

An Open Letter by Global Civil Society and Indigenous Peoples for the Establishment of a new UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and Climate Change

To the States Members and Observers of the United Nations Human Rights Council

As the 47th session of the UN Human Rights Council (HRC) is taking place from 21 June to 15 July, 2021, the undersigned civil society and Indigenous Peoples organizations call on the UN member States through the HRC to establish at this session a new UN Special Rapporteur on human rights and climate change.

Climate change is an existential threat for humanity, jeopardizing the realization of all human rights for present and future generations. As the impacts of the climate crisis worsen and aggravate intersecting forms of discrimination against various peoples, individuals and groups in our societies, action can no longer be postponed at the HRC and urgent measures to protect people and the planet must be adopted. The issue of climate change cannot only be left any more to interesting interactive dialogues or to the existing different Special Procedures to address it when they can, even if their various contributions have been remarkable.

The creation of such a dedicated Special Rapporteur mandate focusing on the challenges of climate change is a longstanding request by a growing number of civil society organizations and of Indigenous Peoples, given that a dedicated mandate would enable the HRC to elevate its work on climate change in a systematic and sustainable way, protect people from runaway climate change and its unavoidable impacts, and promote respect for human rights in climate responses. Simply put, climate change must be a higher priority at the HRC.

In 2019, the Marshall Islands, on behalf of the Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF), called for the creation of a dedicated HRC Special Rapporteur on human rights and climate change at the 25th Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. In the past two years, this proposal has gained momentum amongst States. During the 46th session of the HRC in March 2021, in an unprecedented move, a cross-regional group of 56 States joined Bangladesh in a statement that called upon Council members to consider creating this new mandate.

It is now time to act on these statements. We, the undersigned, thus reiterate our call urging States to establish a new Special Rapporteur on human rights and climate change at the 47th session of the Human Rights Council.

Co-signatories * Co-signatarios * Co-signataires
as of 23 June 2021

International organizations

1. ACT Alliance
2. Adaptation Strategies International
3. Amnesty International
4. Anglican Consultative Council
5. Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (FORUM-ASIA)
6. Associazione Comunita Papa Giiovanni XXIII
7. AWID (Association for Women's Rights in Development)
8. Business and Human Rights Resource Centre
9. Carmelite ngo
10. Casa Generalizia della Societa del Sacro Cuore
11. Center for Climate Change and Sustainable development
12. Center for Global Nonkilling
13. Centre for Human Rights and Climate Change Research
14. Centre for the Sustainable use of Natural and Social Resources
15. Centro de Estudios HEÑÓI
16. Center for International Environmental Law
17. Climate Refugees
18. Comboni Missionaries
19. Committee on the Administration of Justice
20. Company of Daughters of Charity of St Vincent de Paul
21. Confédération Internationale de la Société de Saint Vincent de Paul
22. Congregación de Nuestra Señora de la Caridad del Buen Pastor
23. Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd
24. Congregations of St. Joseph
25. Child Rights International Network (CRIN)
26. Cultural Survival
27. DAWN - Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era
28. Dominican Leadership Conference
29. Dominicans for Justice and Peace
30. Dominican Leadership Conference
31. Earthjustice
32. EarthRights International
33. Edmund Rice International
34. Emmaus International
35. Emonyoye Yefwe International
36. EnGen Collaborative
37. Environmental Justice Foundation
38. Faith for the Climate
39. FIAN International
40. FIDH (International Federation for Human Rights)
41. Fondazione Proclade Internazionale-onlus
42. Forest Peoples Programme
43. Foundation for GAIA
44. Foundation for the Conservation of the Earth
45. Franciscans International
46. Gatef organizations
47. Gender Action
48. Geneva for Human Rights

49. Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (GI-ESCR)
50. Global Initiative for Food Security and Ecosystem Preservation (GIFSEP)
51. Global Legal Action Network
52. Good Shepherd International Justice Peace Office
53. Greenpeace
54. Heartland Initiative, Inc.
55. Heinrich Böll Foundation
56. Housing and Land Rights Network
57. Humanity & Inclusion
58. Human Rights Movement
59. Human Rights Watch
60. Humanium
61. Indigenous Environmental Network
62. Indigenous Peoples Rights International
63. Initiatives des Femmes en Situations Difficiles pour le Développement Durable et Intégré
64. Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Loreto Generalate
65. International Accountability Project
66. International Alliance of grandparents for climate
67. International Alliance of Women
68. International Baby Food Action Network (IBFAN)
69. International Indian Treaty Council (IITC)
70. International Movement Against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism (IMADR)
71. International Rivers
72. International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations
73. International-Lawyers.Org
74. Ipas – Health Access Rights
75. Justiça Global
76. Justice Coalition of Religious (JCoR)
77. Loss and Damage Youth Coalition
78. Lucis Trust/Bonne Volonté Mondiale
79. MADRE
80. Make Mothers Matter
81. Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers
82. Maryknoll Lay Missioners
83. Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns
84. Maryknoll Sisters of St. Dominic, Inc.
85. Mary Ward JPIC Office
86. Mennonite Central Committee United Nations Office
87. Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate
88. New Humanity
89. Norwegian Refugee Council
90. PeaceX
91. Plan International
92. Practical Action
93. Rainforest Action Network
94. Religious of the Good Shepherd
95. Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary NGO
96. Resurj
97. Save the Children
98. Secular Franciscan Order Canada Servas Internationales
99. Sisters of Charity Federation
100. Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur

101. Sisters of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd.
102. Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace
103. Sisters of the good shepherd
104. Society of the Sacred Heart
105. Society of St Francis
106. Soka Gakkai International
107. Temple of Understanding
108. Third Order Society of St Francis
109. UNANIMA International
110. Urgent Action Fund for Women's Human Rights
111. Veterans For Peace
112. VIVAT International
113. Women Engage for a Common Future - WECF
114. Women's Earth and Climate Action Network
115. Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)
116. Women and Modern World Social Charitable Center
117. World Against Racism Network
118. World Climate Council
119. World Christian Life Community
120. World Yoga Community
121. World's Youth for Climate Justice
122. YOUNGO

Regional, national and local organizations

123. 350.org Japan
124. Abibinsroma Foundation - Ghana
125. Accion Ecologica - Ecuador
126. ActionAid Australia
127. ActionAid Denmark
128. Action Communautaire por la promotion des Défavorisés BATWA – Central Africa
129. Action de Carême Suisse
130. Africa Climate and Health Alliance
131. Africa Coal Network
132. African Coalition on Green Growth
133. Africa Earth Environment and Wildlife Defenders
134. Afrihealth Optonet Association (CSOs Network)
135. African Network on Gender Equality and Sustainable Development
136. Agenda ciudadana por el desarrollo y la corresponsabilidad social AC - Mexico
137. Akina Mama wa Afrika
138. Albanian Human Rights Group (AHRG)
139. Albanian Society for All Ages
140. Alboan Fundazioa - Spain
141. Al-Haq - Palestine
142. Alliance for Future Generations - Fiji
143. ALTSEAN-Burma
144. Amamanta Paraguay
145. Amazon Watch
146. American Association of Jurists
147. Amigos de la Tierra - Argentina
148. Amis de l'Afrique Francophone Bénin
149. Amman Center for Human Rights Studies – Middle East
150. Amnesty International USA

