Excellencies, and colleagues from all Major groups and stakeholders gathered here today.

My name is Lorena Terrazas. I’m from Bolivia and today I’m speaking as a Regional Facilitator of Major Groups and Stakeholders in the Latin-American and Caribbean Region.

Well, I want to begin by saying we all know the current situation with the multiple crises facing us.

Today, despite the many challenges that we face in the LAC region, I would like to stress three specific points:

1.- We consider that the Escazú Agreement is a very important instrument for civil society across the region to have effective access to environmental justice, participation and information. And it can assist in adding the situation of human rights defenders on environmental issues to the table.

In the LAC region has a large percentage of people are killed while defending territories or environmental causes. Please consider this situation in your next decisions and in your reflections.

2.- We need increased funding to include civil society participation in environmental decisions, and we do thank you for your support now, but we also need to refresh the strategies and a new vision for the future and sustainability, and we need specific financial mechanisms and ways of support towards increasing civil society participation and representation.

3.- And finally, the road to UNEA-6 is very important and to including the voices and proposals of indigenous peoples, local communities and civil society organizations and we therefore encourage to continue promoting regional and local consultations and dialogues with the civil society.

THE PLANET NEEDs MORE ACTIONS, MOTHER EARTH SPEAKS to US AND SHE SAYs SAVE ME NOW!!!

Thank you for giving me the floor.