



Anexo oficio SG-SLCS/28 de Nov./005/19

DECLARATION

Without fertile soil on Earth, there will be no plants that, in response to sunlight, perform the indispensable carbon sequestration through photosynthesis. Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and meeting the goals of the Agenda towards the 30s and 50s, as well as stopping the increase in the temperature of the planet, depend on the real possibilities of reducing CO₂ emissions to the atmosphere. In this, the soil is not only one of the three fundamental reservoirs to achieve it, but it is also the indispensable resource to trigger the indispensable process of decarbonization, and therefore, an indispensable element for the control of climate change.

Therefore, from the Latin American Society of Soil Science (SLCS) we gently ask to the participants of the World Summit on Climate Change, held in Madrid this year, to strategically join the efforts of the “World Alliance for Soil” (FAO, 2012 and UN, 2013), and the “International Land Decade 2015-2024” of the International Union of Soil Sciences (Horn, 2015); because without fertile soil on Earth, there will be no plants or animals to eat, water to drink, or oxygen to breathe: there will be no life or development to reach or sustain (Reyes-Sánchez, 2015).

We gently ask to the scientific community to reflect on the imperative need to think and work in an interdisciplinary way from all areas of thought to guarantee the existence of future life on Earth. Losing the fertile soil also means losing soil organisms that engulf carbon which is one of the natural resources capable of capturing CO₂.

PRESIDENCIA

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That would implicate a very serious loss of biodiversity, so there would be no real way to decarbonize the planet to achieve the desired mitigation of climate change.

From the SLCS we express our willingness to work together for the preservation of natural resources and leave behind any division of science, because the achievement of each and every one of the Development Goals implies working without borders from the enlightening scientific thinking of those who understand that is not only a matter of life for the humanity but it is also a way to recognize ourselves in our humanity.

Speaking, writing and making statements about the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals is useless if one does not work to achieve them, and pretending to achieve one to the detriment of the other is to move towards unsustainability, since the real achievement of one of those goals depends on everyone others.

Therefore, we invite COP-25 participants to share our visions and to consider the inclusion of soil resource preservation in their Agenda as an indispensable part of the planetary balance that makes life possible as we know it today. Our invitation is to work together to preserve it.

Dra. Elisângela Benedet da Silva
President of the Latin American Society of Soil Science

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**Latin American
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**International
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2015-2024**

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Please, acknowledge receipt,

Yours sincerely,

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Santa Cruz de la Sierra-Bolivia, 28 de noviembre de 2019

msv//

C.c. Sra. Patricia Espinosa
General Secretary
ONU Convention on Climate Change
Arch.

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