RES/EXT-III MRE-OTCA/01

CONSIDERING:

The Declaration of the IV Meeting of Presidents of the States Parties to the Amazon Cooperation Treaty (ACT), adopted in Belém on August 8, 2023; and

Resolution RES/XIV MRE-OTCA/02, adopted at the XIV Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, which resolved "to establish a Working Group composed of representatives from the Governments of the Member Countries to evaluate a Financial Mechanism aimed at Amazon cooperation within the framework of the ACTO, which allows for the raising and capitalization of non-reimbursable financial resources from various sources, including voluntary contributions from the Member Countries, international cooperation resources, development banks, and other donors endorsed by the Member Countries, as well as innovative mechanism for climate action financing with the purpose of financing projects, programs, studies, and other national and regional initiatives, strengthening human and institutional capacities, as well as the permanent exchange of experiences among Amazon countries";

RESOLVES TO:

- 1. APPROVE the initiation of the process to establish an ACTO Programmatic Fund, under the terms outlined in Annex A, to implement projects, programs, studies, and other initiatives in all Member States, aimed at sustainable development, the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, forests, and water resources, urgent action to prevent the Amazon from reaching a tipping point, combating deforestation and illegal activities in the region, economic development with social inclusion, and the generation of income and employment through social participation mechanisms, particularly those involving Indigenous Peoples and local and traditional communities, as well as the strengthening of ACTO.
- 2. INSTRUCT the Working Group established under RES/XIV MRE-OTCA/02 to continue its work to define the strategic lines of the Programmatic Fund; draft the statutes for the operation of its bodies; determine the selection and contracting criteria for the Financial Administrator; define guidelines for funding sources; and prepare the elements of an initial resource mobilization strategy; without prejudice to other tasks that may be defined by the Group itself.

- 3. REQUEST the Working Group to submit to the Amazon Cooperation Council, for decision, by October 15, 2025, a timeline and implementation plan outlining the stages required for the full establishment of the Programmatic Fund; a recommendation regarding the potential Financial Administrator to be selected; and a proposal for the Fund's final name.
- 4. INSTRUCT the Permanent Secretariat to publicly launch and initiate the resource mobilization process for the ACTO Programmatic Fund during the 30th United Nations Climate Change Conference COP30, to be held in Belém, Brazil, in November 2025.
- 5. AUTHORIZE, likewise, the Permanent Secretariat to establish, in the short term, an Administrative Fund, under the terms indicated in Annex B, and to instruct the Secretariat to inform the Member Countries of its launch and, thereafter, to report periodically on its returns, the use of its resources, and the audits conducted.
- 6. REQUEST the Working Group, with support from the Permanent Secretariat, as part of its continued task of evaluating a Financial Mechanism, to propose to the Amazon Cooperation Council parameters for articulating the Administrative and Programmatic Funds with existing or developing initiatives within ACTO—particularly those derived from the Belém Declaration—and to examine, at the international level, innovative financial instruments for the future of the Organization.

ANNEX A PROGRAMMATIC FUND (PF) PROPOSAL

1. BACKGROUND

The Presidential Declaration of Belém (2023) decided to establish a Working Group (WG) to evaluate a financial mechanism aimed at Amazonian cooperation within the framework of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO). The mechanism is intended to attract and capitalize non-reimbursable financial resources from various sources, including voluntary contributions from the Member States, international cooperation, development banks, and other donors endorsed by the Member States. Its purpose is to finance national and regional projects, programs, studies, and initiatives; strengthen human and institutional capacities; and promote continuous experience-sharing among Amazonian countries.

In the second phase of its nine sessions, which began on October 10, 2024, the WG examined the establishment of a Programmatic Fund (PF), or trust fund, with new resources to be mobilized.

This document proposes the basic profile of such a Programmatic Fund, based on the discussions held within the WG and inspired by lessons learned from various international funds whose representatives were invited to provide input during the WG¹ sessions.

This proposal is submitted for the evaluation of the Member States and its potential consideration and approval at the Meeting of ACTO Ministers of Foreign Affairs, to be held in Bogotá, Colombia, in August 2025.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMMATIC FUND

2.1 General Objective

To establish a long-term, institutional source of predictable and sustainable funding for implementing projects, programs, studies, and other initiatives across all Member States. These shall support sustainable development, the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, forests and water resources, urgent action to prevent reaching the Amazon's tipping point, combating deforestation and illegal activities in the region, and promoting inclusive economic development and income/employment generation. Emphasis will be

¹ Within the framework of the Working Group (WG), successive meetings have been held with representatives of national and regional trust funds from South America, Central America, the Caribbean, as well as from global-scale funds.

placed on social participation mechanisms, particularly those involving Indigenous Peoples and local and traditional communities, while strengthening ACTO itself.

2.2 Specific Objectives

- Mobilize and channel resources toward projects for conservation, restoration, and sustainable use of the Amazon biome;
- Promote initiatives of varying scale to address common challenges;
- Foster sustainable economic growth, job and income generation, and improved living standards for inhabitants of the region;
- Coordinate and complement specific initiatives with national and international environmental funds in the region;
- Strengthen the institutional capacities of ACTO and other development-promoting bodies in the Amazon;
- Among others.

3. STRATEGIC LINES

The PF's strategic lines will be defined by the Member States, reflecting an integrated vision of sustainable development aligned with national and regional priorities.

These lines will ensure consistency with the mandates of the 2023 Belém Declaration, which emphasized topics such as climate change, biodiversity and forests, bioeconomy, entrepreneurship, public security, water, Indigenous Peoples, public health, and science and innovation, among others.

4. STRUCTURE OF THE PROGRAMMATIC FUND

The PF will follow a trust fund structure, in line with Paragraph 7 of the Belém Declaration, which calls for "the mobilization and capitalization of non-reimbursable financial resources from various sources." It will also align with the predominant structures of other similar international funds reviewed by the WG.

The PF will be composed of a Governing Board, a Financial Administrator, a Technical Committee, and an Independent Auditor.

The Member States of ACTO will define the operating statutes of each of these bodies and the core principles of PF governance.

4.1 Governing Council:

The Governing Board will serve as the highest decision-making body and will be composed of one representative designated by each Member State and one representative from the Permanent Secretariat.

It will receive professional and administrative support from the Permanent Secretariat for the executive and technical management of the PF.

The main responsibilities of the Governing Board will be to:

Negotiate financial donations to the PF with international and national, public and private entities;

- Appoint, supervise, monitor, and evaluate the Financial Administrator;
- Establish investment policies, guidelines, and portfolios to be implemented by the Financial Administrator;
- Design and implement the institutional arrangements required for the execution of the project cycle funded by the donations received;
- Ensure compliance with internal regulations for the identification, selection, approval, monitoring, and evaluation of programs and projects by the Technical Committee;
- Approve and oversee the disbursement of resources to programs and projects;
- Periodically report, in accordance with agreements signed with donors, on the management of financial resources and project performance; and
- Ensure the conduct of annual independent audits of both the Financial Administrator and the projects under implementation.

The Governing Board will report its activities periodically to the Member States and may delegate specific tasks to the Permanent Secretariat, as well as to other ACTO bodies.

4.2 Financial Administrator:

The Financial Administrator will be responsible for the financial management of the PF, under the decisions, oversight, and evaluation of the Governing Board.

This must be a recognized entity specialized in financial resource administration and investment, and will be exclusively dedicated to the PF's financial management².

The Member States of ACTO will define the selection criteria and contracting parameters for the Financial Administrator, ensuring clarity of responsibilities, prudent investment principles, accountability, ethical standards, and the ability to disburse funds to all Member States.

The Financial Administrator's responsibilities, to be defined in a contract approved by the Governing Board and signed by the PS/ACTO, will include:

- Managing the PF's accounts;
- Investing funds in accordance with the policy approved by Member States;
- Disbursing funds to the PS/ACTO;

² In addition to this modality of partial outsourcing, the WG evaluated other possible arrangements, such as the creation of a new legal entity linked to ACTO; a specialized internal body within ACTO; or the complete outsourcing of the PF's functions through an agreement with a specialized entity.

- Submitting regular reports; and
- Performing other tasks defined by the Governing Board...

4.3 Technical Committee:

The Technical Committee will be responsible for managing the full project cycle in executive coordination with the PS/ACTO and will:

- Identify, prioritize, and select programs, projects, studies, and other initiatives to be funded by the PF;
- Monitor and evaluate these activities; and
- Submit recommendations for approval to the Governing Board.

