



# FIRST ANNUAL FORUM ON HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS IN ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

Quito, 22-23 November 2022

## GENERAL INFORMATION



República del Ecuador



HUMAN RIGHTS INCLUSION EMPOWERMENT



## I. INTRODUCTION

The **First Annual Forum on Human Rights Defenders in Environmental Matters** will be held on 22-23 November in Quito, Ecuador.

This forum is organized in partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the Government of Ecuador and the support of the Human Rights, Inclusion and Empowerment Umbrella Trust Fund of the World Bank.

The purpose of this document is to provide participants with the necessary information to facilitate their work in the Meeting.

The meeting coordinators will be available to answer any questions concerning logistical or organizational matters that you may have, before or during the event.

### 1. VENUE OF THE MEETING

The First Annual Forum on Human Rights Defenders in Environmental Matters will be held in person, in the **Imperial Conference Room of the Dann Carlton Hotel in Quito**, located at Av. República de El Salvador N34-377 and Irlanda. There will be remote participation through Zoom and live broadcast through Youtube.

### 2. COORDINATION OF THE MEETING

The meeting is organized by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Questions on substantive matters relating to the meeting may be addressed to Carlos de Miguel, David Barrio and Gabriela Burdiles of the Secretariat of the Escazú Agreement [secretaria.escazu@cepal.org](mailto:secretaria.escazu@cepal.org), (+56) 2 2210 2310).

Enquiries concerning operational aspects of the meeting should be addressed to María Paz Rivera [mariapaz.rivera@un.org](mailto:mariapaz.rivera@un.org), and Carla López [carla.lopez@cepal.org](mailto:carla.lopez@cepal.org)

### 3. HOTEL RESERVATION

The Secretariat of the Agreement has reserved a limited number of rooms at a special rate for ECLAC at the following hotel:

• **Dann Carlton Hotel (5\*)**

Av. Republic of El Salvador N34-377 and Irlanda

<http://www.hotelesdann.com/dann-carlton-quito/>

Single standard room: **USD 97.35 dollars** (includes 10% service, hotel insurance and tourist tax) This value includes buffet breakfast and unlimited broadband Wi-Fi in the room and throughout the Hotel.

\* Residents of Ecuador must also pay 12% VAT.

**Each participant is responsible for making their reservation and the corresponding payments directly with the hotel.** To make reservations, **please use the form included at the end of this information note.** All reservations must be guaranteed with a credit card number (number, expiration date and security code) of the passenger.

Reservations must be requested directly to the selected hotel before 15 November 2022 After that date, the hotel reserves the right to modify the rate and does not guarantee the availability of rooms.

#### **4. REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS**

On Tuesday, 22 November, starting at 8:30 a.m., in the Imperial Conference Room of the Dann Carlton Hotel, the accreditation of participants who have previously registered online will take place. Participants will receive a badge, which for security reasons will be required to attend all sessions.

#### **5. OPENING SESSION**

The opening session of the First Annual Forum on Human Rights Defenders in Environmental Matters, will begin at 9:00 am on Tuesday, 22 November, in the Imperial Conference Room.

#### **6. INTERNET**

In the Imperial Conference Room and rooms assigned to the Defenders Forum, will have a wireless Internet connection (wi-fi) for the participants.

#### **7. LANGUAGES**

The working language of the meeting will be Spanish. There will be simultaneous interpretation into English.

#### **8. MEDICAL SERVICES**

It is the responsibility of each participant to have medical insurance, in case of emergency within the venue of the Meeting.

#### **9. DOCUMENTS**

The Meeting will make efficient use of paper. All documents will be available for consultation and download on the website <http://www.cepal.org/acuerdodeescazu>. We encourage you to bring your laptop, tablet, or other mobile device, as hard copies will not be distributed at the Meeting.

#### **10. GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT ECUADOR**

##### **The country**

The Republic of Ecuador is located on the equator in South America. It limits to the north with Colombia, to the south and east with Peru and to the west with the Pacific Ocean.

It has an area of 256,370 km<sup>2</sup> and a population of approximately 18 million inhabitants, according to the INEC.

It is divided into four regions, including 24 provinces and 224 cantons. These regions are: Coast, Sierra, Amazon and the insular region or Galapagos, and are distinguished by their own climate and the diversity of their flora and fauna.

## The capital

Quito is the Metropolitan District and the capital city of the Republic of Ecuador. It is a constantly growing metropolis, where modern structures merge with mestizo and colonial heritage, and where foreign residents and visitors always find a place to work, enjoy and remember.

Located in the Andes Mountain range, at 2,880 m above sea level, the city is surrounded by the Pichincha, Cotopaxi, Antisana and Cayambe volcanoes, which form a majestic Andean contour.

