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United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean



Virtual meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Human Rights Defenders in Environmental Matters

Secretariat of the Escazú Agreement
Sustainable Development and Human Settlements Division, ECLAC
Friday, 28 October 2022



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Agenda

- ▶ Welcome
 - ▶ Objectives of the Working Group and the Forum
 - ▶ Methodology and timeline for the elaboration of the action plan
 - ▶ Dialogue with participants
 - ▶ Program of the First Forum (November 22 and 23, 2022)
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Presentation of the Working Group coordinators

- ▶ Presiding Officers asked for the operationalization of the open-ended ad hoc Group on HRDEM to three coordinating countries: Ecuador, Chile and Saint Kitts and Nevis.
 - ▶ With the significant participation of elected representatives of the public.
 - ▶ Lead the preparation of an action plan on Human Rights Defenders in environmental matters to be considered and adopted at COP 2024.
 - ▶ The group will hold open meetings and coordination meetings
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Objectives of the Working Group and the Forum

- ▶ COPI Decision I/6 on Human Rights Defenders in Environmental Matters:

I) Establish an open-ended ad hoc working group on human rights defenders on environmental issues,

- ▶ *“with the meaningful public participation, especially by indigenous peoples and local communities, endeavouring to include persons or groups in vulnerable situations...”*
 - ▶ **The preparation of an action plan in that regard**, to be presented at the second ordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties (in 2024) for consideration and adoption.
 - ▶ 2) To hold an **annual forum on human rights defenders in environmental matters** with recognized specialists in the field,
 - ▶ *“with the assistance of the Secretariat, following which a final report will be prepared to serve as input for drafting and review of the relevant action plan”*
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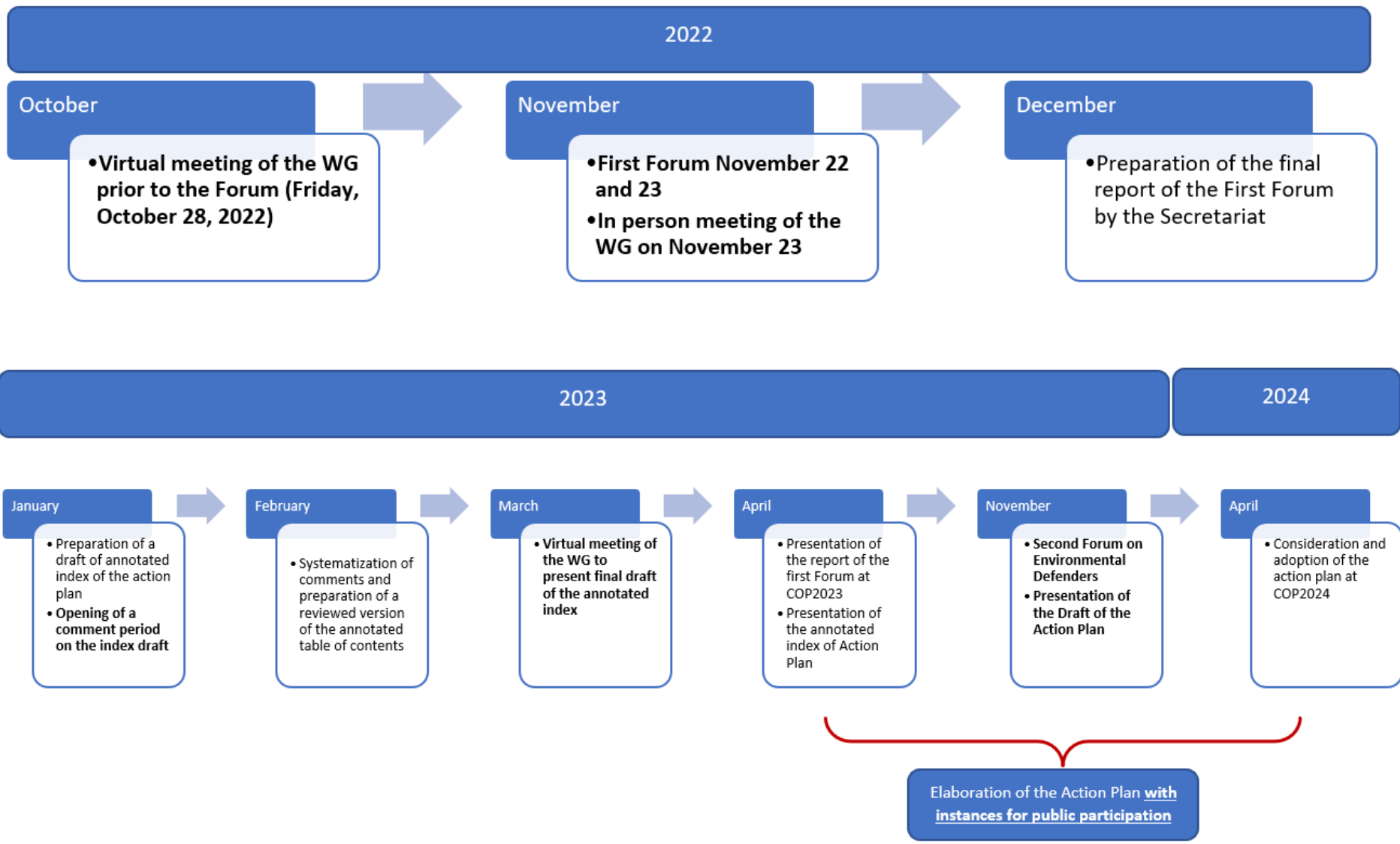


