Summary Statement on the Second Replenishment of the Green Climate Fund

The Green Climate Fund (GCF) observer network of civil society, Indigenous Peoples, and local communities calls for an ambitious second replenishment that more than doubles the resources committed under GCF-1, in line with ongoing efforts to set a New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance that is needs-based and drastically more than the current US \$100 billion goal.

The IPCC's recent <u>Sixth Assessment Report</u> reinforces the urgency of climate action and the imperative of providing climate finance to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement. Developing countries bearing the brunt of climate impacts have repeatedly highlighted the importance of climate finance being channeled through multilateral funds, allowing for accountability to Parties and higher levels of country ownership.

This preference reinforces the centrality of the GCF, the largest multilateral climate fund, in the international climate finance architecture, given its role in channeling new, additional, adequate, and predictable financial resources to developing countries. The GCF's governance structure—in which contributing and recipient countries have equal voice and vote—challenges the status quo of untransparent, "donor-driven", and ineffective modes of finance.

Therefore we urge developed country Parties to contribute their fair share to the GCF replenishment and to deliver 100% of their commitments in the form of grants, notwithstanding the possibility for other contributors to voluntarily support the GCF.

We believe in the potential of the GCF to fund real, transformative climate action, as the flagship fund to support implementation of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement. The GCF has a mandate to directly support the implementation of country-driven climate action, provide a balance of funds between adaptation and mitigation, and ringfence more than half of its adaptation funding for SIDS, LDCs, and African states.

Country ownership is a key feature of the GCF, which is poised to scale up its direct access modalities, including facilitating access to finance for locally-led projects designed with the full participation of communities, Indigenous Peoples, women, youth, and disabled persons, among others. By having a more expansive and inclusive understanding of country ownership, GCF financing can promote traditional and indigenous knowledge and science, and address local needs and priorities in a rights-compatible manner.

With its vast network of accredited entities, most of which are direct access entities, the GCF supports capacity-building for these entities to implement best practice environmental and social safeguards and ensure Indigenous Peoples' rights, gender equality, meaningful consultation and participation, including Indigenous Peoples' right to Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), transparency, and access to remedy. Additionally, the GCF can use its accreditation and re-accreditation processes to support entities in shifting their whole portfolios by eliminating fossil fuel investments and transitioning to low emission, climate resilient activities.

The urgency of combatting the climate crisis is undeniable, and an ambitious replenishment is necessary for the GCF to achieve its paradigm-shifting potential and to enable transformative climate action in the context of sustainable development and limiting temperature rise to 1.5 °C.