



ARBITRARY CLOSING OF THE AMBIENTALIST FOUNDATION PACHAMAMA BY THE ECUATORIAN GOVERNMENT OF RAFAEL CORREA.

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***Unofficial translation done only for the purpose of being understood.**

The Permanent Secretariat of the Latin American and Caribbean Network for Democracy (REDLAD) warning about the arbitrary closure of Civil Society Organization (CSO) environmentalist Fundacion Pachamama in Ecuador, by order of President Rafael Correa.

Applying the second and seventh principle of Article 26 of the Regulations for the Operation of the Unified Information System of Social Organizations relating to the causal "deviation from the statutory purposes and objectives, and interference in public policy tempting to internal security and public peace", officials of the Administration Police of Pichincha, without administrative procedure, proceeded to close on Wednesday December 4th, facilities of Fundacion Pachamama in Quito, through resolution 125 of the Ministry of Environment of Ecuador, requested by the Ministry of the Interior, in which the dissolution of the organization is ordered.

The grounds for dissolution, applied to this organization not respect the principles established in the Constitution of Ecuador thus violate the right to due process. These facts underline the risk that any OSC can be dissolved by similar causes no legal, administrative and judicial mechanisms relevant .

Foundation Pachamama, with over 17 years of existence, was created to work in areas close to the Ecuadorian Amazon where promoting sustainable development, respect for human rights of indigenous and vulnerable populations, and the protection of nature.



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The organization had disagreed with the Ecuadorian government for the concession to oil companies of Amazonian territories of indigenous peoples without make consultations free, informed and prior as required by the Convention 169 of the ILO (International Labour Organization), covenant ratified by Ecuador in 1998.

The government of Ecuador has pursued and closed in recent months to organizations that defend the rights of Indigenous Peoples and Nationalities, freedom of association, speech and press, as well as transparency in the use of public resources. Similarly, the government arbitrarily closed to approximately 20 media, only in 2012, and in recent statements, the government has indicated that more than 55 radio and television stations violated the Communications Act, promoted by President Correa, and therefore are in risk of being shut down .

Given these facts, the Permanent Secretariat of REDLAD, a platform of more than 520 organizations that promote human rights and full democracy, Official Member of the Forum of Civil Society of Organization of American States (OAS) and Regional Chapter of WMD (World Movement for Democracy):

- Sympathizes with Fundacion Pachamama and the Civil Society Organizations of Ecuador about the serious situation that violate their fundamental rights.
- Joins the World Movement for Democracy and urges the government of President Correa, to respect human rights, fundamental freedoms and guarantee basic principles such as freedom of association, expression and due process.
- Urges the international community and democratic governments to express their disapproval with the undemocratic, discriminatory and violative measures which the Ecuadorian government is causing.
- Requests the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) to investigate what happened and take further actions to address the human rights violated and prevent the wave of persecution of civil society in the Ecuador.

Latin American and Caribbean Network for Democracy (REDLAD).



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