151. Arolama-IBFAN Costa Rica
152. AquaHub -Nicaragua
153. Arab Society for Academic Freedom - Jordan
154. Arayara Foundation – Brasil
155. Arayara Foundation – Uruguay
156. Armanshahr|OPEN ASIA
157. Asian Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women (ARROW)
158. Asociación Ambiente y Sociedad – Colombia
159. Asociación Argentina de Abogados/as Ambientalistas
160. Asociación Costa Rica Íntegra
161. Asociación Escuela de Montaña Camino a Farellones - Chile
162. Asociación de Líderes Comunitarios Red Angel Shingre - Ecuador
163. Asociación Mujeres Trabajadoras Sexuales Girasoles - Nicaragua
164. Asociación de pescadores artesanales del golfo de Fonseca Apagolf
165. Asociación Interamericana para la Defensa del Ambiente (AIDA)
166. Asociación Pro Derechos Humanos de España
167. Association pour le Développement de l'Entomoforesterie et La Sauvegarde de l'Environnement
168. Association la Siesta Mohammedia - Morocco
169. Association Marocaine des Droits Humains
170. Associação Nacional Independente dos Participantes e Assistidos da FUNCEF - Brasil
171. Associação de Preservação do Meio Ambiente e da Vida – Apremavi - Brasil
172. Association Women for the Contemporary Society - Moldova
173. A Sud - Ecologia e Cooperazione - Italia
174. Australian Lawyers for Human Rights
175. Aytzim: Ecological Judaism
176. Better World Cameroon
177. Cadire Cameroon Association
178. Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS)
179. CAMBIUM - Colombia
180. Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment
181. Canadian Health Organization for Sustainability and Equity (CHASE)
182. Capítulo Peruano Movimiento Católico por el Clima
183. Carbone Guinée
184. Care Society and Environment (CASE)
185. Caritas Zambia
186. Center ANNA - Russia
187. Centre for Citizens Conserving (CECIC) - Uganda
188. Centre Oblat: A Voice for Justice - Canada
189. Centro para la Acción Legal en Derechos Humanos (CALDH) - Guatemala
190. Centro para la Autonomía y Desarrollo de los Pueblos Indígenas – CADPI - Nicaragua
191. Centro de Capacitación en Ecología y Salud para Campesinos/Defensoría del Derecho a la Salud – Mexico
192. Centro de Capacitación e Investigación de la Mujer Campesina de Tarija (CCIMCAT) - Bolivia
193. Centro de Colaboracion Civica- Mexico
194. Centro de Culturas Indígenas de Perú (CHIRAPAO)
195. Centro de Documentación en Derechos Humanos "Segundo Montes Mozo S.J." (CSMM)
196. Centro Ecosocial Latinoamericano
197. Centro de Energía Renovable y Calidad Ambiental AC - Mexico
198. Centro de Estudios Sociales y Culturales Antonio de Montesinos A.C. – Mexico
199. Centro Internacional de Investigaciones sobre Ambiente y Territorio - Ecuador

200. Centro Nicaragüense de Conservación Ambiental
201. Centro de Políticas Publicas y Derechos Humanos (EQUIDAD) - Peru
202. Centre for Environmental Rights, CER – South Africa
203. Centre for 21st Century Issues - Nigeria
204. CEUS Chile
205. Chalimbana River Headwaters Conservation Trust - Zambia
206. China Labour Bulletin
207. CIRECK (Cercle International de Recherches et d'Etudes des Civilisations beKwel)
208. Citizen's Network For Community Development Zambia
209. Circulah
210. Climate Action Network (CAN) Canada
211. Climate Action Network (CAN) Europe
212. Climate Action Network Latin America (CANLA)
213. Climate Action Network (CAN) South Asia
214. Climate Action Network (CAN) Zimbabwe
215. Climate Frontlines, Friends of the Earth Australia
216. Clímax Brasil
217. Colectivo de Abogados "José Alvear Restrepo" - Colombia
218. Collectif Sénégalais des Africaines pour la Promotion de l'Education Relative à l'Environnement (COSAPERRE)
219. Comision Batuco Comuna - Chile
220. Comité de Acción Jurídica Argentina
221. Comité de Solidarité avec les Victimes des Violations des Droits Humains (CSVVDH) - Mauritanie
222. Commission des droits de l'homme du Cameroun
223. Community Empowerment and Social Justice Network (CEMSOJ) - Nepal
224. Comunidad Indígena CASCOMI
225. Congregação nossa senhora da caridade do Bom Pastor
226. Congregación de Nuestra Señora de la Caridad del Buen Pastor América Latina
227. CooperAcción
228. Coordinación de ONG y Cooperativas CONGCOOP (Guatemala)
229. Coordinadora de Derechos Humanos del Paraguay
230. Coordinadora Ecuatoriana de organizaciones para la Defensa de la Naturaleza y el Medio Ambiente (CEDENMA)
231. Corporación Camino a Farellones - Chile
232. Corporación Chile Ambiente
233. Corporación La Caleta - Chile
234. Crude Accountability - Caspian and Black Sea regions
235. Danish Family Planning Association
236. deCOALonize Kenya
237. Dibeem for Environmental Development - Jordan
238. DITSHWANELO The Botswana Centre for Human Rights
239. Diverse Voices and Action for Equality - Fiji
240. DKA Austria
241. Dutch League for Human Rights (Liga voor de Rechten van de Mens) - The Netherlands
242. DUZAFOUND - Nigeria
243. Election Network in the Arab World
244. Energy Mix Productions - Canada
245. Enlace Continental de Mujeres Indígenas de las Américas
246. Environmental Defence - Canada
247. Equidad de Género: Ciudadanía, Trabajo y Familia - Mexico
248. Equiterre - Canada

