the science-policy nexus, the exchange of good practices, and the strengthening of cooperation mechanisms among countries, in support of national and subnational planning and commitments to multilateral agreements on the environment and climate change.
4. Promote the exchange of open and interoperable data, methodologies, products, and services related to meteorology, hydrology, the environment, social issues, and other relevant areas, and strengthen cooperation with national meteorological services and other relevant agencies to improve the flow of information and services tailored to user needs, considering national legislation and policies and international agreements and initiatives in the Americas.
5. Support governments and other actors in formulating evidence-based policies and plans to address the challenges of global environmental change. Strengthen the contribution of Indigenous and traditional knowledge to improve early warning systems, adaptation strategies, and climate resilience. Mobilize and coordinate financial and non-financial resources to implement scientific programs and projects, training processes, and other initiatives that respond to the above points.

*We call on*

the Parties to the IAI, other States, multilateral organizations, the private sector, research networks, civil society, and other relevant institutions to support and engage in this collaborative effort to advance toward a more resilient, equitable, and sustainable future for the Americas. Asunción, May 30, 2025.