



DECLARATION OF SUPPORT FOR THE YASUNÍ–ITT INITIATIVE

The Heads of State and Government of Latin America and the Caribbean, gathered together at the Unity Summit, applauded the Yasuni-ITT Initiative promoted by Ecuador, to build an efficient voluntary measure to address the issue of climate change and to ensure the conservation of one of the most bio-diverse locations in the world.

As a result of this initiative, Ecuador will cease to mine 846 million barrels of petroleum present in the subsoil of the Yasuni National Park, which will prevent 407 million metric tons of carbon emissions from being released into the atmosphere. This would have resulted from the burning of these fossil fuels.

This initiative will contribute to a sense of respect for the indigenous cultures of the peoples in voluntary isolation in the Yasuni Park, as well as to social development, nature conservation and encourage the use of renewable energy sources.

Mayan Riviera, Mexico, February 23, 2010

* * *