249. Fé, paz e clima – Brasil
250. Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas (FAWCO)
251. Federation of Community Forestry Users (FECOFUN) - Nepal
252. FIAN Belgium
253. FIAN Colombia
254. FIAN Honduras
255. FIAN India
256. FIAN Mexico
257. FIAN Nepal
258. FIAN Sweden
259. FIAN Switzerland
260. FIAN Uganda
261. FIAN Zambia
262. FIMA - Chile
263. FOKUS - Forum for Women and Development - Norway
264. Fondation Eboko - France
265. Forum Tunisien pour les Droits Economiques et Sociaux
266. Franciscan Missionaries of Mary – Texas - USA
267. Fraternidad Villarrica - Chile
268. Fridays for Future - Kenya
269. Friends of the Earth Canada
270. Friends of the Earth Sweden
271. FUNBBASIC - Ecuador
272. Fundacion Chile Sustentable
273. Fundación Economía para el Desarrollo – Latin America
274. Fundación Ciudadanía Inteligente - Chile
275. Fundacion Gesta - Chile
276. Fundación Haciendo - Ecuador
277. Fundación Instituto de la Mujer - Chile
278. Fundación Mexicana para la Planeación Familiar, A. C. MEXFAM
279. Fundação Montescola
280. Fundación Pais XXI - Colombia
281. Fundación para el Desarrollo de Políticas Sustentables (FUNDEPS) - Argentina
282. Fundacion para Estudio e investigacion de la Mujer
283. Fundacion Plurales - Argentina
284. Fundación Promoción Humana - Colombia
285. Fundación Regional de Asesoría en Derechos Humanos, INREDH
286. Good Shepherd Sri Lanka
287. Greater Whange Residents Trust - Zimbabwe
288. Greenpeace México
289. Greenpeace Spain
290. Green Creation - The Netherlands
291. Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Alexandria and all Africa
292. Grupo Ecologia y Ecumenidmo - Parroquia Ntr. Sra. Del Valle - Mexico
293. Grupo Peru Ambiente y Clima-GPAC/coletivo de Sociedad Civil
294. Gulf Coast Center for Law & Policy
295. Hivos
296. Homeless peoples federation Philippines (HPFPI)
297. Human Rights Association (İnsan Hakları Derneği)
298. Human Rights Commission of Pakistan
299. Indigenous Climate Action - USA
300. Indigenous Environmental Network - USA

