



RINDHCA

Red de Instituciones Nacionales
para la Promoción y Protección
de los Derechos Humanos
del Continente Americano



Report

Technical Secretary

2023

January - December



Funded by
the European Union

BACKGROUND

RINDHCA was created in 2000 with the support of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). Subsequently, through Public Deed No. 6,605 of June 19, 2019, of the First Notary of the Circuit of Panama by which the documents were notarized, the legal status was granted to the Permanent Technical Secretariat of RINDHCA. The Deed was registered in the Public Registry of Panama on July 8, 2019.

According to Articles 4 and 5 of its [Bylaws](#), the objective of RINDHCA is to cooperate directly with GANHRI and OHCHR in the following matters:

- to establish, maintain and promote in the region a culture of respect for human rights;
- to strengthen the recognition and application by the governments of the region of international human rights commitments and standards;
- to contribute to the democratic development of the countries of the region, helping to consolidate State policies in human rights;
- to promote joint work to strengthen individually and collectively the National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) of the Americas that are established in accordance with the Paris Principles; and,
- support the creation and development of NHRIs in other countries in the region.

To the above it is important to add that NHRIs are explicitly mentioned as an indicator in Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16 of the 2030 Agenda: "Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels". Therefore, in 2015, the GANHRI adopted the [Merida Declaration](#), which sets out activities that NHRIs can undertake in order to make human rights the foundation for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, such as monitoring progress, assisting in the development of national indicators and data collection systems, and promoting transparent and inclusive participatory processes for state action.

Additionally, NHRIs are also listed in the [United Nations General Assembly Resolution 74/156 of December 18, 2019](#), which urges States to establish and strengthen NHRIs at the national level and requires all levels of the United Nations system to take NHRIs into account in their work.

Members of RINDHCA

According to the Bylaws of RINDHCA, the NHRIs of the American continent that are established in accordance with the Paris Principles, duly accredited before the GANHRI and express interest in the development of the purposes of RINDHCA may be part of the network, regardless of the name they receive in each country. Within the network there will be the following classes of associated institutions (Article 22 of the [Bylaws](#)):

- With Status A, as full members of RINDHCA, regardless of the nomination they receive in each country, the NHRIs of the American continent that are established in accordance with the Paris Principles and have obtained their accreditation by GANHRI.
- With B Status, as observers, NHRIs in the Americas that are established in accordance with the Paris Principles and are in the process of accreditation by GANHRI.

Currently, RINDHCA has 18 members. Fourteen have A status for their compliance with the Paris Principles and four have B status.

Status A: Argentina, Bolivia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Peru y Uruguay.

Status B: Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay y Venezuela.






The Paris Principles value for the NHRIs work

"In our experience working with NHRIs around the world, we have seen many use the Paris Principles to successfully advocate with governments for positive change to their own legislative frameworks. We have also seen NHRIs under threat use these principles as a shield to speak up against attacks to their independence in difficult political environments. Operating under and adhering to these principles is essential in order for NHRIs to remain as strong and credible resources for people to turn to in the face of injustice or when seeking human rights expertise."


Charlotte-Anne Malischewski
Interim Chief Commissioner, Canadian Human Rights Commission

El valor de los Principios de París en la labor de las INDH

"No desfallecer y persistir en amplificar la voz de los más vulnerables para garantizar sus derechos."

Carlos Camargo Assis
Titular del INDH de Colombia




El valor de los Principios de París en la labor de las INDH

"Uno de los principales retos de las INDH es lograr consolidarse como instituciones robustas e independientes; particularmente en lo relacionado con la materia presupuestaria para que puedan contar con los recursos necesarios que les permitan acceder a las diferentes poblaciones sin ningún tipo de distinción y visibilizar sus necesidades más apremiantes."

Angie Cruickshank Lambert
Titular del INDH de Costa Rica




El valor de los Principios de París en la labor de las INDH

"La RINDHCA permite que las INDH actúen colaborativamente a través de las experiencias comparadas en la promoción y protección de los derechos humanos, en aras de fortalecer su conocimiento y exigibilidad."

Consuelo Contreras Largo
Titular del INDH de Chile




El valor de los Principios de París en la labor de las INDH

"La magistratura ética por la dignidad humana."

César Córdova Valverde
Titular del INDH de Ecuador

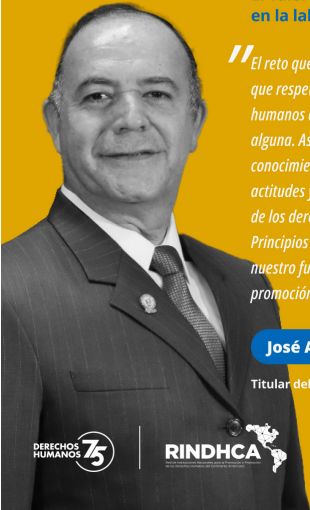



El valor de los Principios de París en la labor de las INDH

"Lograr hacer valer la independencia institucional, la RINDHCA puede ayudar a solucionarlo acompañando las acciones de las INDH, contribuyendo en la Alianza Global para que los Estados reconozcan la labor institucional."

Blanca Sarai Izaguirre Lozano
Titular del INDH de Honduras






El valor de los Principios de París en la labor de las INDH

“El reto que afrontamos es la construcción de Estados que respeten, protejan y garanticen los derechos humanos de todas las personas, sin discriminación alguna. Así como lograr que la población, a partir del conocimiento de sus derechos, transforme sus actitudes y acciones a favor de una cultura de respeto de los derechos humanos. En ese sentido, los Principios de París son la guía principal que orienta nuestro funcionamiento y accionar en la defensa y promoción de estos derechos.”

José Alejandro Córdova Herrera
Titular del INDH de Guatemala




El valor de los Principios de París en la labor de las INDH

“Fortaleciéndolos, pues el mayor reto de nuestra labor es el cumplimiento de las recomendaciones que emitimos, hacer realidad la vigencia y respeto a los derechos humanos por las autoridades, y resarcir, en su caso, cuando sus violaciones se consuman.”

María del Rosario Piedra Ibarra
Titular del INDH de México




El valor de los Principios de París en la labor de las INDH

“Dado que los derechos humanos no son una conquista que empieza y termina, sino que requiere de un trabajo constante de construcción, protección y defensa. En este sentido, el reto más importante que afrontamos las INDH tiene que ver con la concientización permanente de las personas sobre los derechos y la prevención de posibles retrocesos en las conquistas alcanzadas. Contar con un parámetro acordado internacionalmente que permite medir el diseño estructural de las instituciones nacionales de derechos humanos y asegurar su independencia, como son los Principios de París, aporta un marco de gestión claro para el encare eficiente de la promoción de los derechos y también para su defensa efectiva.”

Jimena Fernández Bonelli
Titular del INDH de Uruguay




Renan HEDOUVILLE
Protector del Ciudadano Haití




Darling Ríos
Procuradora para la Defensa de los Derechos Humanos Nicaragua




Raquel Caballero de Guevara
Procuradora para la Defensa de los Derechos Humanos El Salvador





Project HRNI.EU phase 3

The first two stages of the NHRI.EU Project concluded at the end of 2022. Until that point, implemented through the Danish Institute for Human Rights, the project provided fundamental technical cooperation for the strengthening of RINDHCA. As a result, RINDHCA was granted legal status. Also, the fiscal and tax registrations before the Directorate General of Revenue of Panama were achieved, approving in August of that same year the Single Taxpayer Registration No.25040267-3-2019 DV 30.

The arrival of the year 2023 marked the beginning of phase 3 of the NHRI.EU Project, whose main objective is the institutional strengthening of NHRIs. The funds of phase 3 of the NHRI.EU Project have allowed for concrete and effective progress towards the strengthening of the RINDHCA and the consolidation and expansion of the network, as mentioned in this document. It is also a starting point to continue exploring possible new scenarios and alliances with organizations that assist us in strengthening NHRIs, promoting human rights and the defense of human rights defenders, among others.

Specifically, phase 3 of the NHRI.EU Project is aimed at strengthening the capacity of NHRIs in four key areas:

- Strengthen NHRIs to promote and protect human rights defenders and civic space and defend NHRIs when faced with threats and reprisals.
- Promote the establishment, strengthening and accreditation of NHRIs in accordance with the Paris Principles.
- Support NHRIs to achieve change in priority areas (climate change, torture prevention, and implementation of the SDGs).
- Deepen the capacity of GANHRI and its four regional networks to support their member NHRIs.

ACHIEVEMENTS JANUARY 2023 TO DECEMBER 2023

1. Election and registration of RINDHCA's governance bodies

1.1. Establishment of a new Technical Secretariat

Due to the vacancy in the Permanent Technical Secretariat and after the respective calls and interviews were conducted through an international public selection process carried out by GANHRI, in November 2022, Consuelo Olvera Treviño was selected as RINDHCA's Permanent Technical Secretariat. Likewise, in the same international public selection process carried out by GANHRI, Augusto Rey Hernández de Agüero was selected as Senior Human Rights Officer. Both started working in January 2023. Finally, Ana Vallarino continued in the position of Administrative Assistant, which she has held since September 2022, to continue providing support to the RINDHCA office from Panama.

This team, which makes up the Technical Secretariat of RINDHCA, was presented to the NHRI members of the RINDHCA General Assembly by Raquel Caballero, in her capacity as Secretary General, on February 1 through Communiqué 01/2023. Likewise, the Extraordinary Session of the General Assembly of RINDHCA, held on February 21, 2023, confirmed the appointment of Consuelo Olvera Treviño as Permanent Technical Secretariat of RINDHCA, as well as the other members of the Technical Secretariat. Based on this, the Coordination Committee integrated by the NHRIs of El Salvador, Canada, Colombia, and Argentina ratified the appointment of Consuelo Olvera Treviño, as Permanent Technical Secretariat of RINDHCA and authorized the notarization and registration in the Public Registry of Panama of the act that ratifies her appointment.

