



## 53rd Session of the Human Rights Council Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on human rights and climate change

June 2, 2023

On behalf of the Center for International Environmental Law, we thank the Special Rapporteur for addressing such a timely and complex issue as human mobility in the context of climate change.

The latest findings of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)<sup>1</sup> are a stark reminder of the dire impacts of sudden- and slow-onset climate change-related events to human mobility patterns, highlighting that these impacts are highly context-specific and interact with social, political, geopolitical and economic drivers. As the report of the Special Rapporteur highlights, the current legal framework is not adequate to provide effective protection to those who move due to climate change.

Yet, all States already bear human rights obligations to protect, promote and fulfill the fundamental rights of those who move, including but not limited to the nonrefoulement obligation, as well as of others impacted by such mobility. Failing to do so undermines the fundamental principle of the universality of rights.

As it has been highlighted by the IPCC, “reducing future risks of involuntary migration and displacement due to climate change is possible through cooperative, international efforts to enhance institutional adaptive capacity and sustainable development”. In this context, we call upon developed States to increase their delivery of climate finance in line with related legal obligations and commitments. Adequate support for addressing loss and damage is particularly critical to address this urgent need.

We look forward to continuing to engage with the Special Rapporteur in ensuring that all existing human rights obligations are upheld.

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<sup>1</sup> IPCC WGII Report: Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability, TS.B.6.2