301. Iniciativa Amotocodie - Paraguay
302. Iniciativas para el Desarrollo de la Mujer Oaxaqueña AC
303. International Baby Food Action Network (IBFAN) - Argentina
304. International Baby Food Action Network (IBFAN) - Ecuador
305. International Baby Food Action Network (IBFAN) - Honduras
306. International Baby Food Action Network (IBFAN) - Latinoamérica y Caribe
307. International Baby Food Action Network (IBFAN) - Luxembourg BLL
308. International Baby Food Action Network (IBFAN) - Peru
309. International Baby Food Action Network (IBFAN) - Venezuela
310. International Women's Development Agency (IWDA) – Asia Pacific
311. International Transformational Resilience Coalition – California - USA
312. Instituto 5 Elementos - Educação para a Sustentabilidade - Brasil
313. Instituto Alana Brasil
314. Instituto Climainfo - Brasil
315. Instituto Maíra Brasil
316. Instituto de Pesquisa e Desenvolvimento Amazonica-GTA - Brasil
317. Instituto de Pesquisa e Formação Indígena – Iépé - Brasil
318. Intercambio Social - Mexico
319. International Campaign for Tibet
320. International Women's Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific
321. Irish Council for Civil Liberties
322. ISACI (Island Sustainability Alliance CIS Inc.) - Cook Islands
323. J&P Central South Province Sisters of the Good Shepherd
324. Junta de Desarrollo Local, Corregimiento de Betania-Panamá
325. Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation (JPIC) Kalimantan - Indonesia
326. Karbi Human Rights Watch
327. Kasungu Wildlife Conservation for Community Development Association (KAWICCODA)
328. Keepacoolworld – New Zealand
329. Kenya Environmental Activists Network
330. Kitanglad Integrated NGOs, Inc. (KIN) - Philippines
331. Kora im An Kil
332. Korea Center for Sustainable Development (KCSD)
333. Latin American Observatory on Human Mobility, Climate Change and Disasters (MOVE-LAM)
334. Lawyers for Climate Action New Zealand
335. Lead Tchad
336. League for the Defence of Human Rights in Iran
337. League of Women Voters of U.S.
338. League of Women Voters of California - USA
339. Lekeh Development Foundation LEDEF
340. Ligue des droits et libertés - Canada
341. Linking Skills
342. Lok Shakti Abhiyan - India
343. Maleya Foundation - Bangladesh
344. Manusher Jonno Foundation
345. Manushya Foundation- Asia
346. Misioneras Eucarísticas Franciscanas
347. Mom Loves Taiwan Association
348. Mouvement Lao pour les Droits de l'homme
349. Movimiento Católico Mundial por el Clima Perú
350. Movimiento independiente indígena lenca de la paz Honduras MILPAH (SOCIAL)

351. Movimiento MOVILIZANDONOS por una cultura de derechos de niños, niñas y Adolescentes en Chile
352. Movimento Nacional de Direitos Humanos Brasil
353. Movimiento No mas Anglo
354. Murna Foundation - Nigeria
355. Mwatana for Human Rights - Yemen
356. Não Fracking - Brasil
357. NAPM (National Alliance of People's Movements)
358. National Fisheries Solidarity – Sri Lanka
359. National Indigenous Women Forum Nepal
360. National Youth Council the Netherlands
361. Nayacalevu's Vision Consultancy
362. Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities (NEFIN)
363. Network of rural women producers - Trinidad and Tobago
364. Notre Affaire à Tous - France
365. Observatório do Clima - Brasil
366. Observatorio para la Gobernanza Marino Costera – Colombia
367. Oceania Human Rights
368. Olof Palme International Center - Sweden
369. Organisation Guinéenne de Défense des Droits de l'Homme et du Citoyen OGDH
370. Österreichische Liga für Menschenrechte
371. Otros Mundos AC - Mexico
372. Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd Mid-North America
373. Oxfam México
374. Oxígeno Para el Futuro – Ecuador
375. Oyu Tolgoi Watch - Mongolia
376. PA Women's organization Alga
377. Pacific Centre for Environment and Sustainable Development
378. Pacific Human Rights Initiative
379. Pacific Islands Students Fighting Climate Change
380. Panafrican Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA)
381. Panafrican Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA) - Côte d'Ivoire
382. PANALIPDAN! Mindanao – Philippines
383. ParyavaranMitra - India
384. Pastoral Social Franciscanos Tuluà – Portugal
385. Periferia - Peru
386. Plantemos Nativo ONG
387. Plataforma Boliviana Frente al Cambio Climático
388. Plateforme Climat & Adaptation - Mali
389. Pro 2000
390. Project Survival Pacific
391. Proyecto Bioeconomico Latinoamericano
392. Promo-LEX - Moldova
393. Rainbow Watch and Development Centre - Nigeria
394. Ramallah Center for Human Rights Studies (RCHRS)
395. Red ambiental de Ñuñoa - Chile
396. Red Sudamericana para las Migraciones Ambientales (RESAMA)
397. Rede de Cooperação Amazônica (RCA)
398. Réseau des Femmes Africaines pour la gestion Communautaire des Forêts (REFACOF)
399. Réseau des Organisations de la Société Civile pour l'Economie Verte en Afrique Centrale (ROSCEVAC)
400. Rivers without Boundaries Coalition – Northern Eurasia