The appointment and ratification of Consuelo Olvera Treviño as Permanent Technical Secretariat of RINDHCA is duly registered in the Public Registry of Panama. Said protocolization was given by means of Public Deed No.7476 of March 31, 2023, of the Twelfth Notary Office of the Circuit of Panama.

1.2. Appointment of the new Coordinating Committee and Secretary General

Having concluded the period for which the Coordinating Committee 2021 - 2023 was elected, on Monday, April 10, the NHRIs that make up the General Assembly of RINDHCA held their second Extraordinary Session of the year, in which the [Coordinating Committee for the period 2023-2025](#) was elected. This election was held in accordance with the Bylaws of RINDHCA.

Likewise, on April 12, 2023, the elected Coordination Committee, in compliance with the RINCHCA's Bylaws, appointed by acclamation its new Secretary General for the aforementioned period.

The current composition of the Coordination Committee and General Secretariat is as follows:

Secretary General and representative of the Andean Region

Mr. Pedro Francisco Callisaya Aro
Ombudsman of the Plurinational State of Bolivia

North America

Ms. Charlotte-Anne Malischewski,
Interim Chief Commissioner of the Canadian Human Rights Commission.

Central America

Mr. José Alejandro Córdova
Human Rights Ombudsman of the Republic of Guatemala

Southern Region

Mr. Juan José Böckel
Assistant Secretary General A/C

It is important to note that the Coordination Committee is composed of four NHRIs that have full status in the network and maintain "A" status with GANHRI and represent the four regions of the Americas: North America, Central America, Andean Region, and Southern Region.

The appointment and ratification of the Coordination Committee of RINDHCA for a period of two years is duly registered in the Public Registry of Panama. Said protocolization was given through Public Deed No. 14565 of June 22, 2023, of the Twelfth Notary of the Circuit of Panama.

On the other hand, the nomination and election of the Ombudsman of the People of the Plurinational State of Bolivia to the General Secretariat of the RINDHCA for a period of two years is duly registered in the Public Registry of Panama. Said protocolization was given through Public Deed No. 15919 of July 7, 2023, of the Twelfth Notary Office of the Circuit of Panama.



1.3. General Assembly Sessions

Between January 2023 and December 2023, the RINDHCA held two Extraordinary Assemblies virtually, one on February 21 and the other on April 10, and one Ordinary Assembly in person, on March 14 in the context of the Annual Meeting of GANHRI, in Geneva, Switzerland.

In accordance with Article 10 of the RINDHCA's Bylaws, the Ordinary Assembly will meet at least once a year, when half plus one of its members are present. On the other hand, the Extraordinary Assemblies shall be held when circumstances make it advisable in the opinion of the General Secretariat, when the Coordination Committee agrees or when proposed in writing by one third of the associates.

1.4. Sessions of the Coordination Committee

Between January 2023 and December 2023, the RINDHCA Coordination Committee met three times, all three virtually. The first session was held on April 12, where the new Secretary General was appointed by acclamation; the second on May 10, where various network issues were addressed, such as the creation of working groups and the communications strategy; and the third on September 19, where the report of achievements from January to September 2023 was presented, the participation of RINDHCA in the human rights forums in Panama and Chile was discussed, and the translation of CEDAW General Comment 39 into indigenous languages was presented.

In accordance with Article 15 of the RINDHCA's Bylaws, the Coordination Committee shall meet as often as determined by the General Secretariat or at the initiative or request of half of its members.

1.5. Designation of NHRIs in the governance bodies of GANHRI

The RINDHCA, participates and is part of the following governance bodies in the GANHRI:

- Finance Committee: At the Extraordinary Session of the General Assembly on April 10, 2023, the NHRI of El Salvador was designated as the representative of the American region in this committee for a period of three years.
- Sub-Committee on Accreditations - SCA: At the Extraordinary Session of the General Assembly on October 3, 2022, the National Commissioner for Human Rights of Honduras was elected as the NHRI representative of RINDHCA to the GANHRI Sub-Committee on Accreditations. The National Human Rights Commission of Mexico was elected as Alternate. Both will represent the region for the period 2022 - 2025.



2. Approval of RINDHCA's Action Plan

Within the framework of the NHRI.EU Project phase 3, the Extraordinary Session of the General Assembly of RINDHCA, held on February 21, 2023, unanimously approved the [First Action Plan of RINDHCA](#), designed to run until 2024 and whose central component is capacity building and strengthening of NHRIs in the region.

This Action Plan is the result of a consultative process that took place during the months of February and March 2022, with a subsequent update during the month of July 2022, which considered the Action Plan developed by GANHRI, for the implementation of the NHRI.EU Project phase 3 for the next three years. The Technical Secretariat, the Coordinating Committee, the General Secretariat, and the National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) that make up the network participated in the process. In particular, information was collected through interviews or by filling out surveys of the NHRIs of Argentina, Canada, Chile, Colombia, El Salvador, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, and Peru. The process of developing the Plan of Action was led by Augusto Rey, who now serves as RINDHCA's Senior Human Rights Officer.

The priorities, observations, and comments that the representatives of the different NHRIs contributed to the development of the Plan of Action served as feedback to define the lines of work, objectives, goals, and actions that will be prioritized during the next period. The gathering of information and the drafting and validation of the Action Plan included the participation of an international consultant, who currently holds the position of Senior Human Rights Officer.

Considering that RINDHCA is part of GANHRI, the Action Plan considered the [GANHRI Strategic Plan 2020-2022](#), formally adopted at its [General Assembly in 2020](#), so that RINDHCA's action plan dialogues with the products and actions outlined by GANHRI aimed at capacity building of NHRIs.

3. Due diligence process for the good governance of RINDHCA

3.1. A due diligence process was carried out to ensure the proper legal functioning of the Technical Secretariat and the General Assembly of RINDHCA. This process was carried out in consultation with the Illueca Law Firm.

3.2. A good practice was implemented whereby the various contracts signed by RINDHCA are reviewed and legally validated by the Illueca Law Firm. In this sense, the following contracts have undergone such evaluation:

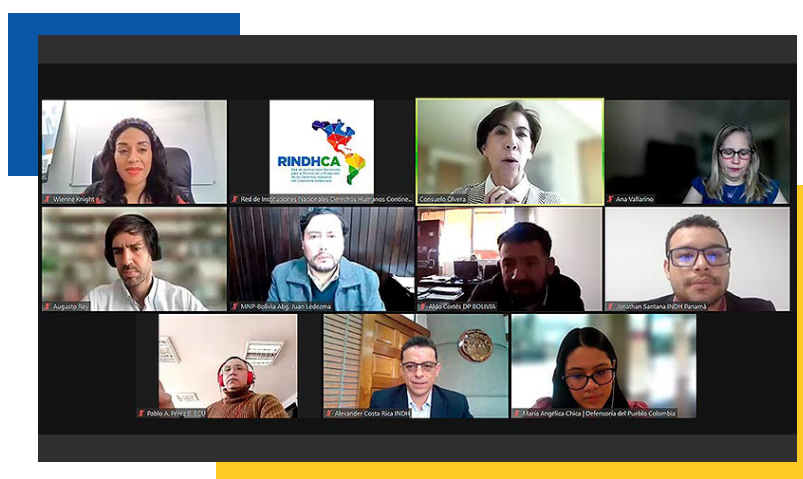
- Professional services contract of Consuelo Olvera, as Permanent Technical Secretariat.
- Contract for professional services of Augusto Rey, as Senior Human Rights Officer.
- Simultaneous interpretation services contract with Tracendio LLC.
- Contract with Tracendio LLC for services for the Translation of the Manual on the Prevention of Torture.
- Contract for services of Diego Padrón, as web master and communications specialist.
- Contract of services of Laura Barrera for the development and implementation of a communications campaign for the 30th anniversary of the Paris Principles and the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- Contract for the services of Ramiro Rivadeneira to design a protocol with a regional approach for the defence of human rights defenders and a model for national reports.
- Contract for the services of Michael Chamberlin to systematize the progress and prepare the reports of the six thematic working groups of the RINDHCA.

3.3. A due diligence process was carried out to ensure the correct accounting operation of the Technical Secretariat of RINDHCA. This process was carried out in consultation with a chartered accountant from Panama.

3.4. As part of the due diligence process, a policy of constant and fluid dialogue has been implemented between the Technical Secretariat and the governance bodies of RINDHCA. Thus, regular meetings are held between the Technical Secretariat and the General Secretariat of the RINDHCA to address the various issues that concern it and its proper functioning.

4. Creation of thematic working groups

[In June 2023, six working groups were formed with the aim of bringing together NHRIs in the region to network, collaborate and support each other around specific themes considered in the RINDHCA Action Plan 2022 - 2024.](#) These working groups seek to be catalysts for common learning projects and experience-based knowledge, in order to contribute to regional policy debate and effective action at the national level that will translate into impactful human rights actions and products.



Thus, on Thursday, June 27, a meeting was held with the coordinators of each of the thematic groups formed by the RINDHCA, which meant a significant step towards concrete actions and products with an impact on human rights in the region and the strengthening of NHRIs, within the framework of RINDHCA's Action Plan 2022 - 2024. In July, the groups were installed and began their cycle of meetings.



The six working groups are as follows:

- **Working Group on Migrant and Refugee Populations**

Goal: Reaffirm that the response to the situation of the population that has migrated forcibly from their countries of origin and that is in transit or staying in the countries of the American continent must be carried out under strict protection of their human rights and in follow-up of the SDGs of the 2030 Agenda. This Working Group is related to Objective 6 of the RINDHCA Plan of Action.



