



Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on human rights and the environment

11 October 2017

Dear friends and colleagues,

I hope this finds you all well! This newsletter reports on recent and upcoming activities in connection with the mandate.

Draft Guidelines on Human Rights and the Environment. I have prepared draft Guidelines on Human Rights and the Environment, on which I would like your views (available [here](#) in [English](#), [French](#), [Spanish](#)). Drawing on my work over the past five years, the Guidelines summarize the basic human rights obligations of States on environmental matters, as they have been clarified by human rights bodies. I will present the Guidelines to the Human Rights Council in March 2018, as part of my final set of reports.

The Guidelines are attached. If you would like to provide comments on them, please do so by emailing srenvironment@ohchr.org no later than 11 November 2017. Please indicate in the subject line of the email that you are providing comments on the draft Guidelines.

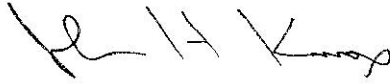
Public consultation. I will hold a public consultation on Tuesday, 17 October, in Room XI of Palais des Nations in Geneva, from 10.00 am to 12.00 pm. The consultation, which will help to inform my next reports to the Council, will discuss best practices, lessons learned and the way forward with regard to human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment. One of the topics of discussion will be the draft Guidelines. If you would like to attend the consultation and you need a pass, please send a return email to this address.

Conferences in Mexico and Colombia. I will be attending a conference on human rights and the environment in Mexico City, on 6 November. I will also be speaking at a workshop in Bogotá, Colombia, on 8-9 November, on environmental human rights defenders.

Visit to Mongolia. I undertook a country visit to Mongolia from 19 to 27 September. I greatly enjoyed seeing the beautiful country and discussing human rights and the environment with people there. I will present my final report on the visit to the Human Rights Council next March. My closing statement and press release are available [here](#).

As always, I look forward to hearing from you!

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John H. Knox". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" being the most prominent.

John H. Knox
UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and the Environment
Henry C. Lauerman Professor of International Law
Wake Forest University School of Law