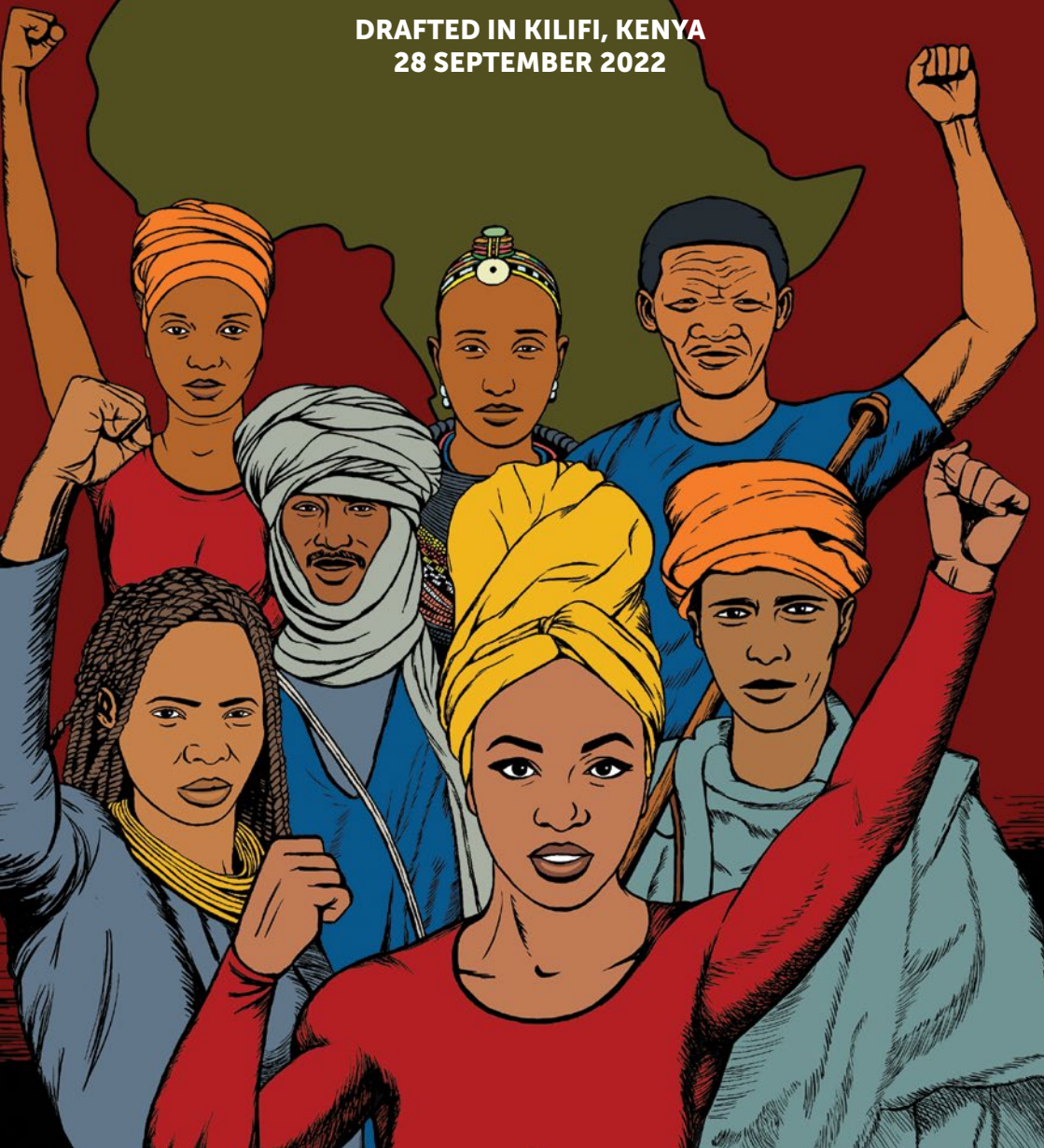


DEMANDS OF AFRICAN ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENDERS

DRAFTED IN KILIFI, KENYA
28 SEPTEMBER 2022



WHO ARE WE?

We are a movement of African Environmental Defenders. We are individuals, communities, organisations and coalitions. We hold no specific religion, faith or belief. We own, use and protect the land. We are the voice for our communities. We are not anti-development. We hold our governments accountable for their commitments. We promote sustainability. We are the protectors of mother earth. We believe that we have a responsibility to preserve our common heritage.

WE DEMAND THAT OUR VOICES BE HEARD.

All governments, civil society and others must recognise environmental defenders as equal rights holders. We demand that our voices are the centre of all decision-making processes regarding our land and the environment. We demand the recognition and respect of Free, Prior, Informed and Continuous Consent.

WE DEMAND THAT OUR GOVERNMENTS RESPECT THEIR CLIMATE CHANGE AND BIODIVERSITY COMMITMENTS.

We demand practical and realistic solutions to the climate crisis. We demand the implementation of the Paris Agreement. We demand an end to more mega-extractive industries, no more proliferation of, or large-scale investment in gas and oil.

WE DEMAND THAT OUR WORK IS RESPECTED.

We demand that our roles as environmental defenders be respected and that our lives are protected. We demand that all harassment and killings of defenders cease and that reparations are made to defenders that have been victims of crimes.

WE DEMAND THAT OUR RIGHTS ARE PROMOTED.

We demand a global mandatory legal framework on the rights of environmental defenders. We demand the recognition of human rights by investors. We demand more consideration of the impacts of the just energy transition on communities and their land and environmental rights.

WE DEMAND REPARATIONS FOR CLIMATE CHANGE.

We demand reparations for loss and damage due to climate change. The payment of climate reparations should be centre impacted communities.

WE DEMAND THAT OUR KNOWLEDGE IS RESPECTED.

We demand that indigenous peoples, and their livelihoods and ways of life, are recognised and respected. We demand the recognition, documentation and dissemination of the importance of Traditional Knowledge in addressing climate change.