The composition of the Working Group on Migrant and Refugee Populations is as follows:

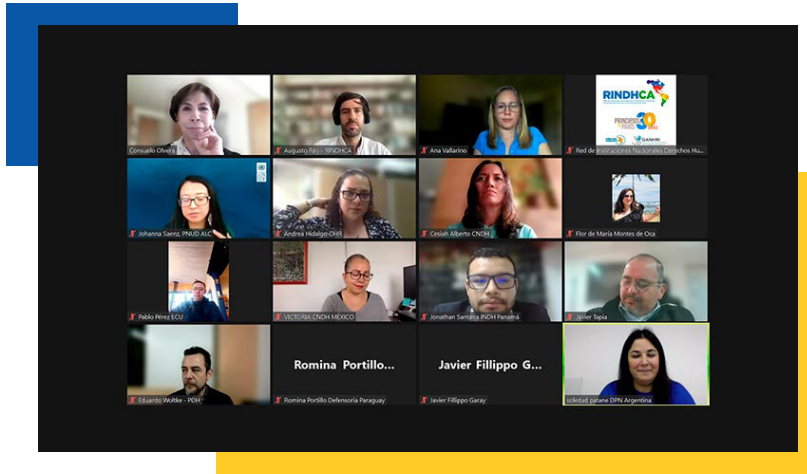
North American NHRIs
Mexico

Central American and Caribbean NHRIs
Costa Rica
El Salvador
Guatemala
Honduras
Panama

Andean Region NHRIs
Bolivia
Colombia
Ecuador

Southern Region NHRIs
Argentina
Paraguay
Uruguay

On Tuesday, July 4, with the participation of representatives from seven NHRIs in the region, [the Working Group on migrant and refugee populations was established](#). This first meeting included the special participation of Johanna Saenz, UNDP Regional Advisor on Human Mobility for Latin America, and the Caribbean.



On Tuesday, July 25, the second meeting of this Working Group was held, at which the actual work began, and immediate actions were adopted. The third session was held on August 22, the fourth on September 22 and the fifth on October 20.

• **Working Group on Human Rights and Business**

Goal: To reaffirm the role of business in fulfilling the 2030 Agenda and protecting human rights, which implies aligning private sector actions to the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and embracing the 2010 Edinburgh Declaration on the role of NHRIs in business and human rights. This involves creating capacity-building actions for NHRIs and regional networks on business and human rights, including in priority areas identified by NHRIs. This Working Group is related to Objective 5 of the RINDHCA Action Plan.

The composition of the Working Group on Business and Human Rights is as follows:

Grupo de trabajo
RINDHCA

Derechos Humanos y Empresas

En diálogo con el Plan Estratégico de GANHRI 2023-2027, adoptado en la Asamblea General del 15 de marzo de 2023, y el Plan de Acción 2022 - 2024 de la RINDHCA.

Objetivo

El objetivo de este grupo de trabajo es alinear acciones conforme a los Principios Rectores de la ONU y la Declaración de Edimburgo 2010 sobre el rol de las INDH en relación con las empresas y los derechos humanos, y reafirmar el papel de las empresas en cumplimiento de la Agenda 2030.

Coordinación

INDH Colombia.

INDH integrantes

América de Norte
Canadá y México.

Centro América y el Caribe
Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haití, Honduras, Nicaragua y Panamá.

Región Andina
Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Perú y Venezuela.

Región Sur
Argentina, Chile, Paraguay y Uruguay.

North American NHRIs

Mexico

Central American and Caribbean NHRIs

Costa Rica

El Salvador

Guatemala

Honduras

Panama

Andean Region NHRIs

Bolivia

Colombia

Ecuador

Peru

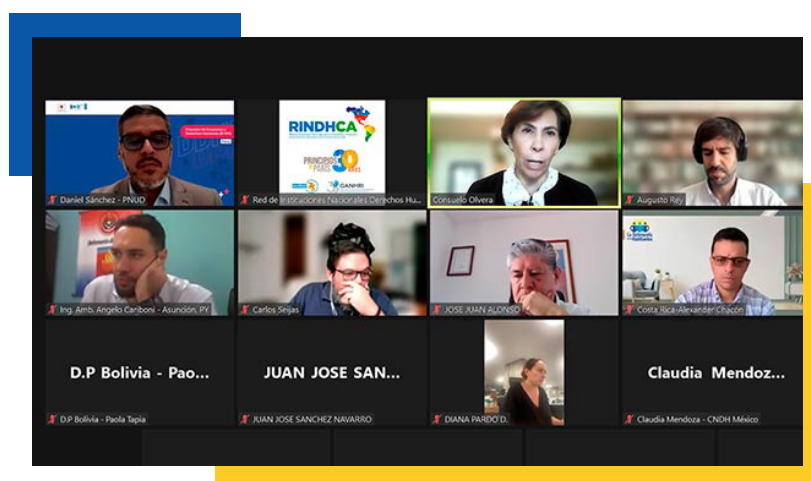
Southern Region NHRIs

Argentina

Paraguay

Uruguay

On Tuesday, July 4, with the participation of representatives of eight NHRIs in the region, [the Working Group on Human Rights and Business was established](#). This first meeting included the special contribution of Daniel Sánchez, Coordinator of the Business and Human Rights Project of UNDP Peru, and Álvaro Amaya, Regional Representative for Latin America, and the Caribbean of the Danish Institute for Human Rights.



On Tuesday, August 8, the second meeting of this Working Group was held, in which the actual work began, and immediate actions were adopted. The third session was held on September 12. In addition, between October 10 and 12, RINDHCA participated in the VIII Regional Forum

on Human Rights and Business in Chile. On that occasion, Pedro Callisaya, Ombudsman of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, and Secretary General of RINDHCA, the heads of the NHRIs of Ecuador, Peru, and Uruguay, and Consuelo Olvera, Permanent Technical Secretary, and Augusto Rey, Senior Human Rights Officer of RINDHCA, participated.

• **Working Group on the Prevention of Torture and Ill-Treatment**

Goal: To reaffirm the role of NHRIs in the prevention of torture in their countries through concrete activities, including their role as National Preventive Mechanisms for the Prevention of Torture. Given the special importance attached to the prohibition of torture, the traditional obligations of States to respect, protect, and fulfil human rights are complemented by the obligation to prevent torture and other forms of ill-treatment. States must take positive measures to prevent their occurrence. In the case of torture, the requirement that States take prompt national implementation measures is an integral part of the international obligation to prohibit this practice. This Working Group relates to Objective 8 of the INCDHR Action Plan.

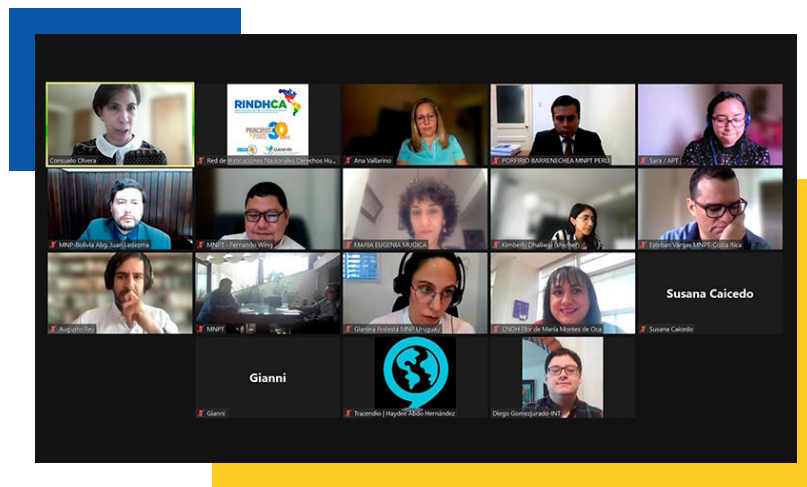


The composition of the Working Group on the Prevention of Torture and Ill-Treatment is as follows:

North American NHRIs
Canadá
Mexico
Central American and Caribbean NHRIs
Costa Rica
Guatemala

Honduras
Panama
Andean Region NHRIs
Bolivia
Colombia
Ecuador
Peru
Southern Region NHRIs
Argentina
Paraguay
Uruguay

On Wednesday, July 5, with the participation of representatives of nine NHRIs in the region and in partnership with the Association for the Prevention of Torture (APT), [the Working Group on the Prevention of Torture and Ill-treatment was established](#). This first meeting included the special participation of Sara Vera, APT Advisor for Latin America.



On Wednesday, July 26, the second meeting of this Working Group was held, in which the actual work began, and immediate actions were adopted. The third session was held on August 23, the fourth on September 13 and the fifth on October 17.

- **Working Group on People of African Descent**

Grupo de trabajo RINDHCA

Población Afrodescendiente

En diálogo con el Plan Estratégico de GANHRI 2023-2027, adoptado en la Asamblea General del 15 de marzo de 2023, y el Plan de Acción 2022 - 2024 de la RINDHCA.

Objetivo

El objetivo de este grupo de trabajo es reforzar la labor de las INDH en la protección y promoción de las personas afrodescendientes en las Américas, respaldado por la resolución de la ONU, "Decenio Internacional para los Afrodescendientes" con el tema "Afrodescendientes: reconocimiento, justicia y desarrollo".

Coordinación

INDH Costa Rica.

INDH Integrantes

- América de Norte**
Canadá y México.
- Centro América y el Caribe**
Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haití, Honduras, Nicaragua y Panamá.
- Región Andina**
Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Perú y Venezuela.
- Región Sur**
Argentina, Chile, Paraguay y Uruguay.

Logos: DERECHOS HUMANOS 75, RINDHCA, Unión Europea, PRINCIPIOS DE PARÍS 2020

Goal: Strengthen lines of action from the NHRIs in relation to the protection and promotion of the afro-descendant in the region. This involves the study, analysis, defence, and promotion of the rights of the afro-descendant population so that the NHRIs of the American Continent join efforts together with other actors and strategic instances. This considering that in December 2013, the United Nations General Assembly approved resolution 68/237, to proclaim the period from 2015 to 2024 as the "International Decade for People of African Descent with the theme Afro-descendants: recognition, justice and development". This Working Group is related to Objective 8 of the RINDHCA Plan of Action.

