



Statement of Coastal 500 Mayors

On the COP30 Local Leaders Forum

The COP30 Local Leaders Forum was a tremendous opportunity for local leaders to share experiences confronting climate change, and how those experiences have shaped our perspectives. We are grateful to Bloomberg Philanthropies and the COP30 Presidency for including rural and coastal leaders in this forum and elevating the voices of coastal communities around the world.

As leaders of frontline communities, we see the impacts of climate change up close—rising seas displacing families, extreme weather disrupting livelihoods, and collapsing ecosystems jeopardizing the food and water security of entire communities. For us, climate change is not on the horizon. It is here. And while our proximity to the ocean may make us vulnerable, it also makes us resilient.

Our municipalities may be small, but the impact of our solutions ripple far beyond our shores. Our communities are adjacent to some of the most biodiversity-rich ocean waters and the largest stretches of mangrove forest in the world. Each mangrove restored, reef protected, and sustainable practice adopted contributes to a more resilient planet. Multiplied across hundreds of communities, we are a force strong enough to shape national policy and drive global progress on climate resilience and ocean protection.

Coastal 500 leaders stand ready to partner with other leaders from cities, districts and states—large and small, inland and coastal, rural and urban—to demonstrate how local action, individually and collectively, can deliver change at scale. We urge global leaders gathering for COP30 in Belem, Brazil, to lean into local leadership and recognize our power to tackle this global challenge.

Signed:

Alfredo Coro, Mayor, Del Carmen, Philippines

Hamilton Brito, Mayor, Curuçá, Brazil

Francisco Queiroz de Oliveira, Mayor, Augusto Corrêa, Brazil

Áureo Bezerra Gomes, Mayor, Primavera, Brazil

José Augusto da Silva, Mayor, Quatipuru, Brazil