Its composition will be determined by the Governing Board, to which it will report periodically.

4.4 Independent Audit:

This will be an external entity selected through an international public tender organized by the Governing Board. It will:

- Conduct annual audits of the Financial Administrator's management; and
- Conduct annual audits of project performance.

5. FINANCIAL TARGET AND FUNDING SOURCES (2025–2035)

5.1 Financial Target

Based on the experience of national funds in Amazonian countries and in consultation with ACTO's General Secretariat, a provisional fundraising goal of USD 250 million is proposed for the 2025–2035 period.

The PF Governing Board, with support from the PS/ACTO and the Financial Administrator, will lead the design, implementation, evaluation, and regular updating of a fundraising strategy based on systematic knowledge of the international donations market. This strategy will be used to confirm and, if necessary, revise the financial target³.

5.2 Potential Funding Sources

Based on the experience of other trust funds in Latin America and the Caribbean, the PF could access the following sources of funding in its first 10 years of operations, under guidelines approved by the Member States:

- Multilateral and bilateral international cooperation funds;
- International financial organizations;

³ The Permanent Secretariat/ACTO will have an expert to contribute to the formulation of the fundraising strategy for the future financial mechanism.

- International philanthropic organizations;
- Private sector contributions;
- Non-traditional donors (e.g., foundations);
- Voluntary in-kind contributions from Member States;
- Other relevant international green finance instruments; and
- Resources from the Administrative Fund, which will serve as seed capital.

The Fund will not require any mandatory financial contributions from Member States.

6. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR RESOURCE USE

The portfolios of projects, programs, studies, and other initiatives to be financed by the PF will be defined by the Member States.

The Member States will also set the eligibility and priority criteria for accessing funding, in alignment with the Objectives and Strategic Areas mentioned above.

The Financial Administrator must guarantee the allocation of resources without restrictions or regulations from any external entities beyond ACTO Member States, thereby ensuring the full accessibility of funds for all Member States.

7. IMPLEMENTATION

If the creation of the Programmatic Fund is approved at the Meeting of ACTO's Ministers of Foreign Affairs, the Member Countries will establish a timeline to fulfill the necessary stages for launching the fund.

This timeline will include deadlines for tasks such as selecting the Financial Administrator and beginning the fundraising process, taking into account the COP30 on climate change, which will be held in the Amazonian city of Belém, Brazil, in November 2025.

The final name of the Programmatic Fund will be determined by the Member States prior to its full establishment.

ANNEX B PROPOSAL FOR AN ADMINISTRATIVE FUND (AF) TO BE ESTABLISHED IN THE SHORT TERM

1. BACKGROUND

The Permanent Secretariat of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (PS/ACTO) currently holds savings accrued over recent years, due to unspent expenditures—arising from various factors—and belated payments of national contributions.

In view of this, the Working Group (WG) created to assess a financial mechanism—established under the Presidential Declaration of Belém (2023)—discussed in the initial phase of its 9 sessions (starting October 10, 2024), the possibility of creating an Administrative Fund (AF), or trust fund, to generate periodic returns on the aforementioned resources.

This document presents a basic profile proposal for such an Administrative Fund, submitted for the evaluation of the Member States and its potential consideration and approval at the Meeting of ACTO Foreign Ministers, scheduled for next August in Bogotá, Colombia.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE FUND

2.1 General Objective

To generate additional resources for ACTO through the creation of a trust fund whose returns will help finance the organization's annual budget, under authorization from the Member States and without requiring any additional financial contribution from them.

2.2 Specific Objectives

- Implement an initial fund with resources from OTCA, invested through a trust that will be held in custody by a Fiduciary Entity, selected by the Member States and managed by the PS/OTCA.
- Ensure that, in the short term, OTCA's savings can be invested in a fund that is easily and immediately applicable, based on principles of transparency, efficiency, and sustainability in the use of financial resources.

3. STRUCTURE OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE FUND

3.1 Trust Fund

The Administrative Fund will be based on a financial agreement in which a financial institution, acting as the fiduciary entity, will manage OTCA's assets, acting as the trustor, until previously agreed conditions are met, in order to provide legal security and guarantees for the transactions carried out.

3.2 Main Features

The Administrative Fund will have the following main features:

- Capital: Resources provided by ACTO¹, as the trustor, which will be placed in the fiduciary entity as an initial investment to generate periodic returns.²
- Fiduciary Entity: Authorized to conduct financial operations in both U.S. dollars and Brazilian reais, acting as the trustee, managing and administering the resources according to the conditions established in the trust agreement. The entity will act as the custodian of the initial investment and will continuously report on the status of the investment to the Permanent Secretariat, which in turn will provide quarterly reports to the Member States.
- Investment Term: The fund will have a duration defined in a contract with the fiduciary entity, ensuring immediate³ availability of the investment whenever required by the Organization.
- Fund Nature: It will be a fixed-term fund⁴, with the objective of obtaining interest earnings in addition to the invested amounts. Access to both principal and interest will be possible when requested by the Organization.
- Returns: The returns generated will be used according to OTCA's needs, to help cover the annual budget of the Permanent Secretariat, which may include operational and maintenance costs, salary payments, or support for specific projects (e.g., ORA), among others.
- Transparency and Auditing: The fund will be subject to periodic audits and accountability to OTCA Member States, ensuring transparency in its administration.

3.3 Proposed Investments

The fund's investment strategy will focus on low-risk, highly liquid financial assets, ensuring capital preservation and the generation of stable returns.

The monetary distribution, investment management, and financial projections will be defined by the Member States, based on a proposal by the Permanent Secretariat, at the time of signing the trust agreement.

These parameters may be reviewed in future budget cycles.

¹ The actual amount will be communicated by the PS/ACTO in light of the savings available at the time of the establishment of the Administrative Fund.

² This same amount may be used as seed capital for the Programmatic Fund.

³ These types of contracts typically establish that the investment may be withdrawn within 30 business days after the request

⁴ One of the sine qua non conditions is that ACTO may request the release of the investment if the Organization's assets are affected or at risk due to its inability to cover costs. Contracts usually establish a penalty for withdrawing funds before the term stipulated in the agreement.

The exact values for exchange rates, interest rates, and financial projections will be updated based on market conditions.

For this purpose, the investment proposal presented by Banco do Brasil will be taken into consideration.

3.4 Possible Advantages

The expected advantages of the proposed fund include:

- Immediacy: The fund can be operational in the short term, according to the implementation guidelines provided below.
- Economy: It will not require any additional financial contribution from the Member States.
- Financial Sustainability: It will provide stable and predictable resources to help cover the Organization's budget.

The AF's investment strategy will include a comprehensive risk management policy.

4. IMPLEMENTATION

If approved by the Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of OTCA, the Administrative Fund will be established promptly by the PS/OTCA.

The PS/OTCA will inform the Member States about each phase of the AF's establishment (contract drafting and signing; fund transfer; account opening; definition of investment strategies and risk management policies; start of investments; etc.).

5. OPERATION

Once the AF is established, the PS/OTCA will maintain an administrative system to monitor investment performance; track returns and disbursements; and apply auditing mechanisms, which will be reported to the Member States on a quarterly basis.

RES/EXT-III MRE-OTCA/02

CONSIDERING:

The Resolution RES XIV MRE-OTCA/03 of the XIV Ordinary Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, by which a working group was created to advance the examination of an institutional link between the Amazonian Parliament and the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO);

That the outcome of mentioned examination underscores the importance of prioritizing spaces for dialogue between the Amazonian Parliament and ACTO;

That the Member Countries consider relevant the role that Amazonian Parliamentarians play in the promotion of sustainable and inclusive development of the Amazon, through the legislative action of their national Parliaments;

RESOLVES TO:

ESTABLISH a periodic dialogue channel between the Amazonian Parliament and ACTO, with the aim of facilitating mutual understanding and the exchange of information on matters of common interest;

REQUEST the Permanent Secretariat to present a proposal of guidelines for establishing this dialogue, for consideration by the Member Countries and subsequent submission to PARLAMAZ;

REQUEST the Permanent Secretariat to inform the Pro Tempore Presidency (PTP) of the Amazonian Parliament of the content of this Resolution.

