



EMBASSY OF ECUADOR
Stockholm-Sweden

Note No. 4-10-012/2013

The Embassy of Ecuador presents its compliments to the Honorable Parliaments of the Kingdoms of Sweden, Denmark and Norway, and Republics of Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia and Lithuania, and apropos the discrediting campaign waged by the U.S. oil company, Chevron, informs about “the true story of Chevron’s Ecuador disaster”.

Over three decades of oil drilling in the Ecuadorian Amazon, Chevron dumped more than 18 billion gallons of toxic wastewater into the rainforest, leaving local people suffering a wave of cancers, miscarriages and birth defects. Now, with the support of an international campaign for justice, the communities affected by Chevron's negligence are holding one of the world's largest oil companies to account.

According with the so-called “Summary of Overwhelming Evidence against Chevron in Ecuador Trial”, published in January 2012, by “Amazon Defense Coalition”, summary which content is truthful, “an Ecuadorian appeals court ... affirmed a trial court judgment finding Chevron guilty of massive environmental contamination stemming from its Ecuador operations (under the Texaco brand) from 1964-1992. Following the request of Chevron, the Ecuador trial court processed the case with meticulous attention to the due process rights of the parties, generating a voluminous record of 220,000 pages that contains more than 100 expert reports, testimony from dozens of witnesses, scientific data from 54 court-supervised inspections, independent health evaluations, and reams of legal argument”.

“The proceeding transpired over the course of almost nine years—an agonizingly long time for the affected rainforest indigenous and farmer communities, who literally were dying off as Chevron employed (and continues to employ)- delay tactics to prevent a resolution of their claims. As summarized ...” by the quoted document “...the evidence before the Ecuador trial and appellate courts demonstrated overwhelmingly that Chevron (a) recklessly adopted sub-standard operational practices in Ecuador to cut production costs to the bare minimum, creating what experts believe could be the largest and most damaging oil-related disaster of all time; (b) flagrantly violated multiple Ecuadorian laws, its own contractual obligations, and oil industry standards in effect at the time; and thereby (c) caused massive environmental damage to an area the size of Rhode Island that for decades to come will create myriad health risks for thousands of rainforest inhabitants unless there is a comprehensive clean-up. The evidence against Chevron comes not only from the plaintiffs, but also from *Chevron’s own experts and environmental auditors* as well as

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A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be a stylized name, possibly 'Luis', written over a faint circular stamp or watermark.



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independent third-party sources. The damages also included a punitive component designed to punish Chevron for trying to sabotage the trial and threaten judges with jail time if they did not rule in the company's favour”.

Ecuador strongly believes that leaders, policy makers, social movements, scientists and individuals have to know the “true story of Chevron’s Ecuador disaster”, and to this purpose the Embassy kindly invites to study the contents of chevrontoxico.com website.

The Embassy of Ecuador avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Honorable Parliaments of the Kingdoms of Sweden, Denmark and Norway, and Republics of Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia and Lithuania the assurances of its highest and most distinguished consideration.

Stockholm, August 7, 2013

A blue ink handwritten signature is written over a circular official seal. The seal features the coat of arms of Ecuador in the center, surrounded by the text "EMBAJADA DEL ECUADOR" at the top and "SUECIA" at the bottom.