



Sao Paulo, Brazil, April 27, 2016

The Honorable Governor Jerry Brown
c/o State Capitol, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Brown,

We, at Climate Observatory¹, a coalition comprising up to 40 Brazilian civil society organizations with the objective to promote the advance of climate change agenda in Brazil, are following the proposal for inclusion of forest sector offsets from programs of “Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Land Degradation (REDD+)” in California’s AB 32 program, which will soon be voted on by the Air Resources Board.

As climate change is a universal problem, we commend California’s efforts to design and drive innovative solutions aimed at tackling climate change not only within its borders but elsewhere in the world.

International Sector Based Offset Credits is one of many programs under consideration as part of the Law for Solutions for Global Warming (AB32) and is an important mechanism for reducing emissions from deforestation and protecting tropical forests, upon which many communities’ lives and livelihoods depend, especially traditional and indigenous communities living in the Brazilian Amazon.

Thus, we write to express the support of the Brazilian Climate Observatory to the State of California for its significant efforts to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions domestically, and also for considering the importance of tropical forest conservation and the involvement of local communities in these efforts.

¹ www.observatoriodoclima.eco.br



The possibility of compensation for emissions offsets included in the cap-and-trade program of California represents a positive signal for the consolidation of an international mechanism for REDD+ which promises to create real benefits for climate, communities, and forest conservation in Brazil as well as in other developing countries. We believe that California should continue leading the inclusion of REDD+ within its system since this approach allows a significant, permanent and long-term funding pathway that is complementary to consistent with the mechanisms currently under discussion in the UN Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

With our deepest expressions of esteem and appreciation,

Carlos Rittl, PhD

Executive Secretary

Climate Observatory

Member Organizations of the Brazilian Climate Observatory



Friends of the Earth Brazilian Amazon



Coastal Ecosystems – APREC



Association for Preservation of the Environment and Life



Coordination of the Indigenous Organizations of the Brazilian Amazon



Conservation International Brazil



Brazilian Foundation for Sustainable Development



Avina Foundation



Boticario Foundation for the Protection of Natur



Greenpeace Brazil



Amazon Working Group



BioAtlantica Institute



Local Governments for Sustainability



Institute for Conservation and Sustainable Development of Amazonas



Institute for Energy and Environment



Institute for Socioenvironmental Studies of Bahia



Green Initiative



Center for Life Institute



Institute for Management and Forestry and Agriculture Certification



Amazon Institute for People and Environment



Ecoar Institute for Citizenship



Ecological Institute



Socioenvironmental Institute



Amazon Environmental Research Institute



Ecological Research Institute



Mater Natura Institute for Environmental Studies

Brazilian Society for International Environmental Law



Northeastern Environmental Society



SOS Amazonia



SOS Atlantic Forest



SOS Pantanal



Society for Environmental Research and Environmental Education



The Nature Conservancy Brazil



WWF Brazil