RES/EXT-III MRE-OTCA/03

CONSIDERING:

That through RES/XIV MRE-OTCA/05, dated November 23, 2023, it was decided to establish an intergovernmental Working Group composed of representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs to prepare a proposal for modernizing and strengthening the institutional framework and governance of the Organization in its various instances;

RESOLVES TO:

APPROVE and ADOPT the following Regulation for the Special Commissions of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization.

INSTRUCT the Permanent Secretariat of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization to take the necessary measures for the implementation and dissemination of the new Regulation.

Regulation of the Special Commissions of the ACTO

I. CONSTITUTION AND PURPOSE

Article 1. The Special Commissions (SCs) of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO) are technical coordination bodies that serve as auxiliaries to the Amazon Cooperation Council (ACC).

Article 2. The Special Commissions are created by resolution of the Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, pursuant to Article XXIV of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty (ACT).

Article 3. The resolution creating a Special Commission shall establish its theme, objectives, and specific purposes, which must fall within the provisions of the ACT.

II. COMPOSITION

Article 4. Each Special Commission shall be composed of one (1) principal delegate and one (1) alternate delegate from each Member Country. These delegates must be officials with technical experience from the national competent entities in the respective Commission's subject matter.

Article 5. Member Countries shall duly notify the appointment or replacement of their representatives to the Special Commissions through a diplomatic note addressed to the ACTO's Permanent Secretariat (PS/ACTO).

Article 6. Special Commissions shall have a rotating presidency, lasting one year, with the possibility of a single re-election, depending on the agreement of the Member Countries, following alphabetical order, starting with the Member Country holding the presidency for the first time.

Article 7. Special Commissions shall be supported by the Coordinator from the PS/ACTO responsible for or assigned to the respective thematic area.

Article 8. Member Country representatives shall report the activities carried out within the framework of the Special Commissions to their respective Permanent National Commissions or other competent bodies, to ensure national follow-up.

III. OPERATION

Article 9. Special Commissions shall hold at least one regular annual meeting. They may also hold extraordinary meetings as needed, upon proposal by at least one Member Country and supported by four others.

Special Commissions may hold a high-level session with the participation of Ministers or senior officials from relevant sectors of the Member Countries, or their delegates, as deemed appropriate by the Commission.

High-level sessions shall aim to assess the scope of activities conducted during the period and to issue general directives, within their thematic scope, providing guidance for the work of the Special Commissions, aligned with the ACT objectives and the resolutions and decisions of ACTO's corresponding bodies.

Article 10. Meetings may be held in-person, virtually, or in a hybrid format. In-person or hybrid meetings shall be held in the Member Country holding the presidency or another country by prior agreement with the presidency, or at PS/ACTO headquarters.

The host Member Country for in-person or hybrid meetings shall cover local organizational costs, without prejudice to the possibility of obtaining alternative sources for complementary funding. Travel and accommodation expenses for delegates shall be covered by their respective Member Countries.

Exceptionally, PS/ACTO may offer to finance the participation of experts needed for the development of specific actions under the scope of the meetings, depending on the case.

Article 11. Ordinary and extraordinary meetings shall be convened at least two months and thirty days in advance, respectively, through PS/ACTO diplomatic channels.

The meeting notice shall include a draft agenda prepared by the Commission presidency, with the support of PS/ACTO or the respective thematic coordinator. The draft agenda shall reflect ACTO's bodies' decisions or guidance, the Commission's and Subcommissions' own agreements or deliberations, and possible contributions from Member Countries.

Article 12. PS/ACTO shall provide secretarial services to the Special Commissions' meetings, including document distribution and the preparation of reports and minutes, through procedures that may include the use of electronic media and digital signatures.

Article 13. Meetings shall be held with the participation of all Member Countries. If delegations include more members beyond the principal and alternate representatives, their composition must be communicated via diplomatic channels through PS/ACTO.

With prior agreement by Member Countries, Special Commissions may invite consultants or technical experts in their relevant topics to contribute to specific agenda points.

Article 14. Special Commissions shall adopt their agreements by unanimity.

IV. ATTRIBUTIONS

Article 15. Special Commissions shall have the following responsibilities:

- a. Approve their Work Plan in accordance with the ACT, the strategic agenda, the ACTO's declarations, decisions and other norms, and the priorities established by the own Commission.
- b. Implement their Work Plan autonomously when actions are funded by the competent sectors in each Member Country.
- c. Submit to the relevant ACTO bodies the activity proposals requiring resources from PS/ACTO or international cooperation, through the designated Coordinator.
- d. Deliberate and express themselves through agreements, which shall have as scope the work of the Special Commissions, or recommendations to other ACTO bodies.
- e. Establish Subcommissions for specific matters.
- f. Propose, within their area of responsibility, the establishment of new Amazonian Authorities Networks.
- g. Promote and encourage technical cooperation among sectoral entities on relevant issues falling under the respective Special Commission's themes or on matters of general interest to the Member Countries.
- h. Exchange and disseminate information, experiences, studies, and national and international research among its members and competent sectoral entities from Member Countries.
- i. Evaluate programs, projects, and technical activities under their competence and propose corrective measures if needed.
- j. Identify and recommend access to cooperation mechanisms and external funding sources for consideration by relevant ACTO bodies.

V. LINKAGE WITH THE AMAZON NETWORKS OF AUTHORITIES

Article 16. The Amazon Networks of Authorities whose scope of work falls under one or more Special Commissions shall coordinate their actions with the respective Commissions and channel the recommendations and initiatives that demand considerations and approval to ACTO's decision-making bodies through PS/ACTO or the respective thematic Coordinators.

RES/EXT-III MRE-OTCA/04

CONSIDERING:

That by virtue of RES XIV MRE-OTCA/5, dated November 23, 2023, it was decided to establish an intergovernmental Working Group composed of representatives from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, to prepare a draft Regulation on the Succession Process, based on previous work, to strengthen the institutional framework and governance of the Organization in its various instances.

RESOLVES TO:

APPROVE and ADOPT the following Regulation on the Succession Process for the Executive Positions of the PS/ACTO.

INSTRUCT the Permanent Secretariat of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization to take the necessary measures for the implementation and dissemination of the new Regulation.

REGULATIONS ON THE SUCCESSION PROCESS FOR EXECUTIVE POSITIONS OF THE PS/ACTO

I. SCOPE OF APPLICATION

Article 1. These regulation governs the succession process of the Executive Officers of the Permanent Secretariat of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (PS/ACTO.

II. **DEFINITIONS**

Article 2. For the purposes of this regulation, the following definitions apply:

- 1. Executive Officer: A natural person of one of the Member Countries of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty, unanimously elected to hold an executive position in the PS/ACTO for a fixed term, in accordance with the legal framework of the Organization. Executive Officers shall include the Secretary-General, the Directors, and the Coordinators in thematic areas.
- **2. Assumption of office:** The formal act, carried out by the PS/ACTO, by which the Executive Officer officially assumes his/her functions. Such assumption of office shall be recorded in the corresponding Deed of Assumption prepared by the PS/ACTO, which shall be circulated through official channels for the knowledge of the Member Countries.
- **3. Vacancy:** Situation in which a position is not occupied by an Executive Officer, resignation, removal, expiration of mandate, permanent absence, or other grounds provided for in the applicable regulations.
- **4. Absence:** Situation in which an Executive Officer is temporarily absent from his or her duties, due to leave, vacations, suspension, and other grounds provided for in the regulations in force.

III. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Article 3. This regulation is based on the following General Principles:

1. Alphabetical rotation and alternation of positions:

The nomination for the post of Secretary-General shall follow a system of alphabetical rotation among Member Countries; nominations for the other executive positions by Member Countries not holding the post of Secretary-General shall be subject to free negotiation;

2. Adequate representation: Institutional balance shall be ensured in the succession process, under equal conditions, so that each Member Country

shall have the right to nominate a candidate to hold an executive position within the PS/ACTO structure;

- **3. Gender equity:** The positions held by Executive Officers shall reflect, to the extent possible, the numerical parity between men and women;
- **4. Appropriate profile:** The Executive Officers indicated by the Member Countries must meet the profile requirements for the respective position, as defined in the Administrative and Financial Instrument and other regulations in force:

IV. EXERCISE OF MANDATES, VACANCIES, AND ABSENCES

Article 4. The Executive Officers shall serve their full term of office, with impartiality, under the terms and conditions provided in the applicable regulations.

