

We Mëbêngôkre-Kayapo of our indigenous territories Las Casas, Menkragnoti, Kayapo, Bau and Capoto Jarina located in Southern Para and northern Mato Grosso met at the village of Krynny between April 27 and 29, 2021. We unite in protest over proposed legislative bill changes 191/2020, 490/2007, “Instrução Normativa Conjunta Nº 1, DE 22 DE FEVEREIRO DE 2021 da Funai e do IBAMA” and the “Marco Temporal” that threaten our territory, our livelihoods and future generations. The government and its big business allies have managed to coopt a few Kayapo into supporting their plans in order to divide and weaken us; thereby avoiding a fight -a fight that will not be pretty. We know that the government seeks to open our lands and its riches to non-Kayapo “whites” for mining, farming, logging, hydro-electric projects and other economic activities that ultimately benefit only a few; whereas we Kayapo will be left landless and without means to survive. These industrial activities destroy our forests, pollute our rivers and reduce our lives to misery.

We must constantly struggle to survive as Kayapo on Kayapo land. We will never renege our constitutional right to exclusive, permanent and sustainable use of our territories; nor will we ever agree to our land being usurped for destructive industries of outsiders. We seek sustainable development autonomy that fits with our culture.

We ask parliamentarians and our allies to help us defend our survival, sovereignty over our territory and the great forests that sustain us. Supporting indigenous people to protect their territories supports life because it is we who keep forest standing.