The composition of the Working Group on People of African Descent is as follows:

North American NHRIs
Mexico

Central American and Caribbean NHRIs
Costa Rica
El Salvador
Guatemala
Honduras
Panama

Andean Region NHRIs
Bolivia
Colombia

Ecuador

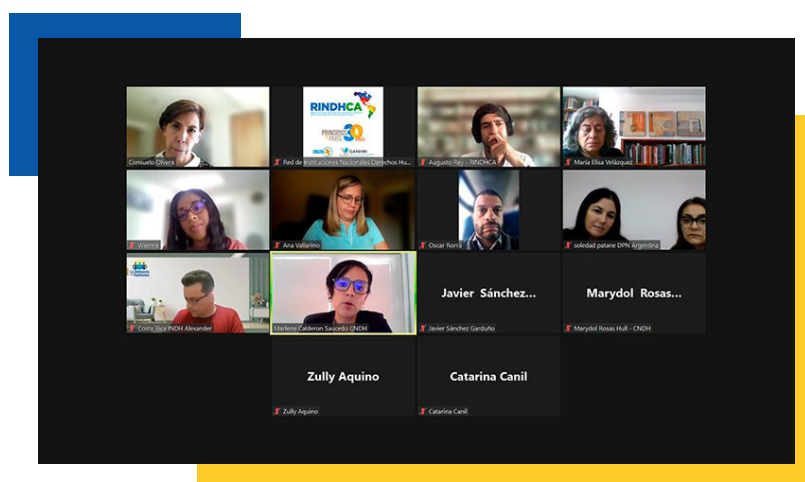
Southern Region NHRIs

Argentina

Paraguay

Uruguay

On Wednesday, July 5, with the participation of representatives of five NHRIs in the region, [the Working Group on People of African Descent was established](#). This first meeting was attended by Dr. María Elisa Velásquez, historian and anthropologist from the National Institute of Anthropology and History of Mexico.



On Thursday, July 27, the second meeting of this working group was held, at which actual work began and immediate actions were determined. The third meeting was held on August 24, the fourth on October 19, and the fifth on Wednesday, December 13.

- **Working Group on Human Rights and the Environment**

Goal: To address the climate crisis with a human rights-based approach while moving towards a just transition to a carbon-free economy. This involves ensuring that decisions on climate change are participatory, non-discriminatory, and responsible, and that the benefits and burden of climate action are shared equitably. This is considering that at the 2020 GANHRI Annual Conference, NHRIs from all regions jointly committed to human rights-based climate change action to support communities and preserve the environment. The conference declaration sets out the practical ways in which NHRIs will engage in national, regional as well as international processes to advance these commitments under the Paris Agreement. This Working Group relates to Objective 8 of the RINDHCA Plan of Action.



The composition of the Working Group on Human Rights and the Environment is as follows:

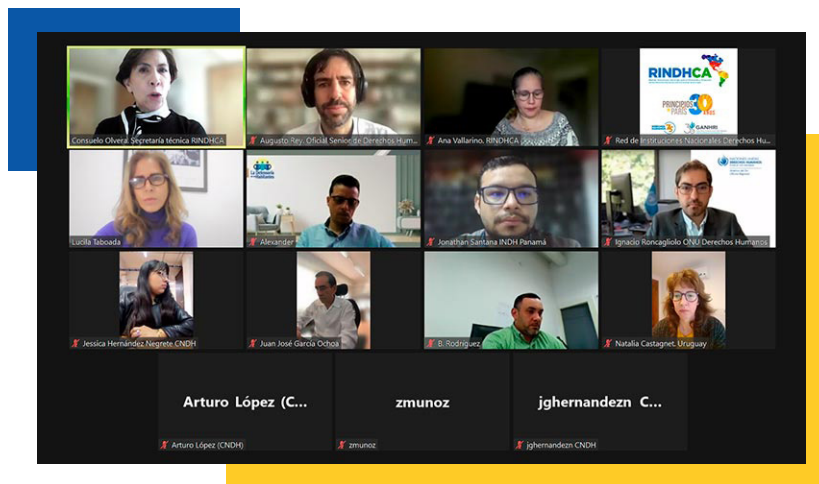
North American NHRIs
Mexico

Central American and Caribbean NHRIs
Costa Rica
El Salvador
Guatemala
Honduras
Panama

Andean Region NHRIs
Bolivia
Colombia
Ecuador
Peru

Southern Region NHRIs
Argentina
Paraguay
Uruguay

On Thursday, July 6, with the participation of representatives of eight NHRIs in the region, [the Working Group on human rights and the environment was established](#). This first meeting included the special participation of Ignacio Roncagliolo, Human Rights Officer of the Regional Office for South America of the OHCHR.



On Thursday, July 27, the second meeting of this Working Group was held, at which effective work began and immediate actions were adopted. The third session was held on August 24, the fourth on September 14 and the fifth is scheduled for the last week of October.

- **Working Group on Ageing and the Human Rights of Older Persons**

Goal: To address the issues of aging from a human rights perspective to respond to the challenges faced by older adults, such as discrimination, poverty, violence, and abuses, as well as the lack of specific measures and services. The number of people over 60 years of age is steadily increasing in the region, without adequate protection mechanisms and policies that seek to ensure their dignified life with the full exercise of the rights established in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; the American Convention on Human Rights; or the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. This Working Group is related to Objective 8 of the RINDHCA Plan of Action.



Grupo de trabajo
RINDHCA

Derechos Humanos en la Vejez y el Envejecimiento

En diálogo con el Plan Estratégico de GANHRI 2023-2027, adoptado en la Asamblea General del 15 de marzo de 2023, y el Plan de Acción 2022 - 2024 de la RINDHCA.

Objetivo

El objetivo de este grupo de trabajo es abordar los asuntos de la vejez y el envejecimiento desde una perspectiva de derechos humanos, con la finalidad de responder a los retos que enfrentan los adultos mayores, y crear mecanismos de protección adecuados y políticas que busquen asegurar su vida digna.

Coordinación

- INDH México.**
- INDH Guatemala.**
- INDH Colombia.**

INDH Integrantes

- América de Norte**
Canadá y México.
- Centro América y el Caribe**
Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haití, Honduras, Nicaragua y Panamá.
- Región Andina**
Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Perú y Venezuela.
- Región Sur**
Argentina, Chile, Paraguay y Uruguay.







The composition of the Working Group on Ageing and the Human Rights of Older Persons is as follows:

North American NHRIs
Mexico

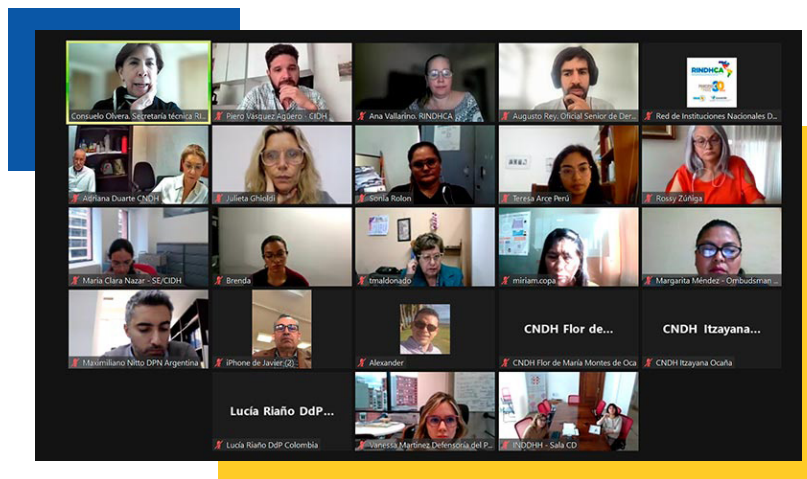
Central American and Caribbean NHRIs
Costa Rica
El Salvador
Guatemala
Honduras
Panama

Andean Region NHRIs
Bolivia
Colombia
Ecuador
Peru

Southern Region NHRIs
Argentina
Paraguay
Uruguay

On Thursday, July 6, with the participation of representatives of twelve NHRIs in the region, [the Working Group on Ageing and the Human Rights of Older Persons was established](#). This first meeting included the special participation of Piero Vázquez Agüero, consultant to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), and María Clara Nazar, Specialist of the Technical Cooperation and Public Policy Section of the IACHR, both members of the team of the Rapporteurship for the Rights of Older Persons.

On Tuesday, July 25, the second meeting of this Working Group was held, in which the actual work began, and immediate actions were adopted. The third session was held on August 22, the fourth on September 21 and the fifth on October 18.



Finally, on Thursday, December 7, the second meeting was held with the coordinators of each of RINDHCA's thematic groups, which, with the arrival of the end of the year, celebrated their sixth month of activities.

5. Hiring a professional to systematize the progress and prepare the reports of the six thematic working groups.

In October, Michael Chamberlin, a Mexican consultant, was hired to develop the following two products:

- i. Report of the Working Group on the prevention of torture and ill-treatment, through the preparation of a Compendium of good practices, which was presented at the 14th International Conference of the GANHRI to be held from November 6 to 8 in Copenhagen, Denmark.
- ii. Preliminary reports from the other five working groups, based on the information shared by the NHRIs that make up each of them.

6. Improved communications, image management, web and social networks, and creation of RINDHCA's Newsletter

6.1. Hiring of a communications specialist

To have a good administration of the web portal, social networks, and communications of RINDHCA, Diego Padrón was hired as a communications specialist to assist the Technical Secretariat. This contract was awarded through public bidding and was formalized through a contract signed on May 22, 2023.

6.2. Web Administration

From January to date, maintenance has been provided to the website: www.rindhca.org, which has been conceived as a space dedicated to the NHRIs of the American continent, to the national and regional work undertaken by them in the service, defence, and protection of the fundamental rights of the most vulnerable populations.