Methodology for the elaboration of an action plan

- ▶ The **objective and axes of the Action Plan** should be framed within the framework of Article 9 of the Escazú Agreement:
 - ▶ 1: Safe and enabling environment
 - ▶ 2: Protective measures
 - ▶ 3: Response measures
 - ▶ **Inputs:**
 - ▶ Implementation Guide of the Escazú Agreement (it includes different existing documents on the matter)
 - ▶ Final reports of the two Forums
 - ▶ Consultations with Parties, experts, and the public
 - ▶ The Presiding Officers proposed as a first step, the elaboration of an **Index of the Action Plan** which should establish its fundamental contents to be presented at COP2.
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WORK SCHEDULE UNTIL COP 2024





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Agenda of the First Forum

- ▶ November 22-23, 2022, in Quito, Ecuador
- ▶ **Organizers:** ECLAC, in its capacity as Secretariat of the Escazú Agreement, in partnership with UNEP, OHCHR and the Government of Ecuador, with the support of the World Bank's Human Rights, Inclusion and Empowerment (HRIE) Umbrella Trust Fund.
- ▶ **Format:** hybrid and will last two days (from 9 am to 4 pm).
- ▶ Simultaneous **interpretation Spanish-English** will be provided.
- ▶ **Registration for on-site (limited spaces according capacity) and online participation (via zoom)** and information available at: <https://www.cepal.org/en/events/first-annual-forum-human-rights-defenders-environmental-matters-latin-america-and-caribbean>
- ▶ On November 23 on-site and on-line attendees can participate in one of the **three Roundtables**. Attendees must choose only one of them:
 - 1: *Safe and enabling environment*
 - 2: *Protective measures*
 - 3: *Access to justice and response measures*



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AGENDA

FIRST ANNUAL FORUM ON HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS ON ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Quito, Ecuador, 22-23 November 2022

22 November

Tuesday, 22 November (DAY 1) (In-person with live transmission)	
9 am – 4 pm	
9:00-9:30 (30')	Opening
9:30-10:30 (60')	<p style="text-align: center;">Panel 1: The situation of human rights defenders in Latin America and the Caribbean Moderated by: OHCHR</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Main presentation: <i>Environmental defenders in Latin America and the Caribbean in the global context</i> Ms. Mary Lawlor, United Nations Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders [tbc].</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Round table of testimonies of human rights defenders from Latin America and the Caribbean</p>
<i>Break</i>	
11:00-12:30 (90')	<p style="text-align: center;">Panel 2: Experiences and good practices in the promotion, prevention and protection of environmental defenders Moderated by: UNEP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National experiences • <i>Dialogue with participants</i> • Regional and global experiences • <i>Dialogue with participants</i>
<i>Break</i>	
14:00-16:00 (120')	<p style="text-align: center;">Panel 3: The Escazú Agreement as a framework for action Moderated by: ECLAC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secretariat of the Escazú Agreement • Coordinators of the Working Group on Human Rights Defenders in Environmental Matters of the Escazú Agreement • Elected representative of the public of the Escazú Agreement <p style="text-align: center;">Comments and Expectations of the Annual Forum on Human Rights Defenders in Environmental Matters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial comments from two environmental defenders. <p style="text-align: center;">Comments and expectations of the Action Plan on Human Rights Defenders in Environmental Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial comments from two environmental defenders. <p style="text-align: center;">Summary of conclusions</p>
Closing of the day	