First paragraph: In the event of vacancy or absence, the following provisions shall apply:

- 1. The Executive Director shall cumulatively replace the Secretary-General on an interim basis;
- 2. One Director shall cumulatively and on an interim basis replace the other; in the event of the vacancy or absence of both Directors, the Secretary General shall appoint Coordinators to replace them cumulatively and on an interim basis;
- 3. One Coordinator shall cumulatively and on an interim basis replace another, as designated by the Secretary-General;

Second paragraph: In cases of vacancy prior to the end of the term, the Member Country that appointed the holder of the position shall propose a substitute candidate to complete, as holder, the remaining term, provided that such remainder is for at least 9 months, following the procedure provided for in this Regulation.

Third paragraph: Unforeseen cases of vacancy and absence shall be considered by the Secretary General, who, if deemed necessary, shall consult with the Executive Director, the Administrative Director, or the Legal Adviser, and shall notify the Member Countries for their knowledge and eventual provisions.

V. APPOINTMENT AND APPROVAL

Article 5. Member Countries shall submit to the PS/ACTO the name and curriculum vitae of the candidates for executive positions six (6) months prior to the termination of the outgoing mandates.

First paragraph: The PS/ACTO shall circulate the proposals of candidates for consideration by the Member Countries, which may comment on them within a non-extendable period of three (3) months from the date of the communication sent by the PS/ACTO.

Second paragraph: The approval of nominations for executive positions shall

take place within the framework of a Meeting of the Amazon Cooperation Council. In the event that unanimity is not reached in that instance, the candidacies shall be submitted to a Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs.

Third paragraph:

In the event of withdrawal of a candidacy for Secretary-General by a Member Country, the next Member Country in alphabetical order shall submit a candidate for the position.

Article 6. Upon approval of the new Executive Officers, PS/ACTO shall take the necessary provisions to ensure the allocation of resources and tasks required for a smooth and timely transition.

VI. TERM OF OFFICE

Article 7. The term of office of the Executive Officers shall be 3 years, non-renewable, commencing upon the end of the mandate of their predecessors.

VII. AMENDMENTS TO THIS REGULATION

Article 8. Amendments to this Regulation may be considered by the Amazon Cooperation Council and approved by the ACTO Meeting of Foreign Ministers.

FINAL AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

First. The current holders of the executive positions shall complete their term of office on March 1, 2028.

Second. The alphabetical rotation for the position of Secretary-General shall proceed beginning with the Member Country following that which nominated the current office-holder.

The Member Countries agree that a possible alphabetical rotation for the positions of Executive and Administrative Director shall be reviewed within ten (10) years from the entry into force of this Resolution, without prejudice to previous revisions that may be agreed upon unanimously.

Third. Article 2 of the Regulation of the Permanent Secretariat of the ACTO is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Article 2. PS/ACTO shall be represented and directed by the Secretary-General of ACTO, who shall be a national of one of the Member Countries.

First paragraph. The Secretary-General and the other Executive Officers shall be elected in accordance with the Regulation on Succession.

[...]"

RES/EXT-III MRE-OTCA/05

CONSIDERING:

That in paragraph 2 of the Declaration of the IV Meeting of Presidents of the States Parties to the Amazon Cooperation Treaty (ACT), adopted in 2023, it was decided to strongly support the institutional strengthening of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO);

Resolution RES XIV MRE-OTCA/05, adopted at the XIV Ordinary Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, established a Working Group composed of representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the Member Countries, to strengthen the institutional framework and governance of ACTO in its various instances;

That there is a need to review, ammend, and update the regulations and administrative instruments of ACTO in order to strengthen the institutional structure of the Organization, seeking the institutionalization and articulation of the instances, procedures and positions created by the dynamics of the functioning of ACTO and its Permanent Secretariat;

That to this end, it is required that the Working Group constituted by RES XIV MRE-OTCA/05 continue its work;

RESOLVES TO:

RENEW and EXTEND the mandate of the Working Group so that it may continue the process of institutional strengthening of ACTO, preparing a proposal for the modernization of the Permanent Secretariat of the Organization and the updating of its organizational chart, taking into account the technical proposal prepared by the PS/ACTO.

ENTRUST the Working Group with the revision and, if necessary, the preparation, standardization and/or updating of the Regulations of the existing bodies of the Organization and those in the process of creation, as well as the preparation of an organizational chart of ACTO that articulates such bodies.

INSTRUCT the Permanent Secretariat to continue to provide support to the Working Group on the Institutional Strengthening of the Organization until the completion of its work.

DETERMINE that the Working Group prepares the proposals within a period of six months, for them to be duly submitted to the consideration at the next Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the ACTO Member Countries.

RES/EXT-III MRE-OTCA/06

CONSIDERING:

That Resolution RES/XIV MRE-OTCA/08, adopted at the XIV Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, provided for the reactivation of the Special Commission on Amazon Health (CESAM);

RESOLVES TO:

WELCOME the reactivation of the Special Commission on Amazon Health (CESAM) and the Quito Statement on Comprehensive and Sustainable Health in the Amazon Region, adopted by the Ministers and Health Authorities of ACTO Member Countries on July 30, 2025.

INSTRUCT the Special Commission, within the framework of its reactivation, to adapt its functioning to the Regulation of Special Commissions.

URGE CESAM to continue its work and promote actions aimed at strengthening health in the Amazon

URGE CESAM, in the design and implementation of its work plan, to promote and guarantee coherence and complementarity with the relevant mandates of the corresponding instances of ACTO, within the framework of their respective competences.

PROMOTE the articulation of CESAM and other relevant regional and international health processes in which ACTO Member Countries participate.

CONGRATULATE the Republic of Ecuador for holding the Meeting of Ministers and Health Authorities of ACTO Member Countries, as well as for its appointment as President pro tempore of CESAM.

RES/EXT-III MRE-OTCA/07

CONSIDERING:

The commitment undertaken by the Presidents of the Amazon Countries in the Declaration of Belém, during the 2023 Amazon Summit, to cooperate in matters of public security and the prevention, suppression, and investigation of cross-border illegal activities in the Amazon, including environmental crimes, particularly paragraphs 61 to 67 thereof;

Resolution RES XIV MRE-OTCA/09, adopted during the XIV Meeting of Foreign Ministers of ACTO, which created the Special Commission on Public Security and Cross-Border and Transnational Illicit Activities in the Amazon Region;

The importance of strengthening effective and complementary responses that contribute to the comprehensive protection of the Amazon and the well-being of its inhabitants.

RESOLVES TO:

WELCOME the important progress made by the Special Commission on Public Security and Transnational and Cross-Border Illicit Activities in the Amazon Region, which, at its first ordinary meeting held in Leticia, Republic of Colombia, on June 9, 2025, defined its operation, governance, a work plan, and approved the Statement of the Special Commission on Public Security and Cross-Border and Transnational Illicit Activities in the Amazon Region, thereby providing guidance for the regional agenda of ACTO against crimes affecting the Amazon Region and its populations;

RECOGNIZE the Republic of Colombia for its appointment as Pro Tempore Chair of the Special Commission;

COMMEND the Republic of Colombia for the organization, in Leticia, on June 9, 2025, of the Meeting of Ministers and Authorities of the Public Security Sectors of the States Parties

and for convening the first meeting of the Special Commission on Public Security and Transnational and Cross-Border and Transnational Illicit Activities in the Amazon Region;

INVITE international organizations and cooperation partners to provide technical and financial support, provided there is a previous unanimous agreement between the Member Countries, to the initiatives arising from the Commission and its Subcommissions, with a view to strengthening regional capacity for the prevention, control, investigation, and sanction of illicit activities that threaten the Amazon.

RES/EXT-III MRE-OTCA/08

CONSIDERING:

The Resolution RES/XIV MRE-OTCA/11, adopted at the XIV Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs the Member Countries of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization, within the framework of the Belém Declaration, recognizes the strategic importance of promoting food and nutrition sovereignty and security in the Amazon Region, with an emphasis on strengthening sustainable, inclusive, and resilient food systems; and establishes the creation of an intergovernmental working group, composed of representatives designated by the Member Countries, for the development of an Amazon Strategy for Food and Nutrition Sovereignty and Security, incorporating integrated approaches and mechanisms to ensure the engagement and active participation of Indigenous Peoples, traditional peoples and communities, as well as State bodies and national and subnational food and nutrition security councils, programs, networks, forums, and collectives of civil society organizations, academia, and the private sector, where they exist.