401. Secours Catholique - Caritas France
402. Servicios Ecumenicos para Reconciliacion y Reconstruccion – El Salvador
403. Sisters of the Good Shepherd, Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand
404. Sisters of La Retraite - UK
405. Shifting the Power Coalition Pacific
406. Slum Dwellers International
407. Sociedad Amigos del Viento – Uruguay
408. Sociedad Argentina de Pediatría
409. Society for Conservation and Sustainability of Energy and Environment in Nigeria (SOCSEEN)/Afrihealth Optonet Association
410. Society for the Improvement of Rural People - Nigeria
411. Solidarité des Femmes burundaises pour le Bien-être Social et le Progrès au Burundi
412. Soroptimist International of Europe
413. Southern Africa Climate Change Coalition
414. Success Capital Organisation - Botswana
415. Support for Women in Agriculture and Environment (SWAGEN) – Uganda
416. Sustenta Honduras
417. Swedwatch - Sweden
418. TAMPEI - Philippines
419. TANDARI - Asamblea de Jóvenes por la Sostenibilidad
420. Terre des Jeunes - Burundi
421. The Palestinian Human Rights Organization
422. Todos por el Futuro - Venezuela
423. Tree Uganda Academy
424. Trust For Community initiatives - Botswana
425. UAOD Cameroun
426. United libis hoa phase i & phase ii - Philippines
427. United Nations Association - Iowa Division - USA
428. United Nations Association of the USA
429. URGENDA – Netherlands
430. Urgewald - Germany
431. Vietnam Committee on Human Rights
432. Voces Por El Planeta
433. Vois Blong Mere Solomon
434. Wildlife and Environmental Society of Malawi
435. Women and Media Collective – Sri Lanka
436. Women for peace and ecology-Germany
437. Women Solidarity and Development - Liberia
438. Women’s Foundation of Minnesota - USA
439. Women In Media-Newark - USA
440. World Federalists Movement - Canada
441. Zimbabwe Climate Change Coalition
442. Zimbabwe homeless people's federation

Academics

443. Terry McGovern - Columbus University
444. Nancy Yáñez Fuenzalida - Centro de Derechos Humanos, Facultad de Derecho, Universidad de Chile
445. John Pendergrass - Environmental Law Institute
446. Sandra Nichols Thiam - Environmental Law Institute
447. Joshua L Cooper - Hawai'i Institute for Human Rights

448. Carole Brazeau - McGill University
449. Kiyomet Caliyurt - Trakya University
450. Yenny Olivares - Universidad de Valparaíso
451. Manuel Sánchez-Moreno - Universidad Internacional de La Rioja
452. University for Peace
453. Curtis Doebbler - University of Makeni
454. Karena Rodriguez - Universidad del Táchira
455. Marcos Cárdenas - Universidad del Táchira
456. Lina Muñoz Ávila - Universidad del Rosario
457. Rafael Colombo – Universidad de Santa Fe
458. Mirta Machuca - Colegio de Graduados en Nutrición de Salta
459. Megan Donald - Stellenbosch University
460. Andika Putra - Universitas Gadjah Mada
461. Brigitte María Garrido Rodríguez - Universidad Central de Venezuela