THE ENVIRONMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS CRISIS: TOWARDS A GENEVA ROAD MAP

27 February 2020 - 10:00-11:30
Geneva - Switzerland @ Room XXII - Palais des Nations
Programme

Opening Remarks (15 minutes)
• H.E. Amb. Nazhat Shameem Khan, Permanent Mission of Fiji to the UN in Geneva
• Barbara Fontana, Permanent Mission of Switzerland
• Michel Forst, Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders

Understanding the crisis (40 min) - Moderation: Peter Larsen, University of Geneva
• Claudelice Santos, Zé Cláudio and Maria Foundation, Brasil
• Denise Cruz, Southern African Human Rights Defenders Network
• Enteng Bautista, Kalikasan People’s Network, Philippines
• Selen Çatalyurekli, Turkey
• Mary Menton, University of Sussex
• José Aylwin, Observatorio Ciudadano

Launching the Road Map (20 min)
• Cristina Cambiaghi, International Land Coalition
• Louis Mason, Universal Rights Group (URG)
• Yves Lador, Earthjustice

Q&A - stay on for coffee
The environmental crisis hides another crisis

• **Crisis** "vitaly important or decisive state of things, point at which change must come, for better or worse"

• **Deepening crisis of environmental human rights defenders** facing violence, intimidation and shrinking spaces

• **Failure** to protect those standing up for the environment

• **Diverse crisis patterns** across the world

• **Time to listen and time to act!**

• Towards a **Geneva Road Map for collective action**
Bridging civil society, academia and international organizations – 2 days of debate

25-26 February 2020 _ Palais Eynard - Geneva - Switzerland
https://www.unige.ch/gedt/index.php?cID=814

RESPONDING TO THE NEEDS OF ENVIRONMENTAL CIVIL SOCIETY AND DEFENDERS: TOWARDS A GENEVA ROAD MAP

International conference

Organisation

Support
Lessons from Academia
Engaging UN and civil society organizations
Learning from Defenders
Understanding the crisis

- Claudelice Santos, Zé Cláudio and Maria Foundation, Brasil
- Denise Cruz, Southern African Human Rights Defenders Network
- Enteng Bautista, Kalikasan People’s Network, Philippines
- Selen Çatalyürekli, Turkey
- Mary Menton, University of Sussex
- José Aylwin, Observatorio Ciudadano
Launching the Geneva Road Map – time to act together

Cristina Cambiaghi, International Land Coalition
Louis Mason, Universal Rights Group (URG)
Yves Lador, Earthjustice
Towards a Geneva Road Map

Building on HRC Resolution 40/11

Understanding

Learning from diversity

Pooling efforts and synergy building
1. **Reverse the tide** of marginalization and attacks against environmental actors
2. **Reinforce environmental rights**, enabling civic spaces and accountability
3. **Bridge initiatives** and enhance cooperation
4. **Break isolation** and effective access to Protection
Geneva Road Map: invitation to countries, IOs and CSOs to join the effort

Let’s make this Super Year for Nature, one that makes a difference for its defenders.
news & articles

Young Champions of the Earth
19.02.20
Invent the future: Are you a change-maker, rainmaker, ground-breaker? Do you see opportunity where others see crisis? Do you want to...

Series: The Defenders
17.02.20
The Guardian: In collaboration with Global Witness, the Guardian has attempted to record the deaths of all these people, whether...

Zero Tolerance Initiative - calling for an end to human rights abuse in global supply chains
04.12.19
The Zero Tolerance Initiative seeks to address violence, intimidation and killings of indigenous...