RESOLVES TO:

APPROVE the Amazon Strategy for National Food and Nutrition Sovereignty and Security ("the Strategy"), with its objectives and pillars, presented by the Working Group, and recognize it as the Regional Strategy for Food and Nutrition Security and Sovereignty, in order to promote food and nutrition sovereignty and security in the Amazon as a strategic priority for the Member Countries of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO).

REQUEST Member Countries to designate focal points from the relevant sectors, following the national regulations of each Member Country, to implement the Strategy.

REQUEST the designated authorities to submit to the Amazon Cooperation Council, no later than the first quarter of 2026, a work schedule and a preliminary roadmap for the implementation of the Strategy.

INSTRUCT the Permanent Secretariat, in coordination with Member Countries and strategic partners, to mobilize technical cooperation to support the operation of the Strategy and its participatory development process.

PROMOTE the coordination of this initiative with other ACTO regional agendas and

mechanisms, as well as other relevant international mechanisms, with a view to strengthening the implementation of inclusive, sustainable and sovereign public policies on food and nutrition in the Amazon Region, including those on the sustainable management of water and fisheries resources.

REQUEST the Permanent Secretariat to create an Amazon Food and Nutrition Security Module within the Amazon Regional Observatory (ARO), with a view to promoting regional cooperation and the exchange of diagnoses, knowledge, experiences, and good practices among Member Countries in the area of food and nutrition security.

INSTRUCT the Permanent Secretariat to request continued technical support from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), especially with regard to providing guidance, expertise, and tools for the facilitation, monitoring, and participatory implementation of the Strategy, which will be kept updated with the official figures of the Member Countries.

INSTRUCT the Permanent Secretariat, in coordination with the designated focal points, to establish a regular schedule of meetings, ensure adequate technical preparation, and provide semiannual reports to the Amazon Cooperation Council on progress in the implementation of the Strategy.

RES/EXT-III MRE-OTCA/09

CONSIDERING:

The commitment undertaken by the Presidents of the Member Countries in the Belém Declaration, of 2023, in particular paragraph 16, which highlights the importance of strengthening cooperation in science, technology and innovation in the Amazon region, through permanent and structured mechanisms;

Resolution RES XIV MRE-OTCA/16, adopted during the XIV Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO), which established the creation of the Intergovernmental Technical-Scientific Panel on the Amazon within the scope of ACTO (PITCA/ACTO), recognizing the need to broaden the scientific evidence base and to promote the integration of different forms of knowledge for the formulation of effective public policies in the Amazon Region;

RESOLVES TO:

INSTRUCT that the Working Group created within the scope of Resolution RES/XIV-MRE-OTCA/16 continue its work until October 31, 2025, which will allow the finalization of the draft rules of procedures, work plan, and schedule, as necessary actions for the functioning of the Panel, and that these proposals be presented in the framework of the first meeting of the PITCA/ACTO for deliberation.

INSTRUCT that the first meeting of the PITCA/ACTO take place within the framework of COP30 (Conference of the Parties) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

DETERMINE that the Permanent Secretariat report on the progress of the implementation of this resolution at the next Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the ACTO Member Countries

RES/EXT-III MRE-OTCA/10

CONSIDERING:

That Resolution RES/XIV MRE-OTCA/19 confirmed the establishment of the Amazon Network of Water Authorities of ACTO Member Countries (RADA), created on August 6, 2023, in the preparatory process for the Belém Summit, and whose Presidency is exercised by the Plurinational State of Bolivia;

That on the occasion of its first meeting held in Brasilia, in April 2024, the RADA was consolidated as an initial space for participation and coordination among technical entities of the Member Countries, to plan the activities, both operationally and technically, envisaged to broaden dialogue, exchange of information, experiences, and promote cooperation in the sustainable management of water resources in the region;

That the RADA approved its Regulations, adopted the Work Plan (2024-2026) and its respective schedule of activities, which define the main activities for the development of the key themes and identified outputs, in accordance with the objectives of the Network;

That at its third meeting, held in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, in June 2025, the RADA approved the Regional Protocols of the Amazon Hydrological Network (RHA) and the Water Quality Network (RCA) of ACTO, as well as the Amazon Training Plan for Integrated Water Management, agreeing to their adoption;

The importance of the implementation and updating of the *Strategic Action Program* (SAP): Regional Strategy for the Integrated Management of Water Resources in the Amazon Basin, for the permanent coordination and cooperation of the Member Countries in the field of water resources.

RESOLVES TO:

RECOGNIZE the progress achieved and the work carried out by the Presidency of the RADA, currently exercised by the Plurinational State of Bolivia, by the representatives of the Network and the Specialized Technical Support Panel (PTA), as well as the support provided by the Permanent Secretariat in its functions as Secretariat.

ESTABLISH that the RADA, through the Specialized Technical Panel (STP) and with the support of the Permanent Secretariat, shall coordinate the processes of data and information

exchange for the development and full operation of the Amazon Hydrological Network and the Water Quality Network, promoting capacity-building and the strengthening of monitoring networks and early warning systems that may be established, in line with the thematic module on water resources of the ARO.

ENTRUST the RADA, with the support of the Permanent Secretariat, to coordinate and articulate with the Member Countries the development of the White Paper on the role of ACTO in cooperation for the Management of Water Resources in the Amazon Basin/Region, and to promote the implementation of the Regional Mechanism for Permanent Coordination for cooperative water resources management within the scope of ACTO. To this end, it shall propose a time-bound roadmap with the different activities and responsibilities for the process;

INSTRUCT the Permanent Secretariat to manage, in coordination with ACTO's corresponding bodies, the mobilization of financing and partnerships with other organizations required for: i) the operational implementation of the Regional Protocols of the Amazon Hydrological Network and the Water Quality Network of ACTO; ii) the implementation of the Amazon Training Plan to strengthen and build capacities of the different actors; iii) the continuity of the Amazon Network of Water Authorities (RADA); iv) the strengthening of the water resources module of the ARO; v) the organization of meetings and activities provided for in the RADA's regulations and work plan; and, vi) the improvement, modernization and strengthening of the National Monitoring Networks.

INSTRUCT the Permanent Secretariat to promote the articulation of the National Actions with the Strategic Actions Program, as well as the identification and mobilization of resources for their implementation.

DETERMINE that the Permanent Secretariat reports on the progress of the implementation of this resolution at the next Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Member Countries of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization.

RES/EXT-III MRE-OTCA/11

CONSIDERING:

The Resolution RES/XIV MRE-OTCA/23, which established a Working Group composed of representatives of the Governments of the Member Countries, with the aim of initiating a dialogue for the development of a framework for regional cooperation in the areas of certification and valorization of Amazon products, recognition of ecosystem services and the promotion of joint investments in regional innovation and research networks, integrating scientific knowledge and traditional knowledge.

RESOLVES TO:

APPROVE the Strategy for a Sustainable Development Economy in the Amazon, an instrument agreed upon and adopted by Member Countries, which defines strategic guidelines and cooperation mechanisms aimed at strengthening sustainable value chains, mobilizing financial resources, facilitating access to differentiated markets, and promoting science, technology, and innovation.

RECOGNIZE the work carried out by the Working Group established by Resolution RES/XIV MRE-OTCA/23 and REQUEST the Member Countries to designate focal points from the relevant sectors, following the national regulations, for the effective regional implementation of the Strategy through an *ad hoc* space for joint dialogue with the support of the Permanent Secretariat of ACTO.

DETERMINE that the Permanent Secretariat of the ACTO report on progress in the implementation of this Resolution at the next Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Member Countries of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization.

RES/EXT-III MRE-OTCA/12

CONSIDERING:

The Declaration of the XIV Meeting of the Presidents of the States Parties to the Amazon Cooperation Treaty (ACT), adopted in Belém on August 8, 2023, by which it was decided to reaffirm the commitment to the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation and Mutual Assistance for Integrated Fire Management;

Resolution RES/XIV-MRE OTCA/24 of the XIV Ordinary Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO), of November 23, 2023, which instructed the Member Countries to advance in the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation and Mutual Assistance for Integrated Fire Management among Member Countries; to promote the creation of the Amazon Network for Integrated Fire Management (RAMIF) and its Technical Working Group; and, to develop a work plan and a schedule for the implementation of its objectives;

That during the First Regional Meeting of RAMIF, the 2024-2026 Network Work Plan was approved, which includes four fields of action with their respective strategic actions, highlighting that of Timely Response and Mutual Assistance in the event of Forest Fires, to develop a proposal for an operational mechanism for support among Member Countries in preparedness and response to forest fires;

RESOLVES TO:

REAFFIRM the support of ACTO Member Countries for the Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation and Mutual Assistance for Integrated Fire Management among Member Countries (MIF MoU).

