

THE INTERDEPENDENCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND BIODIVERSITY

Side- event, Thursday 9th March, 2017 14:00-16:00

Palais des Nations, Geneva, Room XXIII

Event summary

Globally, biodiversity is declining at an alarming rate. The pressure on biodiversity and ecosystems undermines sustainable development and the enjoyment of human rights, including the rights to life, health, adequate standard of living and participation in cultural life. The side event will strengthen awareness on how biodiversity and healthy ecosystems underpin human well-being, the realization of rights and sustainable development as countries begin to implement the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals.

Event objectives

- To build awareness of how sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity and ecosystem services is linked to the realization of human rights.
- To support the presentation of the Special Rapporteur's report to the 34th Human Rights Council.
- To encourage the Human Rights Council to include the Special Rapporteur's recommendations in the Resolution on human rights and the environment.

Panelists

Welcome by moderator : H.E. Mr Valentin Zellweger, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the United Nations

- **Mr John KNOX**, Special Rapporteur on human rights and the environment
- **Ms Inger ANDERSEN**, Director General, International Union for Conservation of Nature
- **H.E. Ms Hala HAMEED**, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Maldives to the United Nations
- **Ms Sultana KAMAL**, Executive Director, Ain o Salish Kendra, Legal Aid & Human Rights Organization, Bangladesh
- **Mr Marco LAMBERTINI**, Director General, World Wide Fund for Nature International
- **Mr Ivo MULDER**, REDD+ Economics Advisor, United Nations Environment

Closing remarks: Mr Yves Lador, Permanent Representative, Earthjustice

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