

# INFORMATION SHARING SESSION

## ENVIRONMENT AND HUMAN RIGHTS

8 February 2024 | 10:00 - 11:00 CET | IEH1 & Online

»»» [tiny.cc/GEN8Feb24](https://tiny.cc/GEN8Feb24)

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Welcome



**Diana RIZZOLIO**

Coordinator, Geneva Environment  
Network | Moderator



**INFORMATION SHARING SESSION**  
ENVIRONMENT AND HUMAN RIGHTS @ HRC55

@GENetwork



#HRC55  
#GENvironment

# ENVIRONMENT @ 55TH SESSION OF THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

Right to Healthy Environment,  
Climate Change, Human  
Rights Defenders, Right to  
Food, Right to Science & more  
on the agenda

>>> [tiny.cc/HRC55Environment](https://tiny.cc/HRC55Environment)





# The Right to a Healthy Environment at UNGA



# ENVIRONMENT @ THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL



19 JAN 2024

**Environment @ 55th  
Session of the UN Human  
Rights Council**

● Human Rights and Environment  
● SDG12 | SDG13

**Right to Healthy  
Environment**



19 JUL 2023

**Environment @ 53rd  
Session of the UN Human  
Rights Council**

● Human Rights and Environment | Climate  
● SDG13

**Climate Change**



17 AUG 2023

**Environment @ 54th  
Session of the UN Human  
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● Human Rights and Environment | Climate  
● SDG13

**Toxics and  
Human Rights**

UPDATE

## Environment @ 55th Session of the UN Human Rights Council



Last updated  
11 Jan 2024

Human Rights and Environment |  
Climate

SDG14 | SDG15 | SDG13

*The 55th Regular Session of the Human Rights Council (HRC55) will take place in Geneva from from 26 February to 5 April 2024. This page highlights the environmental-related activities of this session.*

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- Right to a Clean, Healthy and Sustainable Environment
- Environmental Human Rights Defenders
- Right to Food and Environment
- Cultural Rights and the Environment
- Climate Change and Human Rights
- Appointments at HRC55
- **Events**
- Reports
- Resolutions
- Call for Submissions
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## Events



### HRC55 Info-Sharing Session | Human Rights and the Environment

8 February 2024 | 10:00 – 11:00 CET | IEH1, Room 2 & Online, Webex



### Deadline for side events applications (NGOs)

22 January 2024 | 12:00 CET

NGO Registration



### Organizational meeting for the 55th session of the Human Rights Council

12 February 2024 | 10:00 – 18:00 CET | Palais des Nations, Room XX & Online



### Opening of the session and Oral update by the High Commissioner

26 February 2024 | 9:00 – 12:00 CET | Palais des Nations, Room XX & Online



### Side Event with SR on human rights and the environment

5 March 2024 | TBC | Palais des Nations, TBC & Online



### Interactive Dialogue with SR on the right to food

6 March 2024 | 15:00 – 18:00 CET | Palais des Nations, Room XX & Online



**H.E. Amb. Omar ZNIBER**  
**The Kingdom of Morocco as**  
**President of the Human Rights Council**





**H.E. Leila BENALI**  
**The Kingdom of Morocco as President of UNEA-6**

 6 February 2024  News

# Joint civil society letter calling to ensure live online modalities of participation for UN human rights bodies and mechanisms

Over 200 organizations sent a joint letter to UN Representatives calling on them to ensure live online modalities of participation for UN human rights bodies and mechanisms in light of concerns regarding access and participation of civil society in these spaces.

## TECHNICAL INFORMATION

- Throughout the event, you may raise your questions in the Q&A box
- Automatically translated subtitles in many languages are available through the captions button on the bottom left of your screen
- The recording, summary and documents will be made available on the event's website

**ENGLISH CAPTIONS CAN BE ACTIVATED BY  
CLICKING ON THE BUTTON ON THE LEFT-SIDE  
OF THE BOTTOM BAR ON THE SCREEN**



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## SPEAKERS

By order of intervention.



