

International Conference on Climate inequality, human rights and sustainable development

21 November 2025
Room VII, Palais des Nations, Geneva

9:30 Registration

10:00-11:00 High Level Opening Session

Moderators: Prof Surya Deva, UN Special Rapporteur on the right to development and Dr Umesh Palwankar, Strategic Advisor, Geneva Centre for Human Rights Advancement and Global Dialogue

Ms Rabab Fatima, Under Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (Video)

H.E. Claudia Fuentes-Julio, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Chile to the United Nations Office in Geneva

H.E. Patricia Ann Hermanns, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas to the United Nations Office in Geneva

H.E. Akram Sa'ud Harahsheh, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to the United Nations Office in Geneva

Mr Richardo Colmar, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Vanuatu to the United Nations Office in Geneva

Mr Dimiter Chalev, Chief, Rule of Law, Equality and Non-Discrimination Branch, OHCHR

Mr Livio Sarandrea, Senior Adviser on Rule of Law, Security and Human Rights, United Nations Development Programme

Ms Chantelle Khan, Commissioner, Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Commission, Fiji

Ms Camilla Noel, Executive Committee Member, Pacific Islands Students Fighting Climate Change

11:00-11:30 Coffee Break
11:30-13:00 Session 1 - Addressing adverse impacts on selected socio-economic rights
<i>Moderator:</i> Prof Kristin Kusanovich, Director, tUrn Climate Action Project, Santa Clara University
Prof David Boyd , Professor, University of British Columbia; former UN Special Rapporteur on the right to the environment (Video)
Mr Igor Gryshko , Human Rights Officer/Economist, Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Section, OHCHR
Mr David Wilgenbus , Executive Director, Office for Climate Education, Sorbonne University, Paris (Online)
Ms Preeti Saran , Chair, Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Video)
Ms Marianna Leite , Director of Programs, Center for Economic and Social Rights
Prof Jernej Letnar Čerňič , Professor of Constitutional and Human Rights Law, New University, Slovenia
13:00-14:00 Lunch
14:00-15:30 Session 2 - Responding to differentiated and disproportionate impacts
<i>Moderator:</i> Dr Chitralekha Marie Massey, Chief, Rights of Older Persons Section, OHCHR
Mr Sébastien Duyck , Senior Attorney, Center for International Environmental Law
Prof Aoife Nolan , Professor and Director of the Human Rights Law Centre, School of Law, University of Nottingham (Online)
Ms Hannah Wu , Chief, Women's Rights and Gender Section, OHCHR
Ms Anne Mahrer , Co-President, Senior Women for Climate Protection
Prof Nicolas Levrat , UN Special Rapporteur on minority issues
Mr Abdulhadi Achakzai , Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Environmental Protection, Training and Development Organization, Afghanistan (Online)
15:30- 17:00 Session 3 - Right to development as a pathway to overcome climate inequality
<i>Moderator:</i> Dr Fabrice Cregut, Executive Director, Geneva Centre for Human Rights Advancement and Global Dialogue

Ms Shyami Puvimanasinghe, Human Rights Officer, Right to Development Section, OHCHR

Mr Sean O’Connell, Global Focal Point on Environmental Justice, United Nations Development Programme

Ms Junecynthia Okelo, Economic Governance Officer, Pan African Lawyers Union (Online)

Prof Miloon Kothari, Visiting Professor, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies; former Special Rapporteur on housing

Prof Surya Deva, UN Special Rapporteur on the right to development

17:00 Closing remarks