Due to its beauty, traditions and corners of mysticism and legends, Quito is considered a "reliquary of art in America" and, due to its unique characteristics, it was the first city to be declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1978.

## The weather

Ecuador is geographically located in a torrid zone. However, the climate is varied thanks to the physiographic composition and the influence of the cold Humboldt current, in summer, and the warm El Niño current, in winter. On the coast the average temperature is 26°C; In the Sierra region during the day the temperature can reach 21°C and drop to 7°C at night. The Amazon region is the warmest, with an average temperature of 37°C. In the capital, the temperature ranges between 10°C and 25°C (50°F and 77°F), with an average of 15°C and great climatic contrasts that allow Quito residents and their guests to enjoy the four seasons of the year in a single day.

## USEFUL INFORMATION FOR YOUR STAY

<b>LOCAL CURRENCY</b>	Ecuador uses US dollar bills, but has its own fractional coins of the US currency, Ecuadorian cents. The coins come in denominations of 1, 5, 10, 25 and 50 cents and are identical in size and value to their US cent counterparts (although the US 50 cent coin is rarely used). Coins circulate in Ecuador at par with United States coins and bills. Ecuador does not print banknotes, so it depends on those printed in the United States. Credit cards are welcome, and the city has a good number of ATMs at your disposal. Credit cards such as MasterCard, Visa, Diners and American Express are accepted in most restaurants, hotels and high-end stores. Bank hours vary from one to another. The usual schedule is from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; there are banks that open on Saturdays and Sundays until noon
<b>LOCAL TIME</b>	UTC/GMT -5 hour
<b>ELECTRICITY</b>	The electrical current in Ecuador is 110 V, the same as in the United States. Similarly, the outlets are two or three legs, North American type. If your equipment has another type of voltage or your outlets do not fit the existing ones, ask your hotel for an adapter.
<b>AIRPORT TAX</b>	The airport tax is included in the air ticket.

**TIPPING**

Tips are common in Ecuador, as in other parts of the world. Apart from restaurants and hotels, where there is a 10% surcharge for services in addition to taxes, in other services it is not legally required; however, everyone who provides a personal service, such as guides, crew, drivers, among others, always expects a tip that will be a reflection of the satisfaction with the services received. In restaurants it is also customary to give an additional tip to the 10% recharged on the bill.

**TAXIS/REMISES**

Taxis in Ecuador are yellow. In Quito, they have red labels on the sides of the doors with the signage of the municipality to which they belong.

**11. REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER ECUADOR**

Citizens of member countries of Mercosur, CAN and associated states (Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay) can present either of the two documents: valid passport or national identity document.

Since 19 October 2022, Ecuador does not require any traveler to present a complete vaccination certificate against COVID-19 and does not require a negative antigen or PCR test. However, the requirement to complete the traveler's health declaration at the following link, remains in force and such declaration must be presented prior to boarding:

<https://declaracionsalud-viajero.msp.gob.ec/>

Check the following link for citizens who require a visa to enter Ecuador as tourists:

<https://www.ministeriodegobierno.gob.ec/requisitos-para-ingresar-a-ecuador/>

**12. LOCAL TRANSPORTATION**

The transfer between the airport and the hotel will be the responsibility of each participant. At the international airport there is a taxi service. It is suggested to take the official taxi services.



NACIONES UNIDAS



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IN ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS**  
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**HOTEL RESERVATION REQUEST**

Name	Last name:
Official position:	
Organization or institution:	
Address:	
City:	Country:
Phone:	E-mail:

I request a reservation at:

<b>HOTEL DANN CARLTON (5*)</b> Av. República de El Salvador N34-377 e Irlanda (593-2) 397 2600  Single standard room: <b>97,35</b> dollars  Reservations must be requested to the reservations department, and reception to the following emails: <a href="mailto:reservas@danncarltonquito.com">reservas@danncarltonquito.com</a> y <a href="mailto:recepcion@danncarltonquito.com">recepcion@danncarltonquito.com</a> <b>indicating that you will attend the ECLAC event.</b>		
Date of arrival in the country:	No. of flight:	Approx. time:
Date of departure from the country:	No. of flight:	Approx. time:

I authorize the use of the following credit card to guarantee my hotel reservation:

Visa <input type="checkbox"/>	MasterCard <input type="checkbox"/>	American Express <input type="checkbox"/>	Other <input type="checkbox"/>
Credit card number:			
Expiration date:			Security number

Reservations must be requested directly to the selected hotel before 15 November 2022. To guarantee the reservation, it is essential to indicate the flight number, the time of arrival and departure from the country, as well as the type and number of credit card, expiration date and security number.