



CLIMATE COUNSEL

Press Release

Brazilian Ecocide Bill introduced on World Environment Day 2023

Sao Paulo, Brazil, 5 June 2023 - Climate Counsel is delighted to announce that today the Brazilian political party PSOL (*Partido Socialismo e Liberdade*) will submit a new Ecocide Bill to the Brazilian Congress. The proposed ecocide law seeks to criminalise “performing illegal or wanton acts with the knowledge that they generate a substantial probability of serious and widespread or long-term damage to the environment.”

Over the last year, Climate Counsel had the privilege to work with PSOL, Ecoe Brasil, Observatório do Clima, Stop Ecocide International, International Rivers, and other groups to develop and promote a national law of ecocide in Brazil. Based on its experience in assisting lawmakers in the European Union and other countries, Climate Counsel researched and helped to draft the Ecocide Bill that is being submitted by PSOL.

According to Paulo Busse, Climate Counsel’s Lead Lawyer who helped draft the Ecocide Bill:

“This Ecocide Bill was designed to offer much greater protection to the Amazon and other biomes in Brazil, which are under constant threat. In doing so, the law would offer much-needed support to the indigenous and traditional communities who rely on the natural environment for their way of life and who serve as its guardians.”

We congratulate PSOL on their determination to promote this important law and look forward to offering our continued support as this bill makes its way through congress.

Richard J Rogers, Climate Counsel’s Executive Director adds:

“Ecocide laws have the potential to prevent the worst cases of environmental destruction and help tackle the climate crisis. By submitting the Ecocide Bill, Brazil’s

PSOL has shown that it is on the side of future generations. Brazil's Government and Congress should now get on board."

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