SUPPORT the establishment of the Amazon Network for Integrated Fire Management (RAMIF) and the adoption of its biannual RAMIF work plan (2024 – 2026) for the implementation of the MIF MoU.

INSTRUCT the PS/ACTO, in conjunction with the Technical Group designated for this purpose, to support progress in the negotiations among Member Countries on the Operational Understanding on Cooperation and Mutual Assistance for Preparedness and Timely Response to Forest Fires in the Amazon Region (OU) as one of the instruments for the implementation of the MIF MOU, in line with the commitments made in the Belém Declaration.

DETERMINE that PS/ACTO, in coordination with the Presidency of RAMIF, shall report on the progress in the implementation of this Resolution at the next Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization.

RES/EXT-III MRE-OTCA/13

CONSIDERING:

The Resolution RES/XIV MRE-OTCA/25 of the XIV Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, created a Working Group to develop an Amazon Strategy for Disaster Risk Management in the face of the El Niño phenomenon and other associated climatic phenomena, among other activities;

That the Working Group has achieved significant progress in the implementation of the aforementioned Resolution, and that it is important to ensure continuity of its activities;

That the Permanent Secretariat should continue to support the Member Countries to advance efforts in disaster risk management that will enable the completion of the Strategy and its subsequent implementation;

The preparation and implementation of the Strategy requires technical information, provided by the Member Countries and the corresponding instances of ACTO, to strengthen regional cooperation and support decision-making for comprehensive disaster risk management.

RESOLVES TO:

REAFFIRM the mandate of the Working Group to continue its work aimed at the development of the Regional Strategy for Disaster Risk Management in the face of the El Niño phenomenon and the implementation of the corresponding provisions of Resolution RES/XIV MRE-OTCA/25.

INSTRUCT the Working Group, in the process of preparing the Strategy, to consider the need to coordinate efforts between Member Countries and the corresponding instances within the scope of ACTO, as well as other relevant regional and subregional platforms, avoiding duplication of efforts and taking advantage of existing data, studies, and tools, taking into account the importance of evaluating actions that include:

1. Developing a preliminary regional cartography and a map of risks and capacities, based on the voluntary exchange of technical information among the competent national services and related international organizations.

- 2. Improving the monitoring of extreme events through tools compatible with the early warning systems of the Member Countries, in coordination with specialized agencies.
- 3. Promoting cooperation and response mechanisms in the event of emergencies that strengthen prevention and mutual support.

INSTRUCT the Permanent Secretariat to carry out the necessary arrangements for the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding between the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization, in coordination with the relevant activities already underway within the framework of ACTO.

INSTRUCT the Permanent Secretariat, in conjunction with the corresponding instances of the Organization, to explore the possibility of updating the Atlas of Hydroclimatic Vulnerability of the Amazon Region, prepared in 2021, with the information provided by the Member Countries to provide updated information for the preparation and implementation of the Strategy.

DETERMINE that the Permanent Secretariat of ACTO reports on the progress of the implementation of this Resolution at the next Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Member Countries of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization.

RES/EXT-III MRE-OTCA/14

CONSIDERING:

The importance of continuing with the coordinated efforts to unite national initiatives to position and underscore the relevance of the Amazon at the regional and global level as a fundamental ecosystem for the provision of water and a source of life; its interrelations with other biomes and regions; and the need to preserve such interrelations to ensure ecological integrity and balance;

That within the scope of the Declaration of Belém (2023), the Member Countries have decided to promote the preservation, revitalization, and recognition of Amazon cultural expressions and to support, within the framework of ACTO, meetings of cultural promoters and managers in the Amazon Region, to stimulate dialogue among cultural agents and institutions, strengthening collective understanding of the cultures of the Amazon, and providing opportunities to organize joint cultural activities;

RESOLVES TO:

INSTRUCT the Permanent Secretariat of ACTO to undertake the necessary actions along with the Member Countries to officially define the "Amazon Basin Day" promoting its institutionalization as a date of regional relevance and as an expression of the shared commitment to cooperation and sustainability in the Amazon Region, and to coordinate the determination of the date with the Member Countries.

DETERMINE that the Permanent Secretariat of ACTO report on the progress of the implementation of this resolution to the Amazon Cooperation Council.

RES/EXT-III MRE-OTCA/15

CONSIDERING:

That the Special Commission on the Environment of the Amazon was created by resolution of the Third Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, held in the city of Quito, in 1989;

That the 2023 Belém Declaration decided, through its fourth paragraph, the reactivation of the Special Commissions within the framework of ACTO, including the Special Commission of Environment;

RESOLVES TO:

UPDATE the name of the Special Commission on Environment to the Special Commission on Environment and Climate;

PROVIDE that the Special Commission on Environment and Climate incorporate, in its future work plan, the exchange of national perspectives and experiences with regard to the implementation, by Member Countries, of the relevant provisions of the "Climate Change" chapter of the Belém Declaration;

INSTRUCT the Permanent Secretariat to consult with Member Countries with a view to convening a reactivation meeting of the Special Commission on Environment and Climate in the second half of 2025.

RES/EXT-III MRE-OTCA/16

CONSIDERING:

That through RES/XIV MRE-OTCA/01, dated November 23, 2023, it was decided to establish a Working Group composed of representatives from the Governments of the Member Countries to draft an Additional Protocol to the Amazon Cooperation Treaty establishing the Meeting of Presidents of the Member Countries to the Amazon Cooperation Treaty as a decision-making body and for adopting strategic political priorities within the framework of the ACTO.

DECIDES:

TO APPROVE and ADOPT the following Additional Protocol to the Amazon Cooperation Treaty.

SECOND AMENDMENT PROTOCOL

TO THE AMAZON COOPERATION TREATY

The Plurinational State of Bolivia, the Federative Republic of Brazil, the Republic of Colombia, the Republic of Ecuador, the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, the Republic of Peru, the Republic of Suriname and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela,

Reaffirming the principles, objectives and dispositions of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty and its Protocol of Amendment of 1998;

Considering the commitments established in the Belém Declaration of 2023 and in Resolution RES/XIV MRE-OTCA/01 of the XIV Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs;

Reiterating the importance of strengthening decision making at the highest level within the framework of the Treaty;

Hereby agree to:

Article 1. Establish the Meeting of Presidents of the Contracting Parties as an Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO) instance.

Article 2. Add the following text as to Article XIX-A of the Treaty:

The Meeting of Presidents of the Contracting Parties to the ACT shall be the highest authority for guidance, evaluation, decision-making and adoption of medium- and long-term political-strategic priorities in the framework of ACTO, which shall be composed of the Heads of State of the Parties and will meet on a regular basis, every two years, or extraordinarily when required at the request of the countries, in the territory of one of the Contracting Parties, preferably in alphabetical order, and shall have the following powers:

- 1. Define and periodically evaluate the strategic lines for the implementation of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty.
- 2. Issue their treatment orientations in Declarations to be implemented by ACTO.

Paragraph one: The host country of the Meeting of Presidents of the Contracting Parties to the Treaty shall propose the form of the preparatory process for such presidential meetings, so that, in addition to government representatives, it will bring together, as far as possible, representatives of academia, civil society, and the indigenous peoples and local and traditional communities.

Paragraph two: The Permanent Secretariat of ACTO shall provide technical and logistical support to the Meeting of Presidents.

Article 3. Modify the heading of Article XXII of the Treaty as follows, without modifying its

paragraphs:

The Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization will have a Permanent Secretariat based in Brasilia, which will be responsible for implementing the objectives established in the Treaty in conformity with the Declarations adopted at the Meetings of Presidents, and the resolutions adopted at the meetings of Ministers of Foreign Affairs and the Amazon Cooperation Council.

Article 4. This amendment shall be subject to compliance with the internal constitutional requirements of the Contracting Parties and shall enter into force on the date of deposit by the Government of the Federative Republic of Brazil of the last note communicating compliance with said requirements.

Signed in Bogota, Colombia, on the twenty-first day of August 2025, in the Spanish, English, Portuguese and Dutch languages, all equally authentic.

RES/EXT-III MRE-OTCA/17

BASES AND STRUCTURE OF THE AMAZON MECHANISM OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES OF THE AMAZON COOPERATION TREATY ORGANIZATION

Preambular Paragraph (PP) 1. *Reaffirming* the principles, objectives and provisions of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty and its 1998 Protocol of Amendment.

