

UNIÓN DE AFECTADOS Y
AFECTADAS POR LAS
OPERACIONES
PETROLERAS DE TEXACO

Lago Agrio, May 18th 2023

30 YEARS AFTER THE AGUINDA VS CHEVRON CASE THE PLAINTIFFS EVOKE THREE DECADES OF STRUGGLE WITH THE ANTI CHEVRON DAY AND PROCLAIM TO THE WORLD THAT HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE RIGHTS OF NATURE MUST PREVAIL OVER ECONOMIC INTERESTS AND CRIMINAL PRACTICES OF EXTRACTIVIST TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS IN COLLUSION WITH SELL-OUT GOVERNMENTS.

November 2023 marks the 30th anniversary of the lawsuit filed by a group of residents from the provinces of Sucumbíos and Orellana against Texaco, today Chevron, for the environmental crime it caused between 1968 and 1992 in the Amazon Rainforest. This year, at the end of May, Chevron's shareholders will meet in the USA. We, the plaintiffs, remember this date as "Anti Chevron Day" as an act of rejection of the criminal extractive activities caused by this transnational corporation.

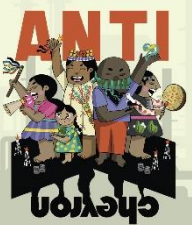
Due to the situation of crisis, insecurity and uncertainty generated by the government of Guillermo Lasso, by issuing the dissolution of the National Assembly and thereby avoiding his dismissal in the impeachment trial against him, which could lead to situations of social protest, violence and persecution, UDAPT has decided to hold the Anti Chevron Day through an **international virtual forum** on Monday June 5th. The forum is virtually arranged in order to protect the life and safety of indigenous leaders and rural sectors. Furthermore, it is an opportunity to learn about and participate in a space for information, knowledge and formulation of proposals aimed at a socio-economic development that respects human and collective rights and is friendly with nature, la Pachamama.

For this reason, experts will be participating in conversations about corporate impunity and the need for a Binding Treaty, regulating the enormous power that transnational corporations and that is executed through their spokespersons, many of which are government representatives. Such was the case of the Minister of Energy and Mines, Santos Alvite, who cynically and shamelessly declares that: *"A group of lawyers, taking the name of the Amazonian indigenous people, invented some environmental damages*

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and bribed the judge, resulting in the same judge condemning Chevron to a compensation of billions of dollars" as "false, illegal and immoral because these damages do not exist (...) the waste does not cause damage to anyone".

Serious environmental damage, unfortunately, DOES EXIST. What does not exist is any proof of bribery of any judge by the affected or by the lawyers who acted in their defense. What DOES EXIST is international recognition of the struggle of communities and indigenous peoples, which has allowed UDAPT, the organization in which the affected groups and communities come together, to continue its struggle against Chevron and against all extractive activities that cause contamination and affect the health of the rural and indigenous communities of the Ecuadorian Amazon.

Likewise, topics such as alternatives to extractivism, sustainable energy transition and the ancestral testimonials of the indigenous nationalities on how oil exploitation has drastically changed the lives of the communities of Sucumbíos and Orellana, will be occupying an important part of the forum.

Important international organizations involved in the struggle for the defense of human rights and nature will also be participating in the event.

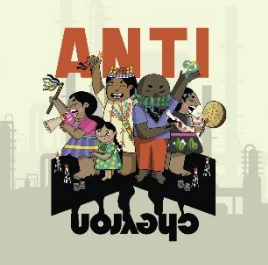
Finally, we inform you that fraternal organizations around the world, such as in the USA and Sweden, will carry out acts of protest against Chevron. More information about these events will be shared with you in due course.

Let us not forget that the environmental pollution caused by TEXACO, which continues today due to constant oil spills, poor management of oil waste and the presence of more than 400 gas flaring systems expelling chemical toxins harmful to the environment, are key to understanding the high number of cancer cases in the provinces of Sucumbíos and Orellana, in spite of which neither of these provinces have medical services, infrastructure or equipment to attend to the affected population.

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For the life of our children

For the life of those who are yet to come

For our mother earth, our Pachamama

The best inheritance we can leave to future generations is a clean nature. By fighting the affront of sell-out governments, greedy transnationals and troglodyte spokespersons who accuse us of being criminals, our struggle is a struggle for life and the struggle of all of us.

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