In January 2023 the renewal of the rindhca.org domain expired, so it was renewed for a period of one year. Likewise, on April 30 of this year, we were able to renew for a period of one year, until April 30, 2024, the hosting service (web hosting), which supports the portal www.rindhca.org.

6.3. Creation and administration of RINDHCA's profiles in social networks

- Twitter: Daily administration of the Twitter profile is maintained with an increase in own content: <https://twitter.com/rindhca>
- Facebook: The daily admiration of the Facebook profile is maintained with an increase of own content: <https://www.facebook.com/actualidadrindhca>
- LinkedIn: In April a new institutional profile of RINDHCA was created on LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/rindhca-america>
- YouTube: In April, the YouTube channel was reopened, where webinar recordings and audio-visual materials are being shared: <https://www.youtube.com/@RINDHCA>

6.4. Creation of the RINDHCA's Blog

As part of RINDHCA's communication strategy, the RINDHCA Blog was created as a platform for the heads of the NHRIs in the region to highlight those issues that are relevant for internal capacity building and the protection of the autonomy of each of their institutions, following the three lines of work prioritized in the RINDHCA Action Plan to 2024.

Thus, since April 10, 2023, a blog entry has been published every Monday. For the first 18 weeks, the entries have been written by the heads of the NHRIs members of RINDHCA. The blog entries - of about 280 words - have included reflections by NHRI members on their current work and mandate, reinforcing the importance of the independence of NHRIs and upholding the Paris Principles in practice. The blog posts are shared on RINDHCA's social networks and shared by members to broaden its reach.

The blog can be accessed from this link: <https://www.rindhca.org/blog-rindhca>

6.5. Creation and publication of a monthly newsletter

As part of RINDHCA's communication strategy, since April 2023, a monthly Newsletter has been published, containing information on the network's member NHRIs, news of interest in the field of human rights, announcements, the RINDHCA Blog and any other information of interest.



The Newsletter is distributed among more than a thousand contacts from a database created by RINDHCA itself and which is constantly updated.

6.6. Design and implementation of a communication campaign on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the Paris Principles and the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

[A social media campaign on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the Paris Principles and the 75th anniversary of the UDHR has been implemented since July 2023 until December 2023.](#) The regional campaign, in line with GANHRI's communication approach, aims to promote the work of RINDHCA members and their vital contribution to the promotion and protection of human rights. Another objective of the campaign is to give visibility to RINDHCA's role in supporting and strengthening NHRIs in the region, while highlighting the relevance of the Paris Principles and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

As part of the campaign, [graphic pieces have been created for social networks](#), such as information carousels on both international instruments and the rights they promote and protect.

www.rindhca.org

Take away Comienza →

⌚ 1 min



Derecho a la vida

uno de los derechos más buscados por las personas en Google Google Trends 2023

DERECHOS HUMANOS 75 | RINDHCA | Colaborado por la Unión Europea | PRINCIPIOS DE PARIS 1991

1-4 ¡Sigue leyendo! →

El derecho a la vida implica la prevención y protección contra cualquier forma de violencia.

Ya sea física, psicológica o emocional, sin importar la raza, género, religión, origen étnico o cualquier otra condición de las personas.

Más: Esto incluye la prevención de ejecuciones extrajudiciales, tortura y tratos crueles e inhumanos.



www.rindhca.org

2-4 ¡Lo estás haciendo muy bien! →

Cimiento inquebrantable de la Declaración Universal de los Derechos Humanos (DUDH).

Este documento contiene los principios que establecen los derechos y libertades fundamentales de todas las personas, incluyendo el derecho a la vida.

Más: La DUDH es una guía fundamental de las Instituciones Nacionales de Derechos Humanos de cada país para proteger y promover la existencia plena de las personas.



www.rindhca.org

3-4 Ya casi terminas →

Instituciones Nacionales de Derechos Humanos, guardianas del derecho a la vida.

A través de su labor, se aseguran de que cada persona sea respetada y protegida, promoviendo la igualdad, la justicia y la dignidad para todas las personas.

Más: La DUDH y los Principios de Paris son instrumentos que establecen las guías y directrices del funcionamiento de las Instituciones Nacionales de Derechos Humanos.



www.rindhca.org

4-4 ¡Bien hecho!



RINDHCA
Red de Instituciones Nacionales para la Promoción y Protección de los Derechos Humanos del Continente Americano

La Red de Instituciones Nacionales para la Promoción y Protección de los Derechos Humanos del Continente Americano (RINDHCA):
Unidas por la justicia y los derechos humanos.

www.rindhca.org

Facebook: /actualidadrindhca | Twitter: @RINDHCA | LinkedIn: rindhca-org | YouTube: @RINDHCA

DERECHOS HUMANOS 75 | Colaborado por la Unión Europea | PRINCIPIOS DE PARIS 1991

www.rindhca.org

Take away Comienza →

⌚ 1 min

Derecho a la libertad

Un derecho que no puede ser comprometido, incluso en contextos de crisis o situaciones extraordinarias de seguridad nacional






1-4 ¡Sigue leyendo! →

Libertad plena: expresa, reúne, cree, muévete y actúa.

Este derecho está estrechamente vinculado a la vida de las personas, ya que implica la capacidad de vivir de acuerdo con nuestras propias decisiones y elecciones sin restricciones injustificadas.

Más: Solo son válidas aquellas restricciones previstas por la ley en momentos y contextos específicos.



www.rindhca.org

2-4 ¡Lo estás haciendo muy bien! →

Defensoras de la libertad: Instituciones Nacionales de Derechos Humanos (INDH).

Mediante la vigilancia, denuncia, educación, asesoramiento y recomendaciones en materia de derechos humanos, las INDH protegen y promueven el derecho a la libertad de todas las personas.

Más: Algunos de los derechos de libertad contemplados en la Declaración Universal de los Derechos Humanos incluyen la libre circulación de ideas, pensamiento y expresiones, además de cambiar o mudar de residencia por motivos de seguridad o por buscar mejores condiciones de vida.



www.rindhca.org

3-4 Ya casi terminas →

Principios de París e INDH: fortaleciendo el derecho a la libertad.

Los Principios de París proporcionan a las INDH una guía sólida para fortalecer su labor, estableciendo estándares internacionales para asegurar un enfoque accesible y efectivo en la defensa de derechos humanos.

Más: Al adherirse a los Principios de París, las INDH pueden garantizar una mayor transparencia, participación ciudadana, rendición de cuentas y cooperación con otras entidades.



www.rindhca.org

4-4 ¡Bien hecho!



La Red de Instituciones Nacionales para la Promoción y Protección de los Derechos Humanos del Continente Americano (RINDHCA):
Unidas por la justicia y los derechos humanos.

www.rindhca.org

 /actualidadrindhca
  @RINDHCA
  rindhca-org
  @RINDHCA





75 años
Declaración Universal de los Derechos Humanos

10 derechos esenciales para asegurar nuestra libertad y protección ante el Estado

Derechos Civiles



DERECHOS HUMANOS 75 RINDHCA PRINCIPIOS DE PARIS 1948

www.rindhca.org

75 años
Declaración Universal de los Derechos Humanos

5 derechos esenciales para asegurar la igualdad de oportunidades y bienestar

Derechos Económicos



DERECHOS HUMANOS 75 RINDHCA PRINCIPIOS DE PARIS 1948

www.rindhca.org

75 años
Declaración Universal de los Derechos Humanos

4 derechos para garantizar un ambiente sano y preservar la biodiversidad

Derechos Ambientales



DERECHOS HUMANOS 75 RINDHCA PRINCIPIOS DE PARIS 1948

www.rindhca.org

75 años
Declaración Universal de los Derechos Humanos

4 derechos esenciales para asegurar el acceso a servicios básicos y la calidad de vida

Derechos Sociales



DERECHOS HUMANOS 75 RINDHCA PRINCIPIOS DE PARIS 1948

www.rindhca.org

75 años
Declaración Universal de los Derechos Humanos

5 derechos que protegen la diversidad y expresión cultural de todas las personas

Derechos Culturales



DERECHOS HUMANOS 75 RINDHCA PRINCIPIOS DE PARIS 1948

www.rindhca.org

In addition, a [commemorative video has been published](#) and logos have been created on the occasion of both anniversaries. This information has been circulating in RINDHCA's monthly bulletins and social networks, as part of a planned campaign for dissemination and creation of impact in which the communication and press teams of the NHRIs have been included.

Logo for the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Created by OHCHR):



Logo for the 30th anniversary of the Paris Principles:



As part of the campaign, a distinctive RINDHCA seal was created, which serves as recognition for the NHRIs that make up the network:



The design and implementation of this communication campaign was the responsibility of Laura Barrea, an intentional consultant who was hired after an international public tender.

6.7. Coordination with the social communication teams of the NHRIs members of RINDHCA

[On May 19, a first virtual meeting was held with the heads of communications of the NHRIs of the American continent.](#) The meeting was attended by Pedro Callisaya, Secretary General of RINDHCA and Ombudsman of the Plurinational State of Bolivia.

The objectives of the meeting were:

- Contribute to a regional agenda of capacity building of NHRIs in order to expand civic space, promote and protect human rights defenders.
- Present RINDHCA's communication plan.
- To establish a network of NHRI communication focal points in the Americas.

- Establish a fluid communication channel that allows the dissemination of relevant information of NHRIs in the social networks of RINDHCA.
- To learn about the different communication channels within the network, as well as their needs and priorities.
- To gather recommendations on RINDHCA's communication actions.

Since that first meeting, a fluid communication channel has been established between RINDHCA and the communication teams of the NHRIs which, among other things, is facilitating the dissemination of relevant information from the NHRIs on RINDHCA's social networks.

