



Invitation

On the occasion of the International Day of the Environment

Please join the

Permanent Mission of Colombia to the United Nations

At a

Panel Discussion

On

**Environment and Human Rights:
A New Perspective from the Inter-American Court of Human
Rights**

Monday 4th June 2018

13:15 – 14:45

UNHQ Conference Room 12

[RSVP Here](#)

Environment and Human Rights: a New Perspective from the Inter- American Court of Human Rights

A Look at the Advisory Opinion by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights of 15 November 2017 (Requested by Colombia)

On 15 November 2017, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights issued the Advisory Opinion 23/17 in response to a request presented by the Government of Colombia. The request concerned State obligations in relation to the environment in the context of the protection and guarantee of the rights to life and personal integrity – recognized in Articles 4 and 5 of the American Convention on Human Rights – with regard to Articles 1(1) and 2 of said treaty.

The Advisory Opinion has spawned many positive responses from academia and practitioners, who see it as a historical and groundbreaking decision with regard to the connection between human rights and the environment. It has even been perceived by some as the most significant decision yet by an international judicial body in fully acknowledging certain legal consequences for environmental harm.

Given the importance and relevance of this Advisory Opinion, on the occasion of the International Day of the Environment, the panelists will deal with what Colombia asked from the Court: the legal analysis carried out by the Court and the scope of the decision and an assessment of the implications of the Opinion for the protection of the environment and its link with human rights rules. After these presentations, the floor will be open for the audience to engage in an interactive exchange with the Panelists.

The Panel will be moderated by **H.E. Mr. Francisco González**, Deputy Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations

Panelists:

Prof. **Stephanie Farrior**, Director, Center for Applied Human Rights, Vermont Law School

Prof. **Nicholas A. Robinson**, Executive Governor, International Council of Environmental Law

Prof. **Jean-Marc Thouvenin**, Secretary-General, The Hague Academy for International Law

Mr **Andrés Villegas**, LL.M., Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Colombia