- **PP2.** Also reaffirming the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, International Labour Organization Convention No. 169, and other international instruments on Indigenous Peoples, in accordance with the legal instruments adopted by each ACTO Member Country; and emphasizing, in particular, the recognition of the collective right of Indigenous Peoples to participate fully and effectively in decision-making processes on matters affecting them, based on the principle of free, prior and informed consent, to safeguard their rights and ensure respect for their integrity, as applicable in each Member Country.
- **PP3.** Reaffirming the principles of respect for democracy, the dignity of peoples, the rule of law, human rights, including the right to development, the right to a healthy, balanced and sustainable environment, the collective rights and rights to self-determination of Indigenous Peoples, the conservation of biodiversity, and social and environmental justice, prioritizing and ensuring respect for and protection of the rights of Indigenous Peoples in Voluntary Isolation and Initial Contact (PIACI), and the guarantee of the principle of non-contact.
- **PP4.** Recognizing the obligation of States, under international instruments, to ensure the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples in decision-making processes related to their collective rights, lands, territories and natural resources located therein, life systems and cultures, and reaffirming that such participation must be exercised through their legitimate representatives, in accordance with the right to self-determination, consistent with the provisions of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty and other international frameworks.
- **PP5.** Recognizing the vital contribution of Indigenous Peoples in the Amazon region, in particular their Indigenous governance systems and traditional and ancestral knowledge

systems, to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Paris Agreement and the Convention to Combat Desertification, as well as to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, forests, water, and other related matters.

PP6. Reaffirming that the Belém Declaration of the IV Meeting of the Presidents of the States Parties to the Amazon Cooperation Treaty (ACT) and Resolution RES XIV MRE-OTCA/07 of the XIV Ordinary Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs mandated the establishment of the Amazon Mechanism for Indigenous Peoples, with the objective of strengthening and promoting dialogue between governments and Amazon Indigenous Peoples for the management and coordination of matters that concern Indigenous Peoples and contribute to the objectives of ACTO, and within this framework, encourage the creation of the Forum of Indigenous Peoples, Local and Traditional Communities.

PP7. *Emphasizing* the human face of the Amazon, the fundamental role of Indigenous Peoples in the protection and conservation of biodiversity and natural resources in the region, the need to ensure intergenerational continuity, the protection of their territories and their cultures, worldviews, traditional and ancestral knowledge, ways of life and their diverse value systems, promoting solidarity towards present and future generations, as well as the importance of guaranteeing the well-being of the Amazonian Indigenous Peoples, the protection of their collective rights and the life and integrity of indigenous human rights and environmental defenders.

PP8. Recognizing that effective solutions to the challenges of the Amazon region require intercultural dialogue and respect for the collective rights of Indigenous Peoples, and reaffirming the determination that the Amazon Indigenous Peoples' Mechanism be the legitimate space to guarantee the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples, through their representatives appointed in accordance with their own systems, in decision-making processes on matters concerning them within the framework of ACTO.

PP9. Commending the efforts of the Working Group established to implement resolution RES XIV MRE-OTCA/07, composed of delegates from the Member Countries and representatives of Amazon Indigenous Peoples.

PP10. *Emphasizing* the importance of ensuring that the work of the Amazon Mechanism for Indigenous Peoples is articulated with the objectives, functions and work of the Organization's bodies that address issues related to Indigenous Peoples.

RESOLVES TO:

Operative Paragraph (OP) 1. *Implement* the Amazon Mechanism for Indigenous Peoples, established by resolution RES/XIV MRE-OTCA/07 of the XIV Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs.

- **OP2.** *Decide* that the Amazon Mechanism for Indigenous Peoples, in the context of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty, shall review, express views and issue recommendations on the matters concerning the collective rights of Indigenous Peoples and the protection of Indigenous Peoples in Voluntary Isolation and Initial Contact, contributing to the objectives of ACTO, while respecting the domestic provisions and/or legislation adopted by the ACTO Member Countries and the relevant international norms on the matter.
- **OP3.** Establish that the Amazon Mechanism for Indigenous Peoples shall have the following functions:
 - **a.** To develop and approve Work Plans and schedules of activities to guide the implementation of the objectives of the Mechanism;
 - **b.** To establish working groups or other spaces for dialogue, when deemed necessary, on specific topics to strengthen coordination and dialogue within the scope of the Mechanism;
 - **c.** To issue reports and recommendations to the Coordination Committee of the Amazon Cooperation Council (CCOOR) on matters related to Amazon cooperation, the objectives of the ACT and aspects related to the protection, safeguard and realization of the rights of Indigenous Peoples in the Amazon region, while respecting the domestic provisions of the ACTO Member Countries and the relevant international regulations;
 - **d.** To participate, upon invitation of the relevant ACTO bodies, in meetings of commissions, networks of authorities, working groups and others, when issues relating to Indigenous Peoples are under consideration;
 - **e.** To promote the exchange of experiences, good practices, and lessons learned on the implementation of the collective rights of Indigenous Peoples, cooperation among Indigenous Peoples and organizations, national human rights institutions and other relevant national and international bodies, academia, research centers and experts on Indigenous issues, as well as recognized intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;
 - **f.** To propose to the PS/ACTO different complementary funding sources identified by the Amazon Mechanism for Indigenous Peoples that may contribute to its sustainability, as well as the Forum of Indigenous Peoples, Local and Traditional Communities;

- **g.** To promote training and capacity-building programs for Indigenous representatives, government officials, and other relevant actors, in coordination with the Association of Amazon Universities (UNAMAZ), Indigenous knowledge systems, and other institutions that foster scientific research and intercultural dialogue;
- **h.** To propose measures aimed at promoting the use, conservation, revitalization, transmission, recovery, development, and dissemination of Amazon Indigenous languages, as well as to promote the Amazon Indigenous Peoples cultural expressions, in line with the respect for their collective rights;
- i. To cooperate and coordinate with the Forum of Indigenous Peoples, Local and Traditional Communities on ancestral knowledge, and with the Amazon Regional Platform of Indigenous Peoples and Climate Change for the comprehensive development of their respective work plan;
- **j.** To propose urgent regional and national actions to be undertaken, in coordination with Indigenous Peoples, to address threats such as deforestation, illegal mining, wildlife trafficking and other illegal activities affecting the region, food insecurity, water stress, natural or human-induced disasters, pollution, poverty, racism and all forms of discrimination, with a view to preventing the Amazon from reaching a point of no return;
- **k**. To socialize with Indigenous Peoples the progress made through digital tools, intercultural dialogues, oral narratives in native languages, audiovisual materials, and the participation of community authorities, ensuring accessible and culturally appropriate communication, to guarantee transparency and monitoring of progress in the implementation of the Amazon Mechanism for Indigenous Peoples;
- **l.** To prepare and approve the complementary regulations and/or protocols for the operation of the Amazon Mechanism for Indigenous Peoples.
- **OP4**. *Urge* the Mechanism to promote, from a gender perspective, the full and effective participation of Indigenous women and youth in decision-making spaces, strengthening the commitment to gender equality and intergenerational inclusion.
- **OP5.** *Establish* that the Amazon Mechanism for Indigenous Peoples shall be composed of two (2) principal delegates and two (2) alternate delegates from each Member Country, in accordance with the following provisions:
 - **a.** Member Countries shall duly notify the appointment or change of their representatives to the Mechanism by means of a diplomatic note addressed to the Permanent Secretariat of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization

(PS/ACTO);

- **b.** One (1) principal delegate and (1) alternate delegate shall be representatives of the governments of ACTO Member Countries;
- **c.** One (1) principal delegate and (1) alternate delegate shall be representatives of the Indigenous Peoples;
- **d.** For the appointment of representatives of Indigenous Peoples, the structures, procedures, provisions, practices and Indigenous institutional frameworks recognized and consolidated in each Member Country shall be respected;
- **e.** The Mechanism will have a Co-Presidency, composed of one government delegate and one Indigenous delegate from the Member Country elected, following the alphabetical rotation criterion, beginning with the country chosen for the first term. This Co-Presidency shall last one (1) year, with the possibility of a single re-election;
- **f.** The Mechanism shall receive the support of the PS/ACTO, through the Coordination of Indigenous Affairs, to fulfill the functions of the Secretariat, in coordination with the Co-Presidency.
- **OP6.** Establish that the Amazon Mechanism for Indigenous Peoples will hold an ordinary annual meeting, as well as extraordinary meetings whenever deemed appropriate and/or necessary, either in person, hybrid or virtual format, in line with the administrative and financial procedures of ACTO, as well as the following aspects:
 - **a.** Ordinary meetings shall preferably be held in the territory of the country holding the Co-Presidency of the Mechanism, unless another Member Country or the PS/ACTO offers to host and such offer is accepted, ensuring the effective participation of Indigenous and government delegates;
 - **b.** The ordinary meetings of the Mechanism shall be held in person, making the necessary efforts to ensure Indigenous delegates participation in this modality. In the event of extraordinary circumstances, meetings will be held in hybrid or online format;
 - **c.** Member Countries shall facilitate, to the extent possible, the participation of their Government and Indigenous Peoples representatives in the Mechanism, securing, if necessary, alternative funding sources directly or through ACTO, to ensure the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples;
 - **d.** The draft agenda for the ordinary annual meetings of the Mechanism shall be prepared by the Co-Presidency, taking into account the contributions of Member

Countries and with the support of the Secretariat of the Mechanism. This draft agenda shall accompany the convocation to the meeting.

