



NAIROBI - CALL FOR ACTION ON THE CONSERVATION AND PRESERVATION OF FORESTS IN AFRICA

We, Heads of States and Governments, Ministers, Civil Society Organizations, Cooperation and Financial organizations, Research and Academic Institutions, Private Sector, and local communities, gathered in Nairobi on the occasion of the One Planet Summit, on March 14th 2019

Recognizing the crucial role of forests and forest conservation in the fight against climate change;

Considering the fundamental ecological functions of forests in the regulation of the carbon and water cycles, the preservation of biodiversity and coastal protection;

Convinced that forests constitute a resource of great economic, cultural, spiritual and scientific value whose disappearance would be irrecoverable;

Noting the threats causing rapid deforestation and forest degradation and resulting loss of biodiversity;

Recognizing the importance of governments, public and private sector, through multi-sector and public-private partnerships to effectively prevent deforestation and achieve sustainable development;

Recalling the commitments already made by African countries on land and ecosystem restoration within the context of the Convention on Biological Diversity (including Aichi Targets 5, 14 and 15), the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement (including commitments made in NDCs on Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry), the findings of the October 2018 IPCC report “Global Warming of 1.5 C” and the importance of biological sequestration, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa (including on land degradation neutrality targets), the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (particularly Sustainable Development Goal 15);

Recalling the commitments made, including the New York Declaration on Forests, the Amsterdam Declarations, the Bonn Challenge to restore 150 million hectares of deforested and degraded land by 2020, the Global Peatland Initiative;

Desiring to advance existing and new regional initiatives and commitments to conserve and protect Africa's forests, especially in view of the adoption of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

Noting the progress made by some African countries in promoting land and ecosystem restoration through various initiatives and programmes, such as the African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative (AFR100) which seeks to restore 100 million hectares of degraded and deforested land in sub-Saharan Africa by 2030 and the Great Green Wall of the Sahara and the Sahel Initiative;

Desiring to halt now and in the future, deforestation, forest degradation and progressive human encroachment on forests in Africa;

Call upon all stakeholders to contribute to prevent, halt and reverse the loss of Africa's forests by elaborating joint operational strategies based on knowledge sharing, scientific expertise and renewed international cooperation with the overall objective to promote sustainable, inclusive and transparent management of forests, based on:

- **robust and voluntary actions** taken to mitigate and prevent damages to forests through conservation programs and economic and social opportunities for local populations, taking into account a wide range of value chains, sectors and stakeholders and integrating, when appropriate, a specific risk and alert mechanism;
- **a mapping of key priority areas** to be preserved and the identification of human activities undermining the long-term sustainability of forests;
- **the elaboration of comprehensive strategies**, in the framework of on-going initiatives, bringing together national and local authorities, private sector and local communities that would be presented for financial support of donors and international cooperation./.