Climate change and human rights

CONFERENCE ON A CLIMATE ACTION
ORGANIZED BY ICJ-CH, GREENPEACE, KLIMASENIORINNEN)
FRIBOURG, SWITZERLAND
20 NOVEMBER 2018
SOO-YOUNG HWANG
OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
Climate change and human rights

- Paris Agreement
  - Preamble “Parties should, when taking action to address climate change, respect, promote and consider their respective obligations on human rights, the right to health, the rights of indigenous peoples, local communities, migrants, children, persons with disabilities and people in vulnerable situations and the right to development, as well as gender equality, empowerment of women and intergenerational equity”
Efforts of integrating human rights in climate actions

- OHCHR – High Commissioner
- Treaty bodies
- Human Rights Council (HRC)
- Special Procedures
- Universal Periodic Review
Climate change, human rights and gender

- Human Rights Committee
  - General comment No. 36 - right to life
- Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)
  - General recommendation No. 27 - Older women and protection of their human rights
  - General recommendation No. 37 - On Gender-related dimensions of disaster risk reduction in the context of climate change
- HRC resolutions on climate change
  - Resolution 38/4 (June 2018)
    - HRC panel on gender at the 42nd session
    - A study on the integration of a gender-responsive approach into climate action for the full and effective enjoyment of the rights of women
Climate change and older persons

- Human rights of older persons
  - Ms. Rosa Kornfeld-Matte, the first Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons
  - Open-ended Working Group on Ageing for the purpose of strengthening the protection human rights of older persons
  - Treaty on older persons?
Climate change and SDGs

- Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
Switzerland

- Core group
  - HRC resolution on human rights and the environment
- Geneva Pledge
- Party to human rights treaties
- SDGs

### Resolutions on human rights and the environment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symbol</th>
<th>Languages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HRC resolution 37/8</td>
<td>E F S A C R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HRC resolution 34/20</td>
<td>E F S A C R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HRC resolution 31/8</td>
<td>E F S A C R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HRC resolution 28/11</td>
<td>E F S A C R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HRC resolution 25/21</td>
<td>E F S A C R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HRC resolution 19/10</td>
<td>E F S A C R</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Concept Note**

**The Post-Paris agenda: bridging human rights, climate change and the environment**

- **Objective:**
  - Strengthening the Geneva Pledge

- **General Measures:**
  - To present the Geneva Pledge to a wider community within the UNFCCC and to elaborate a dialogue on how the human rights principles can be linked to specific mechanisms and thematic actions within the UNFCCC framework.
  - With the aim of the Geneva Pledge, a wider community within the UNFCCC can be linked to specific actions and thematic actions within the UNFCCC framework.
  - Building on the Paris Agreement example, Agenda 2030 and the Human Rights Council resolutions on human rights, climate change and environment respectively, the signatories of the Geneva Pledge, in line with COP24, will take specific actions to further develop these ideas at the national level.
  - A high level statement by UNFCCC Executive Secretary Patricia Espinosa, the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand and the Geneva Pledge Country Signatories, will clearly convey climate change and human rights agenda, and other relevant stakeholders to:

**Text in the document:**

- This document has been prepared with the assistance of UNFCCC. UNFCCC, Secretariat and the Geneva Pledge Country Signatories, as major sponsors, support the Geneva Pledge to address climate change, human rights and other relevant stakeholders to:

---

This document has been prepared with the assistance of UNFCCC. UNFCCC, Secretariat and the Geneva Pledge Country Signatories, as major sponsors, support the Geneva Pledge to address climate change, human rights and other relevant stakeholders to:
Special Rapporteur on human rights and the environment

- Framework Principles
- Climate change report
- IPCC report press release
- Expert statement - climate change litigation
- Country visit to Fiji
- Right to a healthy and sustainable environment?
Merci beaucoup