- **e.** The convocation to the meeting of the Mechanism will be communicated through PS/ACTO, through diplomatic channels, to the Member Countries with a minimum of two months' notice. The Member Countries shall notify the Mechanism's members of the convocation, following their domestic procedures and provisions, as appropriate;
- **f.** The meeting shall adopt its decisions by unanimity of the Member Countries.
- **OP7**. Further establish that the ordinary annual meeting of the Amazon Mechanism for Indigenous Peoples may include, as invited participants, other stakeholders, provided such participation is approved by the Indigenous and governmental delegates of the Mechanism.

OP8. Request the PS/ACTO to prepare a draft regulation establishing the bases and functioning of the Forum of Indigenous Peoples, Local and Traditional Communities, for consideration at the first meeting of the Amazon Mechanism for Indigenous Peoples, pursuant to Resolution RES/XIV MRE-OTCA/07 of the XIV Ordinary Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, with a view of submitting it to the CCOOR.

RES/EXT-III MRE-OTCA/18

CONSIDERING:

That the Declaration of the IV Meeting of the Presidents of the States Parties to the Amazon Cooperation Treaty, adopted in Belém do Pará on August 8, 2023, updated at the highest political level the Amazonian Strategic Cooperation Agenda, by establishing a new common vision and guiding framework for the actions of ACTO Member Countries;

That said Declaration expresses the commitment of the Presidents to combine the efforts of their Governments to advance a new common agenda for cooperation in the Amazon, guided by sustainable development; the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, forests and water; urgent action to prevent the tipping point of the Amazon biome; the fight against deforestation and illegal activities in the region; economic development with social inclusion and the generation of income and employment; social participation, in particular of Indigenous Peoples and local and traditional communities; and the strengthening of the role of ACTO as a space for cooperation;

That Resolution RES XIV MRE-OTCA/21, adopted in Brasilia on November 23, 2023, calls for the resumption of negotiations for the updating of the Amazonian Strategic Cooperation Agenda (ASCA), to align it with the mandates emanating from the Declaration of Belém;

RESOLVES TO:

RECOGNIZE that the Belém Declaration is the most recent expression of a high-level political agreement that guides regional cooperation within the scope of ACTO, and on the basis of which the ASCA shall be defined.

ESTABLISH a Working Group composed of the focal points of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs accredited to ACTO, with the mandate to update the Organization's mission and vision, based on the Belém Declaration and on the Amazon Cooperation Treaty; to recommend the validity of the agenda, the short-, medium- and long term goals, as well as the possibility to establish the corresponding indicators, and the mechanisms for periodic publication, transparency, and participation of relevant actors.

REQUEST the Permanent Secretariat to prepare a comprehensive proposal for the Amazon Strategic Cooperation Agenda, which shall serve as the basis for the Working Group's discussions.

REQUEST the Permanent Secretariat to provide the necessary technical and logistical support for the functioning of the Working Group and to present a progress report at the next

Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Member Countries of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization.

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RECALLING our commitment to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular the Goals related to the eradication of hunger, the reduction of poverty, responsible consumption and production, climate action, life on land, and the valorization of traditional and ancestral knowledge and biocultural diversity;

RECOGNIZING the immense ecological, nutritional, cultural, economic, and medicinal value of native Amazonian fruits, which constitute a fundamental part of the biocultural heritage of our peoples and an essential pillar for the sustainable, inclusive, and resilient development of the Amazon;

CONCERNED about the multiple threats faced by the Amazon, including accelerated deforestation, climate change, soil degradation, biodiversity loss, and the risk of erosion of traditional and ancestral knowledge, which compromises food security and sovereignty, public health, and the livelihoods of millions of people;

EMPHASIZING that the promotion, protection, and valorization of different species and products of the Amazon biodiversity, with special relevance to native Amazonian fruits contribute to the conservation of ecosystems, the strengthening of community economies, the empowerment of Indigenous Peoples and traditional and local communities, and the promotion of productive models compatible with the integral and sustainable management of the Amazon biome:

RECOGNIZING the importance of promoting, safeguarding, enhancing, and developing community initiatives related to native Amazonian fruits, and stressing the need to foster scientific and technological research.

DECLARES:

- 1. TO INSTRUCT the Permanent Secretariat to conduct, in coordination with Member Countries, a study of native Amazonian fruits, including lines of action for scientific cooperation and fair trade.
- 2. TO REAFFIRM our political, technical, scientific and diplomatic commitment to actively support this process, through joint actions for awareness raising, knowledge generation, international positioning, articulation with multilateral mechanisms and capacity-building at the national and regional levels.
- 3. TO REQUEST the Permanent Secretariat of ACTO, with the support of the Member States and in consultation with Indigenous Peoples, local and traditional communities, research centers, and other relevant stakeholders, to prepare a regional technical study on native Amazonian fruits and to formulate an Action Plan with an intercultural, gender-sensitive, and climate-resilient approach, to serve as substantive inputs for the formal presentation of the proposal to FAO and the General Assembly of the United Nations.

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CONSIDERING:

That the Amazon Cooperation Treaty (ACT) promotes technical and scientific cooperation and, in its Article IX, establishes the commitment to foster close collaboration in these fields.

That in paragraph 31 of the Belém Declaration of the IV Meeting of Presidents of the States Parties to the ACT, it was decided to strengthen cooperation and the harmonization of the integrated monitoring and meteorological early warning systems of the States Parties

That meteorological services are essential to address the challenges of managing natural climate variability and climate change in the Amazon Region and to complement the work of the already established Amazon Networks of Authorities, the Amazon Regional Observatory, and the relevant Special Commissions.

That the role of the meteorological services of all Member States is recognized, including those with limited resources, as well as the importance of providing technical support and capacity development to strengthen their contributions to regional meteorological cooperation, integrated data systems, and climate adaptation efforts.

RESOLVES TO:

ESTABLISH, within the framework of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO), the Amazon Network of Meteorological Services Authorities, composed of representatives of the national meteorological services of the Member Countries, in order to strengthen cooperation in the processes of governance and in the management of meteorological surveillance and monitoring in the Amazon Region.

ENSURE that the Network provides technical support, training, and capacity-building opportunities for all Member Countries, particularly those with limited resources, to enable full and effective participation in regional meteorological cooperation

CONVENE the First Meeting of the Amazon Network of Meteorological Services Authorities at the ACTO headquarters in Brasilia.

INSTRUCT the Amazon Network of Meteorological Services Authorities, at its First Meeting, to establish its governance structure and develop a Work Plan and Roadmap to strengthen the integration of national observation and data-management systems and to

provide ACTO with relevant information on meteorological conditions in the Amazon Region for disaster risk management, climate-change adaptation and mitigation, as applicable in each country, within the framework of sustainable development and the pursuit of greater resilience.

INSTRUCT the ACTO Permanent Secretariat to accompany and facilitate the process of establishment and operation of the Network, to adopt the necessary measures to mobilize the sustainable financing of its activities, to promote its articulation with other ACTO Networks, Working Groups and instances, and to provide administrative support for the organization and holding of its meetings.

DETERMINE that the Permanent Secretariat shall report on the progress in the implementation of this resolution at the next Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the ACTO Member Countries.