75 años de la Declaración Universal de los Derechos Humanos

10 de diciembre

La Declaración Universal de Derechos Humanos celebra 75 años desde su aprobación por la Asamblea General de la ONU. Sus 30 artículos mantienen una vigencia incuestionable, siendo una guía crucial para poner fin a conflictos, remediar divisiones y promover una vida pacífica y digna.

El espíritu que da vida a esta declaración es el impulso de las INDH y de la RINDHCA para hacer de estos preceptos una realidad en las Américas.

RINDHCA

DERECHOS HUMANOS 75

Thus, on August 18, with the participation of the communications and press teams of 12 National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs), an informative meeting was held to present the communications campaign developed by RINDHCA in commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the 30th anniversary of the Paris Principles, as well as the RINDHCA seal. The latter is a recognition of the NHRIs that constitute the network.

Finally, on Wednesday, December 13, OHCHR and Sweden Sverige delivered a special virtual presentation of the toolkit for the “My Rights Migrate With Me” campaign to the social communication teams of the NHRIs members of RINDHCA.



7. Translation of the manual “Preventing Torture, An Operational Guide for National Human Rights Institutions”

In partnership with the Association for the Prevention of Torture (APT), the manual “Preventing Torture, An Operational Guide for National Human Rights Institutions” has been translated into Spanish. The translation is under final review at the time of writing.

The translation and layout of the Spanish version was hired by RINDHCA.

8. Translation into indigenous languages of General Recommendation No. 39 (2022) of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on the rights of Indigenous women and girls

In coordination with the NHRIs of Bolivia, Guatemala, Mexico and Paraguay, General Recommendation No. 39 (2022) of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), on the rights of indigenous women and girls, is being translated into six indigenous languages. [The six languages into which the Recommendation is being translated are Guaraní, Zapoteco, Náhuatl, Mojeño Trinitario, Maya K'iche and Aymara.](#)

This General Recommendation of the CEDAW provides guidance to States on what they should do to guarantee the rights of Indigenous women and girls within and outside Indigenous territories, in accordance with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, because they face discrimination and violence on a continuous basis.





8.1. Presentation of translations at the event “CEDAW Recommendation 39: Indigenous women’s access to all rights in their own voices”.

On Monday, December 11, RINDHCA, represented by Pedro Callisaya and Consuelo Olvera, Secretary General and Permanent Technical Secretary of RINDHCA, respectively, was present at the event “CEDAW Recommendation 39: Indigenous women’s access to all rights in their own voices”.

The event was held in person in Mexico City, in the auditorium of the National Human Rights Center, and was organized by the National Human Rights Commission of Mexico, a member institution of RINDHCA.

The opportunity was used to present the translation of CEDAW General Recommendation 39 into six indigenous languages: Guaraní, Zapotec, Náhuatl, Mojeño Trinitario, Maya K’iche and Aymara. These translations were carried out by RINDHCA in coordination with and thanks to the support of the NHRIs of Guatemala, Mexico, Paraguay and Bolivia.



9. Design a protocol with a regional approach for the defense of human rights defenders and a model for national reports

In order to address a real demand in the region, such as the growing threat against human rights defenders; considering the urgent need to generate protection instruments from the perspective of the mandates of the NHRIs of the Americas; and, with the additional objective of giving continuity to the implementation of the Plan of Action 2022 - 2024 of RINDHCA under the project funded by the European Union - NHRI.EU.3, RINDHCA conceived the need to hire a professional for the following:

- (i) Develop a protocol on human rights defenders and civic space as a follow-up to the Marrakech Declaration; and;
- (ii) Develop a model for national reports on the situation of human rights defenders.

The selection process was carried out through an international public tender, in accordance with the criteria established in the NHRI.EU.3 Project, foreseen by both the European Union and GANHRI, the main executing agency of this project. In this regard, the call was disseminated through the [website](#), [the monthly newsletter for June](#), and RINDHCA's social networks, such as [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#). The call for applications was launched on June 8 and concluded on July 3, in accordance with the Terms of Reference.

Sixteen applications were received (6 men and 10 women). From a first selection of the profiles, based on compliance with the minimum requirements and suitability criteria, as described in the call, the Technical Secretariat identified 7 profiles that were interviewed. From this group, a shortlist was selected and evaluated by means of an interview with the Secretary General of RINDHCA. As a result of this process, Ramiro Rivadeneira was selected, who is Ecuadorian, Doctor in Jurisprudence, former Ombudsman of Ecuador from December 2011 to November 2016, and from March 2017 to May 2018, and former Secretary General of RINDHCA. His contract was signed on Monday, September 4, 2023.

At the time of this report's submission, the protocol on human rights defenders and civic space as a follow-up to the Marrakech Declaration, and the model national reports on the situation of human rights defenders are in the process of being drafted for publication.



10. Organization of webinars for the positioning of themes of regional interest

10.1. Webinar: The National Human Rights Institutions of the Americas under the spotlight: the importance of their autonomy and capacity for action in times of crisis

On Tuesday, April 18, the webinar "[National Human Rights Institutions of the Americas under the magnifying glass: the importance of their autonomy and capacity for action in times of crisis](#)" was held. Participants included Pablo Callisaya, Ombudsman of Bolivia, and Secretary General of RINDHCA; Jairo Acuña-Alfaro, UNDP Regional Governance Leader for Latin America, and the Caribbean; Xavier Mena, Deputy Regional Representative of the Regional Office for South America of the OHCHR; Gustavo D'Angelo, Director of the Regional Project on Human Rights and Democracy of the Pan American Development Foundation (PADF); and Consuelo Olvera, Permanent Technical Secretary of RINDHCA. The moderator was Augusto Rey, Senior Human Rights Officer of RINDHCA.

10.2. Webinar: Exchange of Good Practices: Human Rights Observatories and Early Warning Systems

On Thursday, May 18, the webinar "[Exchange of Good Practices: Human Rights Observatories and Early Warning Systems](#)" was held. It was attended by Pedro Callisaya Aro, Ombudsman of the Plurinational State of Bolivia and Secretary General of RINDHCA, Consuelo Olvera, Permanent Technical Secretary of RINDHCA, Roberto Gabriele Valent from the Office of the Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean of the United Nations Development Coordination Office (OCD), María Claudia Pulido, Secretary General of RINDHCA, Consuelo Olvera, Permanent Technical Secretary of RINDHCA, Roberto Gabriele Valent from the Office of the Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean of the United Nations Development Coordination Office (OCD), María Claudia Pulido, Deputy Executive Secretary for Monitoring, Promotion and Technical Cooperation of the IACHR, César Córdova Valverde, Ombudsman of Ecuador, and José Alejandro Córdova Herrera, Human Rights Ombudsman of the Republic of Guatemala.

10.3. Webinar: Building capacities among RINDHCA members: Interactive dialogues with conventional and extra-conventional human rights mechanisms

On Thursday, June 22, the webinar "[Building capacities among RINDHCA members: Interactive dialogues with conventional and extra-conventional human rights mechanisms](#)" was held. Participants included Pedro Francisco Callisaya Aro, Secretary General of RINDHCA and Ombudsman of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Consuelo Olvera, Permanent Technical Secretary of RINDHCA, Felipe González Morales, UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants, Claude Heller, President of the UN Committee against Torture, and Juan José Böckel, Under-Secretary General in charge of the Ombudsman of Argentina.



10.4. Webinar: Presentation and Dialogue on Guide 11: Implementing Human Rights Due Diligence

On November 23, RINDHCA together with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) presented the digital tool for small and medium enterprises “Guide 11: Implementing Human Rights Due Diligence” which is part of the series “EnMarchaDigital” of the same UNDP.

This presentation was a continuation of the one made on October 11, in a parallel event to the VIII Forum on Business and Human Rights for Latin America, in Santiago, Chile. On that occasion, in person. This time, virtually, the objective was to insert Guide 11 in the agenda of the Business and Human Rights working group of RINDHCA in order to strengthen the link and increase awareness of the guide in NHRIs and enhance their role in business environments as promoters of the 2030 Agenda.



RINDHCA was represented by Consuelo Olvera, Permanent Technical Secretary, and Augusto Rey, Senior Human Rights Officer. UNDP was represented by Rita Sciarra, Regional Team Leader for Inclusive Growth of the UNDP Regional Centre in Panama, Jairo Acuña, Regional Team Leader for Governance and Peace of the UNDP Regional Centre in Panama, Gloria Manzotti, Regional Rule of Law Advisor, and Marisol Cortéz, Rule of Law Specialist.

10.5. Participation in other webinars of interest to the Network

In addition to the webinars organized by RINDHCA, in November the Technical Secretariat participated in the webinar: “National Human Rights Institutions and the protection and promotions of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights”, organized by the Secretariat of the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; and in the virtual meeting “The implementation of the OPCAT in Latin American Federal States” with APT and the Mechanisms for the Prevention of Torture of Argentina, Brazil and Mexico.

11. Co-organization of the regional meeting of NHRIs and NCPs in Latin America and the Caribbean: Challenges and opportunities for advancing human rights and environmental due diligence

In partnership with the Danish Institute for Human Rights, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the National Human Rights Institute of Chile and the National Contact Point (NCP) of Chile, [on October 10, the hybrid regional meeting “Challenges and Opportunities for Advancing Human Rights and Environmental Due Diligence” was organized.](#)

This meeting took place within the framework of the preparatory sessions for the VIII United Nations Regional Forum on Business and Human Rights for Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Santiago, Chile, from October 10 to 12. The NHRIs of Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Honduras, Panama, Peru, and Uruguay participated in the meeting, and the NHRIs of El Salvador, Guatemala and Mexico attended virtually.



12. RINDHCA and the Association for the Prevention of Torture (APT) signed a collaboration agreement.

On November 8, in Copenhagen, Denmark, Mr. Pedro Callisaya Aro, Secretary General of RINDHCA, and Ms. Barbara Bernath, Secretary General of the APT, signed a General Collaboration

Agreement aimed at establishing a general framework of cooperation for the development and implementation of joint activities, programs and plans. In this way, the APT will accompany the RINDHCA throughout 2024 in the promotion of measures for the prevention of torture and ill-treatment together with the National Human Rights Institutions that are part of this network.



