

21 September 2016

**To President Rafael Correa,
To the members of the Commission,**

Subject: Final report of the Commission for a Comprehensive Audit of Investment Protection Treaties and of the International Arbitration System (CAITISA) of Ecuador

We, the undersigned, urge the Ecuadorian government to publish and publicly release the full report of Ecuadorian Citizens' Commission for a Comprehensive Audit of Investment Protection Treaties and of the International Arbitration System (CAITISA), created by presidential decree in 2013.

As social movements and organisations, we have supported and accompanied the creation of the Citizens' Audit Commission in Ecuador, as this initiative is unique in the world. Our networks and social organisations have included the creation of a similar audit process based on Ecuador's example in our demands to our governments.

However, we are highly concerned by the fact that one year after the completion of the auditing process, the Commission's report has still not been published. Such a large delay affects us in different ways:

1- It undermines the campaigns against the abusive investment protection regime that our movements have been carrying out in different countries and regions given many of us have presented the experience of the audit in Ecuador as a model for other governments to follow.

2- It prevents us from using the process, methodology and the results of this audit in the debates currently underway at the global level on the role of the investor-state dispute settlement mechanism.

3- It can influence the process towards a legally binding instrument on businesses and human rights at the United Nations. For our organisations, the revision of the investment regime and the process presided over by Ecuador in the United Nations Human Rights Council for the establishment of a binding instrument on human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises are intrinsically related. Many civil society organisations have been providing sustained support for this process at the UN.

While the publication of the audit's report is delayed, corporations continue to use the arbitration system to file suits against our countries. Foreign investors continue to use the arbitration system as a means to pressure for changes to national legislation, forcing governments, in many cases, to retract policies aimed at protection human rights or the environment. This perverse system is used all around the world, but the majority of the lawsuits are still filed against Latin American countries. Up until 2015, 35% of the cases registered at ICSID involved Latin American countries.

In view of this situation:

1- We call on the State of Ecuador publish the final report of the Audit Commission by the end of the third trimester of 2016.

2- If this is not done, we request that the members of the commission make their audit report public, in accordance with the principle of transparency and the commitment assumed with international civil society.

3- We would also like to urge the Ecuadorian government to withdraw as soon as possible from all of its bilateral investment treaties effective immediately, just as the Government of India has recently done.

75 Organisations and movements supporting this letter:

Name	Location
Friends of the Earth International	International
Third World Network	International
Adolfo Pérez Esquivel-Premio Nobel de la Paz	Individual
Nora Cortiñas, Madre de Plaza de Mayo-Línea Fundadora	Individual
Red Latinoamericana sobre Deuda, Desarrollo y Derechos (LATINDADD)	Latin America
Jubileo Sur/ Américas	Americas
Alianza Social Continental	Americas
ATTAC Argentina	Argentina
Instituto de Estudios y Formación - Central de los Trabajadores de la Argentina Autónoma	Argentina
Instituto de Estudios y Formación - CTA Autónoma	Argentina
Diálogo 2000 - Jubileo Sur Argentina	Argentina
Fundación Servicio Paz y Justicia	Argentina
Australian Fair Trade and Investment Network (AFTINET)	Australia
Whistleblowers, Activists & Citizens Alliance	Australia
ATTAC Austria	Austria
Corporate Europe Observatory (CEO)	Belgium
Health and Trade Network	Belgium
The Democracy Center	Bolivia
FASE - Solidariedade e Educação	Brazil
Instituto EQUIT - Gênero, Economia e Cidadania Global	Brazil
ATTAC Quebec	Canada
Common Frontiers	Canada
KAIROS Canada	Canada
Réseau québécois sur l'Intégration continentale (RQIC)	Canada
Red de Acción en Plaguicidas RAP-Chile	Chile
Campaña Yo No Quiero Transgénicos en Chile	Chile
Instituto Latinoamericano por una sociedad y un derecho alternativos, ILSA	Colombia

Cedetrabajo	Colombia
RECALCA	Colombia
NOAH Friends of the Earth Denmark	Denmark
Plataforma Interamericana de Derechos Humanos, Democracia y Desarrollo (PIDHDD Regional)	Ecuador
Centro de Documentación en Derechos Humanos "Segundo Montes Mozo S.J." (CSMM)	Ecuador
Acción Ecológica, Ecuador	Ecuador
UDAPT	Ecuador
LUNA CRECIENTE	Ecuador
Attac France	France
Association Internationale de Techniciens, Experts et Chercheurs	France
PowerShift	Germany
OFRANEH	Honduras
Madhyam	India
Indonesia for Global Justice	Indonesia
Wahana Lingkungan Hidup Indonesia	Indonesia
ATTAC Japan	Japan
Sahabat Alam Malaysia	Malaysia
Consumers Association of Penang	Malaysia
Medio Ambiente Sociedad A.C.	Mexico
Maderas del Pueblo del Sureste; AC	Mexico
Espacio de mujeres defendiendo sus derechos humanos, A. C.	Mexico
Monapaküy A.C.	Mexico
Red Mexicana de Acción contra el Libre Comercio (RMALC)	Mexico
Frente Auténtico del Trabajo (FAT)	Mexico
Centro Regional de Defensa de Derechos Humanos	Mexico
Grupo Tacuba	Mexico
Fundación ambientalista mariano abarca	Mexico
Frente Amplio Opositor a Minera San Xavier (FAO)	Mexico
ANIT	Mexico
DEFENSORA DE DERECHOS HUMANOS	Mexico
ATTAC/CADTM MAROC	Morocco
Attac Norway	Norway
The Norwegian Trade Campaign	Norway
Focus on the Global South	Philippines, Thailand, India
Alternative Information and Development Centre	South Africa
South Durban Community Environmental Alliance	South Africa
ATTAC España	Spanish State
Mugarik Gabe	Spanish State
Élite Taxi Bizkaia	Spanish State

Ongd AFRICANDO	Spanish State
Stop Desahucios	Spanish State
Ecologistas en Acción	Spanish State
ATTAC BIZKAIA	Spanish State
Both ENDS	The Netherlands
SOMO	The Netherlands
War on Want	UK
Trade Justice Movement	UK
Institute for Policy Studies - Global Economy Project	United States
Public Citizen	United States
Communications Workers of America (CWA)	United States