



Brussels, 4 of March 2015

Dear Co-Presidents of EUROLAT, dear Co-Presidents of the Committee on Sustainable Development,

Civil society organisations and networks in both Latin America and Europe bring to your attention the significant role an alliance between the European Union (EU) and Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) can play in the run-up to the UN Climate Summit in Paris (COP21), at the end of the year. Since the outset, climate change has been an important issue on the EUROLAT agenda and the involvement and engagement of Parliamentarians has been indispensable for the climate negotiation process. We have reached a crucial point in the climate process, where action must be significantly enhanced. Therefore, we call on the Members of EUROLAT to **adopt an Urgent Resolution before COP21** that may have the potential to enhance bi-regional collaboration and further the negotiations towards a fair and ambitious global climate agreement in Paris.

Both regions are committed to achieving an international climate agreement by 2015. Together, EU and LAC countries constitute almost one third of the parties of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). In fact, climate change is already prioritised on the agenda of the strategic partnership between the governments of the EU and the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC). Given their bi-regional exchange and shared values, EUROLAT could help **create a new and ambitious narrative** regarding the international climate process and **inspire the adoption and implementation of national climate change legislation**. Furthermore, an Urgent Resolution on climate change, which may result from the EUROLAT meetings in March and June, can send a powerful message to this year's EU-CELAC Summit in Brussels, only few months before COP21 in Paris.

Moreover, we take this opportunity to call for the **inclusion of the topic of climate change on the agenda of the upcoming EUROLAT dialogue meeting with civil society** and for the possibility that a climate change expert intervene in the Sustainable Development Committee. On behalf of civil society organisations and networks in both Latin America and Europe, we pledge to cooperate with the Members and Secretariat of EUROLAT, and other civil society networks, to further consolidate and strengthen bi-regional exchange on climate change.

We thank you for your consideration of our request.

Best regards,

ACT Alliance EU (formerly APRODEV)—ACT Alliance International—CAN Europe—CAN Latin America—CIDSE—CIFCA—Grupo Sur—Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung EU—IDDRI—11.11.11.