

23 June 2022

**Statement to the 50th session of the Human Rights Council
Report of the Special Rapporteur for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights
in the Context of Climate Change: Initial Planning and Vision for the Mandate**

The Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI), on behalf of 120 independent National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs), welcomes the Special Rapporteur's report on initial planning and vision for the mandate.

Concerned with the unprecedented human rights impacts of climate change, GANHRI member institutions have pledged to promote human rights-based climate action through their monitoring, reporting, advisory and awareness-raising functions, both domestically and internationally.¹ GANHRI organizes our work on this issue through a Climate Caucus consisting of several NHRIs from all around the world.

GANHRI welcomes the six thematic priorities that the Special Rapporteur will focus on during his mandate. The challenges of climate change related human rights impacts vary between GANHRI's member institutions, and the six priorities reflect the wide-ranging consequences climate change has on human rights. GANHRI believes the priorities cover the main challenges identified through the work of the NHRIs.

GANHRI underlines that urgent, deep and rapid emission reductions is necessary to effectively protect human rights in the long term. According to the IPCC, the window of opportunity to remain within 1.5°C, and thus ensure effective protection of rights from long-term irreversible climate harm, is quickly narrowing. A main focus of the Special Rapporteur's work should therefore constantly be on how to ensure that States effectively protect human rights by achieving successful mitigation.

GANHRI stands ready to collaborate with the Special Rapporteur in addressing climate change and environmental issues for the protection and promotion of the human rights of present and future generations.

GANHRI wishes the Special Rapporteur the best of success in carrying out his mandate.

¹ *GANHRI Statement adopted at the GANHRI ANNUAL CONFERENCE on Climate Change: The role of National Human Rights Institutions* held on 4 December 2020, available here: https://ganhri.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/EN_AC_Statement_for_consultation.pdf