

OHCHR Expert Meeting on Climate Change and Human Rights

6 – 7 October 2016

Room XXIV, Geneva, Palais des Nations

(please note no interpretation is available for this meeting)

Concept

In the Paris Agreement to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, States agreed to respect, promote and consider human rights when taking climate action. This two-day meeting will bring together States, civil society organizations, UN Agencies and experts to consider the implications of this commitment. The meeting will include both expert panel discussions and interactive breakout groups. In advance of the meeting, OHCHR, in collaboration with relevant partners, will prepare short discussion papers on the following subjects:

- The rights of persons, groups and peoples disproportionately impacted by climate change
- Human rights, migration, and displacement related to the adverse impacts of climate change
- Integrating human rights in climate action and promoting accountability for climate commitments through human rights mechanisms

Objectives

- To build momentum toward and develop a strategy for integration of human rights in climate action including at the UNFCCC and COP22;
- To increase awareness of the links between human rights and climate change, including by promoting improved monitoring of the human rights impacts of climate change
- To inform OHCHR's future work in the area of climate change and human rights

Desired outputs

- A summary report of the discussion
- An action agenda for human rights and climate change

Potential participants and co-sponsors

States: All States were invited by Note Verbale.

UN System Agencies: UN Environment, UNICEF, UN Women, UNHCR, UNFCCC, OCHA, UNDP, UNISDR, UNITAR, WHO, ILO, FAO.

Civil Society: Mary Robinson Foundation – Climate Justice, Earthjustice, Centre for International Environmental Law, Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, Human Rights Watch, academics, and representatives of the major constituency groups (youth, indigenous peoples, women and gender, trade unions, businesses, etc.).

Intergovernmental organizations and initiatives: IOM, Nansen Initiative / Platform on Disaster Displacement, MICIC, IPCC

Human rights mechanisms: NHRIs, Special Procedures, Treaty-bodies



6 October 2016

9.00 – 9.30 Registration / Coffee sponsored by Mary Robinson Foundation – Climate Justice

9.30 – 10.15 High Level Opening

Chair: Mr. Bat-Erdene Ayush, Chief, Right to Development Section, OHCHR

- Ms. Kate Gilmore, Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights
- Ms. Mary Robinson, President, Mary Robinson Foundation – Climate Justice
- H.E. Ms. Elayne Whyte Gomez, Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the United Nations in Geneva speaking on behalf of the Geneva Pledge for Human Rights in Climate Action
- H.E. Mr. Negash Kebret, Permanent Representative of Ethiopia to the United Nations Office at Geneva and International Organisations in Switzerland and Vienna

10.15– 12.15 Panel presentations and dialogue on the rights of persons, groups and peoples disproportionately impacted by climate change

Chair: Ms. Barbara Ruis, Legal Officer, UN Environment

- Mr. Michael Burger, Executive Director, Sabin Center for Climate Change Law
- Ms. Isabell Kempf, Co-director, UNDP-UNEP Poverty-Environment Initiative
- Ms. Andrea Carmen, Executive Director, International Indian Treaty Council
- Mr. Martin Oelz, Senior Specialist on Equality and Non-Discrimination, ILO
- Ms. Verona Collantes, Intergovernmental Specialist, UN Women
- Ms. Joni Pegram, Senior Policy & Advocacy Adviser (Climate Change), UNICEF UK
- Ms. Nelly Caleb, National Coordinator and Co-Chair Pacific Disabilities Forum

12.15 – 13.00 Introductory breakout session

13.00 – 14.30 Lunch break sponsored by Mary Robinson Foundation – Climate Justice

14.30 – 15.45 Panel presentations and dialogue on human rights, migration, and displacement related to the adverse impacts of climate change

Chair: Ms. Mary Robinson, President, Mary Robinson Foundation – Climate Justice

- Ms. Pia Oberoi, Adviser on Migration and Human Rights, OHCHR
- Mr. Atle Solberg, Head of Coordination Unit, Platform on Disaster Displacement
- Ms. Dina Ionesco, Head, Migration, Environment and Climate Change Division, International Organization for Migration



- Ms. Michelle Yonetani, Senior Strategic Advisor, Disasters and Climate Change, Internal Displacement Monitoring Center
- Mr. Geoff Dabelko, Professor and Director, Environmental Studies Program, Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs, Ohio University
- Ms. Ellen Hansen, Senior Policy Adviser reporting to the Assistant High Commissioner for Protection, UNHCR
- Mr. Marco Toscano-Rivalta, Chief - Intergovernmental Policy Support and Legal Questions, UNISDR

15.45 – 17.30 First breakout discussion (displacement)

17.30 – 18.00 Reporting back and summing up

18.00 Evening refreshment sponsored by the Permanent Mission of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva

7 October 2016

9.00 – 9.30 Registration / coffee sponsored by Mary Robinson Foundation – Climate Justice

9.30 – 11.30 Panel presentations and dialogue on mobilizing human rights machinery to monitor the impacts of climate change and promote accountability for climate commitments

Chair: Mr. Yves Lador, Permanent Representative of Earthjustice in Geneva

- Ms. Catalina Devandas Aguilar, Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities
- Ms. Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples
- Ms. Hilal Elver Special Rapporteur on the right to food
- Mr. Roberto Cadiz, Commissioner, Commission on Human Rights of the Philippines
- Mr. Khalid Ramli, Head, United Nations System Section, National Human Rights Council Morocco (CNDH)
- Ms. Nahla Haidar, Member, Committee of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
- Ms. Kirsten Sandberg, Member, Committee of the Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Ms. Eniko Horvath, Senior Researcher, Business and Human Rights Resource Centre

11.30 – 13.00 Second breakout discussion (human rights mechanisms)

13.00 – 14.30 Lunch break sponsored by Mary Robinson Foundation – Climate Justice

14.30 – 16.30 Panel presentations and dialogue on integrating human rights in climate actions and UNFCCC processes

Chair: Mr. Vicente Yu, Deputy Executive Director, South Centre

- Ms. Mariana Bolshakova, Legal Officer, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
- Ms. Stella Funsani Gama, Deputy Director of Forestry, Malawi
- Ms. Ratha Chhan, Deputy Director of Women & Education Department, Ministry of Women's Affairs, Cambodia
- Ms. Maria Jose Veramendi, Senior Attorney, Human Rights and Environment Programme, Interamerican Association for Environmental Defense (AIDA)
- Mr. Sébastien Duyck, Senior Attorney, Center for International Environmental Law
- Ms. Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim, Coordinator, Association for Indigenous Women and Peoples of Chad
- Mr. Ademola Oluborode Jegede, Senior Lecturer, Department of Public & International Law, University of Venda
- Mr. Josep A. Garí, Senior Policy Advisor, Sustainable Development Cluster & UN-REDD Partnership, UNDP

16.30 – 17.30 Third breakout discussion (UNFCCC processes)

17.30 – 18.00 Reporting back from second day

18.00 Closing