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**Questionnaire for Businesses by the
UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders
Mary Lawlor, August 2020**

The UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders, Ms. Mary Lawlor invites Businesses to respond to the questionnaire below. Submissions received will inform the thematic report of the Special Rapporteur on the issue of killings of human rights defenders, which will be presented to the UN Human Rights Council in March 2021.

The questionnaire and related concept note on the report are available at OHCHR website in English (original language) as well as in French, Spanish, Russian and Arabic (unofficial translations):
(<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/SRHRDefenders/Pages/SRHRDefendersIndex.aspx>).

All submissions received will be published in the aforementioned website, unless the submitter clearly indicated that they did not wish to have their input be made publicly available when submitting their response.

There is a word limit of 2500 words per questionnaire. Please submit the completed questionnaire to defenders@ohchr.org

Deadline for submissions: 5 October 2020

Contact Details

Please provide your contact details in case we need to contact you in connection with this survey. Note that this is optional.

Type of Stakeholder (please select one)	<input type="checkbox"/> Business
Name of Stakeholder	
Name of Survey Respondent	
Email	

Telephone	
Address	
Can we attribute responses to this questionnaire to your Business publicly?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Comments (if any):

Questions

Human rights defenders are persons, who individually or in association with others, work peacefully to promote and protect universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms, in accordance with the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders.

- 1) How do you ensure free, prior and informed consent with the affected community before you undertake extractive mining, hydroelectric dams, logging etc.?
- 2) What mandatory human rights and environmental due diligence measures do you implement to assess the impact your operations may have on the affected communities?
- 3) Do you have a human rights policy, which recognises the legitimacy of human rights defenders and has a proper right of access to remedy clearly articulated?
- 4) If a human rights defender(s) or his/her organization is threatened in connection with your operations, what steps do you take to help protect them?
- 5) Do you accept the legitimate right to defend human rights and if a human rights defender is killed for opposing your companies' activities and/or its adverse impact, are you in principle ready to publicly condemn it? (Please share examples)
- 6) Could you please share good practices (evidence-based) that have proved effective to: a) respond to death threats against defenders promoting and defending human rights from the adverse impact of your Business operations and b) to prevent them from escalating into the killing(s) of human rights defenders?