



STATEMENT
FROM THE
BRAZILIAN
BUSINESS
SECTOR

AT A MOMENT LIKE THIS, WHEN WE ARE FACED WITH AN EXTREME, EXTRAORDINARY SCENARIO, SERENITY AND BALANCE ARE CRITICAL FOR US TO OVERCOME THESE CHALLENGES AND COME OUT STRONGER. NEVER IN HISTORY HAS THE FUTURE OF HUMANKIND AND THE PLANET DEPENDED SO MUCH ON OUR CAPACITY TO UNDERSTAND WE LIVE IN A SINGLE PLANET, AND THAT OUR SURVIVAL IS DIRECTLY CONNECTED TO PRESERVING AND VALUING ITS NATURAL RESOURCES.

The social and economic impacts caused by the COVID-19 pandemic at a global and unprecedented scale is a warning that ignoring the risks of breaking the ecosystemic stability brings devastating consequences, similar to what has been happening with the climate risk, which the World Economic Forum has been stressing year after year since 2012.

Aware of that, the Brazilian business sector, through a group of companies and business institutions in the manufacturing, agribusiness and services industries, reaffirms today its public commitment to the sustainable development agenda.

In particular, this group has been increasingly attentive to and concerned about the impact on businesses of the current negative perception of Brazil's image internationally when it comes to the social and environmental issues in the Amazon. Such a negative perception is highly prejudicial to Brazil, not only from a reputational perspective, but also to the development of businesses and indispensable projects for the country.

In this context, this group makes itself available to the Amazon Council to contribute to solutions focusing on:

- Unconditional, comprehensive combat to illegal deforestation in the Amazon and other Brazilian biomes
- Social and economic inclusion of local communities to ensure the preservation of forests
- Minimizing the environmental impact from the use of natural resources, and seeking efficiency and productivity in the economic activities that use natural resources
- Valuing and preserving biodiversity in business strategies
- Adopting mechanisms for the trading of carbon credits
- Directing funding and investments to a circular, low-carbon economy
- Stimulus packages for economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic effects conditional upon a circular, low-carbon economy.

Some signatory companies have already developed business solutions based on the bioeconomy, with added value and product traceability, including in the Amazon. We understand best practices can be scalable based on consistent policy to foster the environmental, social, and governance agenda. Nonetheless, it is necessary to strictly oversee environmental breaches and crimes in the Amazon and other Brazilian biomes..

We have the unique opportunity, the resources and knowledge for scaling best practices and, moreover, for strategically planning Brazil's sustainable future. We have to make the right choices now and start redirecting investments for the recovery of the Brazilian economy based on a circular, low-carbon and inclusive economy model, one that has no room for inconsistency between producing and preserving. We believe this is the best path for us to lay the country's cornerstone for the next generations. Otherwise we run the risk of being pushed to the margins of our own history.

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