Following the signing of the collaboration agreement, on December 6, the Technical Secretariat of RINDHCA and APT held a meeting to advance in the fulfillment of the agreement. As a result, RINDHCA developed a roadmap with specific objectives for 2024. Thus, the year 2024 will begin with concrete actions aimed at strengthening the capacity of NHRIs in the prevention of torture and ill-treatment.

13. Collaboration and Coordination with GANHRI

13.1. Contribution to the amendments to GANHRI's Bylaws

On March 6, 2023, the Technical Secretariat of the RINDHCA organized a special session with the NHRIs of the network for Tabatha Tranquilla, Acting Director of the Canadian Human Rights Commission, to present the importance of the amendments made to GANHRI's Bylaws regarding the accreditation process of its members.

Also, with a view to their discussion during the GANHRI General Assembly held on March 15 in Geneva, Switzerland, in the context of the 2023 GANHRI Annual Meeting, contributions were made to the amendments to GANHRI's Bylaws.

13.2. Participation in the GANHRI Bureau Sessions

RINDHCA was present at the GANHRI Bureau meeting held on Tuesday, March 14, at the Tempus Building of the Palais des Nations in Geneva. Additionally, [RINDHCA was present at the GANHRI Bureau meeting held on November 5, in Copenhagen.](#)



In both cases, the presidents of the regions and their respective secretariats had the opportunity to participate in the deliberations on the developments achieved, the challenges we face, but also the opportunities to improve the performance of NHRIs in a changing and threatening world for human rights.

13.3. Participation in GANHRI international in-person meetings

Between March 14 and 16, more than 200 participants from NHRIs from all regions, as well as representatives from states, civil society, academia, and partners from OHCHR and UNDP gathered in Geneva, Switzerland for the GANHRI 2023 Annual Meeting. On behalf of RINDHCA. Members of the General Assembly were present and, on behalf of the Technical Secretariat, Consuelo Olvera, Permanent Technical Secretary, and Augusto Rey, Senior Human Rights Officer.



The meeting concluded with the adoption of a declaration by the members of the participating NHRIs as a result of the Annual Conference to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the Paris Principles and the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

In addition, the 14th GANHRI International Conference was held in Copenhagen (Denmark) from November 6 to 8, where the central theme was "Torture and other ill-treatment: the role of national human rights institutions". It was jointly organized by GANHRI, the Danish Institute for Human Rights, the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), with the participation of RINDHCA and a part of its members.



On this occasion, RINDHCA actively participated in the International Conference with the presence of the Ombudsperson’s Offices of Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, Paraguay and Peru. We were also accompanied by the Federal Ombudsman’s Office of Brazil. At the end of this 14th International Conference, the participating NHRIs adopted the Kyiv-Copenhagen Declaration, which establishes a series of practical actions that National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) will carry out as part of their work to promote, prevent and protect against torture and other ill-treatment.



13.4. Training on financial management and the European Union's Financial Regulation

On Monday, February 6, and Wednesday, February 9, 2023, through a virtual workshop, the members of the Technical Secretariat participated in a training on EU financial management and financial regulations, in the context of phase 3 of the NHRI.EU Project.

Also, on July 27, 2023, a financial management update meeting was held with the GANHRI team and other regional networks. Issues related to the audit of the first year of phase 3 of the NHRI.EU Project (the audit is underway and will be completed in September 2023) and planning for the second year of the project were discussed.

13.5. Training on communications

On March 17, 2013, in Geneva Switzerland, the RINDHCA Technical Secretariat participated in a meeting with the GANHRI team and other regional networks in which the NHRI.EU Project phase 3 communication plan was discussed, ideas for effective and shared communication, and a proposal to maintain a collective digital planning were shared.

On April 21, 2023, a virtual meeting was held with the GANHRI communications team to advance the points discussed during the face-to-face meeting in Switzerland on collaboration between GANHRI and the regional networks. In this meeting, we focused on a joint communication strategy and next steps. From these, there has been a fluid and ongoing dialogue on the RINDHCA Communications Plan.

13.6. Contributions to the NHRI-EU Phase 3 Project Annual Report

Detailed information was provided on the initiatives, activities, and achievements in the first year of the project. Actions undertaken by RINDHCA to advance the project objectives were reported, and comments were provided for the final version of the project.

13.7. Participation in the Partners Meeting in New York City

On May 23, 2023, before the Annual Review Meeting of the GANHRI-OHCHR-UNDP Tripartite Partnership (TPP) in New York City, RINDHCA, represented by Pedro Callisaya, Secretary General of RINDHCA and Ombudsman of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, as well as Consuelo Olvera and Augusto Rey, participated in a Partners' Meeting convened by GANHRI. Following the adoption of GANHRI's five-year Strategic Plan in March 2023, the meeting explored opportunities to support GANHRI and regional networks of NHRIs in implementing their respective strategic plans in areas of shared priorities, partnership working and collaboration, in the context of the NHRI.EU.3 Project.

13.8. Participation in the Annual Review Meeting of the GANHRI-OHCHR-UNDP Tripartite Partnership

On May 24 and 25, 2023, in New York City, RINDHCA, represented by Pedro Callisaya, Secretary General of RINDHCA and Ombudsman of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, as well as Consuelo Olvera and Augusto Rey, participated in the Annual Review Meeting of the TPP. Representatives of the other regional NHRI networks (Africa, NANHRI; Asia and the Pacific, APF; and Europe, ENNHRI) also participated. The high-level delegation was led by GANHRI Secretary Amina Bouayach, President of the Conseil National des Droits de l'Homme of Morocco.



During the two-day review, strategies were discussed to:

- Strengthen collaboration among TPP partners and support NHRIs in priority areas, including climate action, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, digitization and capacity assessments;
- Support progress on the UN Secretary-General's Call to Action on human rights, including with UN Country Teams and enhancing UN support to NHRIs;
- Enhancing collaboration between NHRIs and the UN system at global and national levels, including the implementation of the Call to Action in the face of increasing reprisals against NHRIs and human rights defenders;
- Establish joint and complementary priorities to engage and support NHRIs over the next 12 months.

On March 17, 2013, in Geneva Switzerland, the RINDHCA Technical Secretariat represented by Consuelo Olvera and Augusto Rey, had already participated in a meeting with the GANHRI, OHCHR, UNDP teams in preparation for the review meeting held in New York.

13.9. Selection and guidance to the countries of the American continent that will be part of the TPP during 2024.

[RINDHCA has maintained a fluid dialogue with the UNDP Regional Governance Team for Latin America and the Caribbean to define the criteria to be followed in order to determine the countries in which the TPP funds will be implemented during this period.](#) Thus, on Wednesday, September 20, a virtual meeting was held with Gloria Manzotti, UNDP Regional Advisor for Justice and Human Rights, and her team, representing OHCHR.

It was agreed that the selection will be made jointly with OHCHR, considering the following three criteria: the national capacities of the NHRI, the national capacities of UNDP-OHCHR at the country level, and the priorities and requests of the RINDHCA. Considering these, three shortlisted countries have been proposed to the UNDP Global State of Rights Team.

In November and December, strategic follow-up and coordination meetings were held with the UNDP Regional Governance Team in Latin America and the Caribbean on the implementation of the TTP in the Americas. In addition, working meetings were held with GANHRI and the NHRIs that could benefit from the TPP funds.

13.10. RINDHCA's participation in GANHRI's Sub-Committee on Accreditation - SCA

- When the new Technical Secretariat was formed, it participated in an induction session organized by GANHRI in coordination with the OHCHR to share information and updates on the accreditation process and the work of the Subcommittee. The information shared through this induction helped RINDHCA to accompany the process for the accreditation of the NHRI of the Dominican Republic.
- The RINDHCA Technical Secretariat participated, virtually, as an observer in the pre-session meeting of the SCA (February 13-17, 2023) to discuss procedural issues, such as the timetable, and issues of interest related to the NHRIs under review, as well as the March 2023 session of the Sub-Committee.
- RINDHCA's Permanent Technical Secretary, Consuelo Olvera, participated in person as an observer at the SCA session between March 20 and 24, 2023 in Geneva, Switzerland. On that occasion, the following NHRIs were reviewed: Zimbabwe, Tanzania, India, Canada, Poland, Morocco, Costa Rica, Philippines, Belgium, Northern Ireland, and Jordan.
- The Technical Secretariat provided support to the NHRIs of Argentina and Guatemala for the October 2023 SCA session, where the evaluation of the NHRI of Argentina and the NHRI of Guatemala were reviewed due to the deferral of the evaluation of both countries.
- The Technical Secretariat has also been accompanying the processes for the March 2024 SCA session, where the NHRI of the Dominican Republic will undergo an initial evaluation and the NHRI of Costa Rica will undergo a deferred review, in addition to the reviews of the NHRIs of Paraguay and Bolivia.
- In addition, several virtual and in-person meetings have been held with key stakeholders in the different countries whose NHRIs are about to be reviewed by the SCA, including country and regional offices of the OHCHR, heads of various UN agencies in the region, representatives of Civil Society Organizations, among others.
- At the end of July, a working meeting was held with the Legal Officer of GANHRI to discuss the challenges faced by NHRIs in the region in order to fully comply with the Paris Principles. Issues such as the election processes for NHRI heads, the professionalization of civil servants, the lack of sufficient resources, the threats faced by some NHRIs, the shrinking civic space and the contexts of violence, among others, were discussed. In this regard, reports were prepared and sent to the SCA Secretariat, which will form part of the inputs to be considered by SCA members.
- In August, virtual meetings were held with the Technical Secretariat of the Subcommittee on Accreditation, in charge of the Office of the OHCHR in Geneva, to clarify some points related to the Compilation of the rules and working methods of the Subcommittee on Accreditation, which made it possible to provide more specific support to the NHRIs of the Americas that are about to undergo their respective reviews.
- The Technical Secretariat has also met on at least four occasions with the Federal Prosecutor's Office of Brazil and the Public Defender's Office of the same country, as they are interested in reapplying for their initial accreditation before the SCA.

