THE ESCAZÚ AGREEMENT: HOW TO BECOME A STATE PARTY

Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean, known as the Escazú Agreement





What is it?

A treaty negotiated and agreed in a transparent and participatory manner by countries of Latin America and the Caribbean in order to benefit their citizens



Why is it so important?

It is the first regional environmental treaty of Latin America and the Caribbean and the first in the world to include specific provisions to guarantee a safe and enabling environment for environmental defenders. It focuses on persons and groups in vulnerable situations so as to leave no one behind

How can States become Parties?

Art. 21 of the Agreement

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The Escazú Agreement is open to the 33 countries of Latin America and the Caribbean

The treaty provides two procedures for States to become Parties:

If the State **signed** before 26 September 2020



Ratification

If the State did not sign before 26 September 2020



Accession

The Agreement was open for signature between 27 September 2018 and 26 September 2020 at United Nations Headquarters in New York. The 24 countries that signed it may deposit their instruments of ratification at any time.

Signatory countries





Argentina

Belize

Bolivia





























Grenada











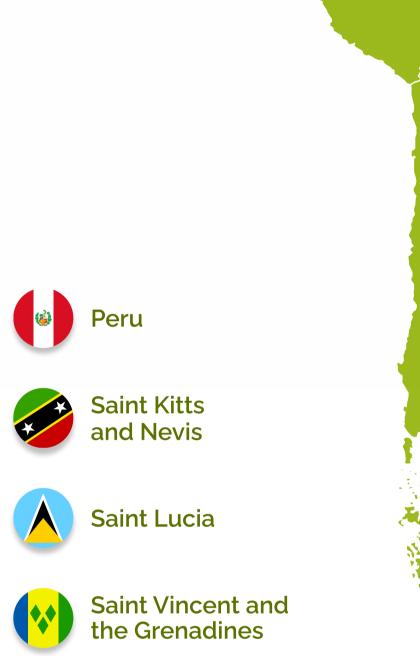












Uruguay

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The countries that did not sign the Agreement before 26 September 2020 may accede to it in a single step process

When will the Agreement enter into force?

Art. 22 of the Agreement



Eleventh instrument of

ratification or accession

States that ratify or accede **before** entry into force



days

States that ratify or accede after entry into force



The Agreement will enter into force 90 days after the date of deposit of the eleventh instrument of ratification or accession For those States that ratify or accede after the entry into force of the treaty, it shall enter into force 90 days after the date of deposit of their instrument of ratification or accession

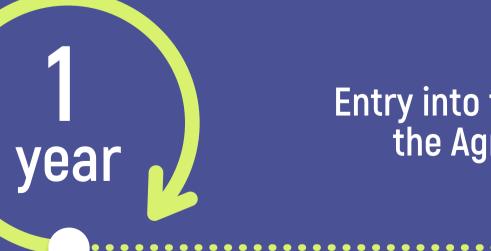
When will the first Conference of the Parties take place?

Art. 15, paragraph 2

The Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, that serves as Secretariat of the Escazú Agreement, shall convene the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties no later than one year after the entry into force of the **Agreement.** That is, no later than 15 months after the deposit of the eleventh instrument of ratification or accession.



The first meeting of the Conference of the Parties will be convened no later than:



Entry into force of the Agreement





DEPOSI Eleventh instrument of ratification or accession





More information:

Secretariat – Escazú Agreement Sustainable Development and Human Settlements Division http://www.cepal.org/en/escazuagreement http://observatoriop10.cepal.org/en