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AGENDA

FIRST ANNUAL FORUM ON HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS ON ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Quito, Ecuador, 22-23 November 2022

23 November

Wednesday, 23 November (DAY 2)			
9 am – 4 pm HORAS (in-person and virtual participation)			
General Introduction (ECLAC) 9:00-9:30	Roundtable 1 Safe and enabling environment (systemic and preventive approach) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Escazú Agreement • National implementation 	Roundtable 2 Protection measures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Escazú Agreement • National implementation 	Roundtable 3 Access to justice and response measures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Escazú Agreement • National implementation
9:30-9:40	<u>Review of objectives</u>	<u>Review of objectives</u>	<u>Review of objectives</u>
9:40-10:00 (20')	Initial presentation	Initial presentation	Initial presentation
10:00-11:30 (90')	<u>Dialogue</u> Moderated by ECLAC <u>Rapporteur</u>	<u>Dialogue</u> Moderated by PNUMA <u>Rapporteur</u>	<u>Dialogue</u> Moderated by ACNUDH <u>Rapporteur</u>
11:30-12:00 (30')	<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>
12:00-12:30 (30')	<u>Conclusions</u>	<u>Conclusions</u>	<u>Conclusions</u>
<i>Break</i>			
14:00-15:30 (90')	Plenary Presentation of conclusions Open discussion Conclusion		
15:30-16:00 (30')	Closing of the forum		
16:00-18:00 (120')	Meeting of the Working Group on Human Rights Defenders in Environmental Matters of the Escazú Agreement (in person)		



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First Annual Forum on Human Rights Defenders in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean

Sustainable development and human settlements

22 NOVEMBER 2022 | EVENT

First Annual Forum on Human Rights Defenders in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean

22-23 November, 2022
Quito, Ecuador



Organized by ECLAC, in its capacity as Secretariat of the Escazú Agreement, in partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the Government of Ecuador, with the support of the World Bank's Human Rights, Inclusion and Empowerment (HRIE) Umbrella Trust Fund.

The objective of the first forum will be to provide a space for discussion on the situation of human rights defenders in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean, bringing together the Parties to the Escazú Agreement, recognized specialists in the field, and the public, especially human rights defenders, indigenous peoples and local communities, and people or groups in vulnerable situations who defend the environment.

In order to achieve its objectives, the forum will focus mainly on the following topics:

- The situation and challenges experienced by human rights defenders on environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- Testimonies of human rights defenders
- Experiences and best practices in the promotion of the rights of environmental defenders
- Mechanisms for the protection of defenders within the framework of the Escazú Agreement and specific content of Article 9
- Initial discussion on the elaboration of the Action Plan on Environmental Defenders of the Escazú Agreement.

Practical information

The first forum will be open to in person or virtual participation, with the previous registration. There will be limited spaces for in person participation, depending on the capacity available at the venue of the event.

Share



22-23 Nov 2022

Meetings and technical symposiums

Quito, Ecuador

By registration

ON-SITE AND VIRTUAL REGISTRATION

Attachments

Agenda

concept note

Subsidiary body/Intergovernmental meeting



Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean

Observatory



Observatory on Principle 10 in Latin America and the Caribbean

Subtopics

Principle 10 - Escazú Agreement

Contact

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www.cepal.org/en/escazuagreement



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Secretariat of the Escazú Agreement
Sustainable Development and Human
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<http://www.cepal.org/acuerdodeescazu>

<http://observatoriop10.cepal.org>