**Benjamin SCHACHTER**



Human Rights Officer and Environment team leader, OHCHR



**Viktoria ABERG**



Human Rights Officer, UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (Mandate of SR on human rights and environment)



**Juliana ALMEIDA**



Environment Law Specialist, Law Division, UN Environment Programme



**Diana RIZZOLIO**



Coordinator, Geneva Environment Network | Moderator

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### Human Rights and the Environmental Agenda

- Benjamin SCHACHTER | Human Rights Officer and Environment team leader, OHCHR

### Special Rapporteur with Activities Related to the Environment Reporting to HRC55

- Viktoria ABERG | Human Rights Officer, OHCHR (Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on human rights and environment)

### UNEP Engagement at HRC

- Juliana ALMEIDA | Environment Law Specialist, Law Division, UNEP

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### Open Discussion

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# Human Rights and the Environmental Agenda



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## Human Rights and the Environmental Agenda



# Benjamin SCHACHTER

Human Rights Officer and Environment team leader,  
OHCHR



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GENEVA  
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NETWORK

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# Special Rapporteur at HRC55

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SR human rights  
and environment



**Viktoria ABERG**

Human Rights Officer, OHCHR (Mandate of the UN  
Special Rapporteur on human rights and environment)



UNITED NATIONS  
HUMAN RIGHTS  
OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER

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# UNEP Engagement at HRC



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# UNEP's engagement at HRC



**Juliana ALMEIDA**

Environment Law Specialist, Law Division, UNEP



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For those online who wish to take the stage during the Tour de table of participants, please raise your hand using the hand icon located at the bottom of the screen.

You may also send in your information through the chat box located at the bottom right of the screen



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## Right to a Clean, Healthy and Sustainable Environment

The [United Nations General Assembly](#)'s historic decision in July 2022 to recognize that everyone has the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment has placed this landmark recognition at the forefront of the human rights agenda, following the same recognition by the [Human Rights Council](#) in October 2021. Not only is this a catalyst for accelerated action to tackle the triple planetary crisis, but it also places our attention on people and communities in vulnerable situations.

The right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment is the usual main environmental theme of the Council's March sessions, with the Special Rapporteur's annual Report to the Council

### Report | Business enterprises, planetary boundaries and the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment

“ Scientific evidence that humanity is exceeding planetary boundaries calls for an urgent rethinking of the business and economic paradigms that have pushed civilization to the brink of disaster.

Presenting his annual report to the Human Rights Council ([A/HRC/55/43](#)) on the magnitude of ongoing business contributions to the planetary crisis, the UN Special Rapporteur on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment evaluates the **inadequacies of voluntary normative frameworks** for ensuring that businesses respect human rights and clarifies State obligations to protect the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment from harms caused by businesses.

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# Open Discussion

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## THANK YOU!



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**Viktoria ABERG**



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**Diana RIZZOLIO**



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# WHAT'S NEXT?

 [genevaenvironmentnetwork.org](https://genevaenvironmentnetwork.org)



#WWD2024

**CONFERENCE**

**World Wildlife Day 2024  
Geneva Celebration |  
Connecting People and  
Planet: Exploring Digital  
Innovation in Wildlife  
Conservation**

04 MAR 2024 14:30 – 16:00  
Room C1 | ITU Headquarters  
CITES, GEN, ITU

- ☉ Nature | Digital Cooperation
- SDG14 | SDG15 | SDG9



**State of the  
Science  
on Plastic  
Chemicals**

Identifying and addressing chemicals  
and polymers of concern

**VIRTUAL**

**Launch and Panel  
Discussion | State of the  
Science on Plastic  
Chemicals: Identifying  
and Addressing  
Chemicals and Polymers  
of Concern**

14 MAR 2024 14:00 – 15:00  
Online | Webex  
GEN

- ☉ Chemicals and Pollution | Plastics
- SDG12

**CLIMATE IMPACTS  
OF PLASTICS**

GLOBAL ACTIONS TO STEM CLIMATE CHANGE  
AND END PLASTIC POLLUTION



**VIRTUAL**

**Launch and Panel  
Discussion | Climate  
Impacts of Plastics:  
Global Actions to Stem  
Climate Change and End  
Plastic Pollution**

20 MAR 2024 14:00 – 15:30  
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GRID-Arendal, GEN

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