

To COP Delegates:
Proposed Text for Mangrove Protection as Mitigation and Adaptation Strategies

In order to reduce threats to mangrove forests, to safeguard their important ecosystem services, and to strengthen the ecological and socioeconomic securities of coastal communities and nations we:

INVITE Parties to include the following language in the decisions of the COP at its 16th session in Cancún:

The Conference of the Parties:

- Cognizant of the fact that the “return on investment” from mangrove protection in both livelihood and economic benefits to the communities and nations that make the investment will far exceed the short-term profits from destructive and extractive uses.
- Invites Parties to develop and implement national mangrove protection policies and legislation to halt further deforestation and degradation, particularly due to land use changes and water diversion, and to promote mangrove restoration initiatives.
- Encourages Parties and accredited observers to create enabling environments for innovative conservation financing strategies, such as payment for ecosystem services, including carbon offset credits, and international funds for mitigation and adaptation activities; and, to develop ecosystem-based management approaches for and including mangrove systems to support the continued delivery of the full suite of ecosystem services mangroves provide.
- Decides to include mangroves in national REDD+ accounting strategies.
- Encourages Parties to include mangrove protection in their National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPA) and other coastal disaster risk reduction and recovery strategies.
- Requests the SBSTA to develop methodologies for monitoring, reporting, and verification of greenhouse gas emissions by sources and removals by sinks from mangrove systems to be taken into account in REDD+ and other climate change mitigation strategies; and, to develop a draft decision containing such modalities to be forwarded for adoption to the COP at its 17th session.

INVITE Parties to include the following language in the conclusions of the SBSTA at its 33rd session:

The SBSTA invites the IPCC to:

- hold an expert meeting before the 34th session of the SBSTA on the protection and restoration of mangroves and other coastal ecosystems as strategies for climate change mitigation and adaptation; and,
- develop methodologies for monitoring, reporting, and verification of greenhouse gas emissions by sources and removals by sinks from mangrove systems before the 35th session of the SBSTA.



FONDO MEXICANO
PARA LA
CONSERVACIÓN
DE LA NATURALEZA, A.C.
Institución Privada.



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