



PUBLIC STATEMENT BY GREPALMA MEMBERS VOLUNTEER COMMITMENT TO ZERO DEFORESTATION

GREPALMA is an association that promotes sustainability as a cross-cutting principle in Guatemalan oil palm production. Based on **GREPALMA and members' Environmental and Climate Change Policy**, and on **Strategic Principle 5: Conservation of Biological Diversity** that includes three lines of action: 1) prevent natural forest loss in new crop areas; 2) restore forests in lands managed by palm growers and in strategic areas influenced by them; and 3) establish biological corridors or connectivity areas for isolated ecosystems; supported by **Strategic Principle 2: Actions for Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation**, as well as by **Strategic Principle 6: Social Partnerships**; and **Strategic Principle 7: Systematization and Dissemination of Information on the Environment and Climate Change**, *we hereby publicly state our volunteer commitment to zero deforestation.*

The undersigned parties hereby commit to:

- Not deforest natural forests¹ for the production of oil palm;
- Contribute to environmental conservation and restoration in favor of sustainable development;
- Ensure that our palm oil production is deforestation-free;
- Act under principles of extended responsibility, by influencing stakeholder practices in our supply chains;
- Cooperate nation-wide with the creation and promotion of a volunteer agreement for Zero Deforestation in the palm oil supply chain in Guatemala to be effective starting in 2020;
- Participate in dialogue to promote the commitments acquired through this public statement, and to encourage other stakeholders of the chain to adhere to it.

¹ Natural forest: ecosystem where trees are the dominant and permanent plant species. They occur by natural regeneration without human influence. Forestry Law, Decree 101-96.



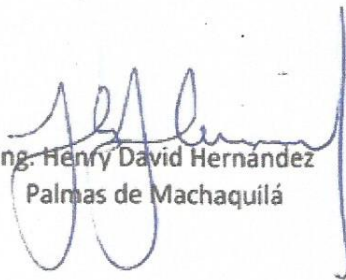
Through these actions, GREPALMA and signing members acquire commitments to contribute directly to the accomplishment of the Sustainable Development goals, specifically SDG 15 for the protection, restoration and promotion of the use of ground ecosystems.

In its role as representative of the palm sector, GREPALMA will call on dialogue and promote technical support among government agencies, private organizations and academia to make them a part of the implementation and surveillance of these commitments acquired, thus reaffirming our commitment not only to sustainability but also to transparency.

Guatemala City, October 3, 2019.



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