- The RINDHCA Technical Secretariat participated virtually, as an observer, in the meeting prior to the SCA session (September 25-29, 2023) to discuss procedural issues, such as the calendar, and matters of interest related to the NHRIs under review, as well as the SCA session next October, where information from 19 NHRIs was reviewed.
- In October, the Technical Secretariat of RINDHCA participated, in person, as an observer, in the review of various NHRIs from the four regions that make up this Global Alliance, in accordance with the Paris Principles.
- In addition, several virtual and bilateral meetings have been held with key stakeholders from the different countries whose NHRIs are about to be reviewed by the SCA, including country and regional offices of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, heads of various UN agencies in the region, representatives of Civil Society Organizations, among others.

We recall that the accreditation system is a central element for membership in RINDHCA and GANHRI, as NHRIs must undergo such an evaluation to certify compliance with the Paris Principles. These principles include that their mandates are provided for in the Constitution or laws that guarantee a mandate at the national level, whose main characteristic is the independence and autonomy of their actions and guarantees of plurality aimed at the promotion and protection of human rights.

14. Reaction to attacks on NHRIs in the region

RINDHCA reacted to the direct attacks against the NHRIs of Honduras and Peru received in the first quarter of the year, where smear campaigns were registered on more than one occasion from the Legislative Branch. This undoubtedly posed a real risk to the ability of NHRIs to fulfil their mandate effectively.

RINDHCA continues to support its NHRIs in the exercise of their functions with independence and autonomy, henceforth due attention should be paid to the gradualness, systematicity, and recurrence of these events, which should be considered as an early warning indication of the situation in each of the countries and in the region as a whole, which show that there are situations of evident deterioration and therefore, that must be addressed to generate structured responses to maintain the guarantee and protection of human rights in the region.

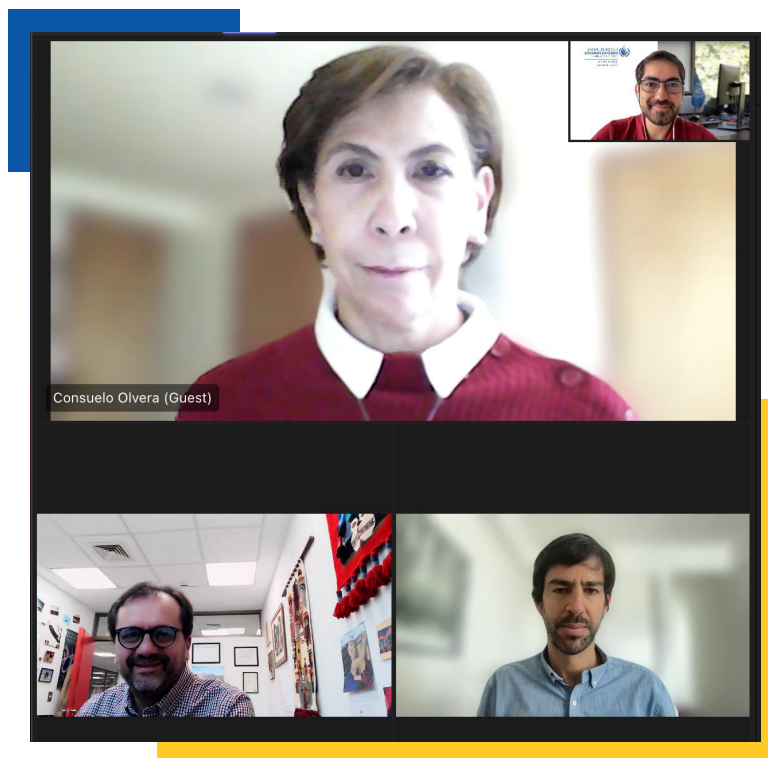
15. Strengthening relations with international institutions

In order to establish, maintain and promote a culture of respect for human rights in the region, as well as to promote joint work to strengthen NHRIs individually and collectively in the Americas that are established in accordance with the Paris Principles, a policy has been implemented to strengthen relations with international human rights entities and agencies.

- A first approach was held with the Office in Mexico of the OHCHR, to coordinate a possible meeting with the Office for the Americas of the OHCHR, based in Geneva, taking advantage of the visit of members of the Technical Secretariat of RINDHCA, within the framework of the Annual Meeting of GANHRI 2023. As well as to learn about the activities carried out by this office in Mexico in cooperation with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights.
- A meeting was held to coordinate and present the new Technical Secretariat team to

the PADF, after which a constant dialogue was maintained and the PADF participated in the webinar “National Human Rights Institutions of the Americas under the spotlight: the Importance of their autonomy and capacity for action in times of crisis”.

- On February 14, a first coordination and presentation meeting was held for the new Technical Secretariat team with the OHCHR in South America, after which a constant dialogue was held and the team participated in the webinar “National Human Rights Institutions of the Americas under the spotlight: the importance of their autonomy and capacity for action in times of crisis”, as well as in the first meeting of the Working Group on the Environment.



- Constant contact is maintained with the APT, with whom the manual “Preventing Torture: An Operational Guide for National Human Rights Institutions” is being translated into Spanish, and the Working Group on the Prevention of Torture and Ill-Treatment is being coordinated.
- Contact is maintained with the UNDP for Latin America and the Caribbean, which has accompanied RINDHCA in the webinar “National Human Rights Institutions of the Americas under the Spotlight: the importance of their autonomy and Capacity for action in Times of crisis,” as well as in the first meeting of the Working Group on Migrant and Refugee Populations and the Working Group on Human Rights and Business.
- Coordination meetings have been held with the Office for South America of the Danish Institute of Human Rights, and its participation in the first meeting of the Working Group on Human Rights and Business.
- The Technical Secretariat has collaborated with the OHCHR in South America, the UNDP, and ECLAC [in the Public Consultation on Environmental Defenders, about Article 9 of the Escazu Agreement](#), In this context, last Tuesday, December 5, a special session was held

that brought together the Working Group on Business and Human Rights, the Working Group on the Environment, and the members of the social communication teams of the NHRI members of RINDHCA with the objective of learning about the draft plan of action on human rights defenders on environmental issues in Latin America and the Caribbean and the public consultation on this plan.

- In support of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights (IACHR Court), the Technical Secretariat of the RINDHCA promoted the invitation to submit comments to the advisory opinion on “Climate Emergency and Human Rights”, under Article 64.1 of the American Convention on Human Rights. In this regard, valuable contributions were received from Colombia and Guatemala.
- Three working meetings have been held with the Executive Secretariat of the IACHR, to outline a route for collaboration with RINDHCA, to strengthen the protection and defence of human rights in the region. As a result, we have had the participation of its representatives in the Webinar “Exchange of Good Practices: Human Rights Observatories and Early Warning Systems”, and in the first session of the Working Group on Ageing and Aging.
- On June 9, 2023, we participated in the private discussion and exchange session on economic, social, cultural and environmental rights (ESCR) in Central America and Mexico, in the context of human mobility, organized by the REDESCA Rapporteurship of the IACHR, to identify how poverty, climate change and human mobility are affecting human mobility, as well as possible guidelines and recommendations to States to guarantee the ESCR of people in a situation of human mobility. The above, to have more input for the next report to be presented by this Rapporteurship on this topic.
- With the virtual presence of Pedro Callisaya, Secretary General of RINDHCA and Ombudsman of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, and the physical presence of Consuelo Olvera, Permanent Technical Secretary of RINDHCA, we participated in the international symposium “Accelerating the Rights of Afro-descendants” organized by the NHRI of Costa Rica.



- In the context of the international symposium “Accelerating the Rights of People of African Descent” organized by the NHRI of Costa Rica, the Permanent Technical Secretariat of RINDHCA met with a large representation of the civil organization Articulation for the Afro-

descendant Decade (ALDA).

- The Permanent Technical Secretary of RINDHCA, Consuelo Olvera, on the occasion of her visit to Costa Rica, [had the opportunity to meet at the IACHR headquarters with Romina Sijnieski, Deputy Secretary and Javier Mariezcurrena, Coordinator of the Cooperation Team](#), in order to set a path for joint work which will include a training cycle, as well as strengthen the technical capacities of the NHRIs of the Americas.



- The Technical Secretariat hosted a meeting on September 18, at the proposal of the Colombian NHRI, to discuss cross-border enforced disappearances. Twelve NHRIs participated in the meeting.
- RINDHCA, represented by the NHRI of Panama, participated in the Second Annual Forum on Human Rights Defenders in Environmental Issues, organized by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the OHCHR.
- Pedro Callisaya, Secretary General of RINDHCA and Ombudsman of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, and Consuelo Olvera, Permanent Technical Secretary of RINDHCA, at the invitation of the Ibero-American Federation of Ombudspersons and the Ombudsman's Office of Colombia, participated in the [XXVII FIO Congress, under the title Independence and autonomy in the moral magistracy: Essential Foundations of Democracy](#). The Congress was held in the city of Barranquilla, Colombia on October 4 of this year.



- With the presence of Pedro Callisaya, Secretary General of RINDHCA and Ombudsman of the Plurinational State of Bolivia; Consuelo Olvera, Permanent Technical Secretary of RINDHCA; and Augusto Rey, Senior Human Rights Officer, [participated in the VIII United Nations Regional Forum on Business and Human Rights for Latin America and the Caribbean held in Santiago de Chile between October 10 and 12](#), where RINDHCA's voice was heard in several of the multi-stakeholder panels.



On this occasion, there was also a side event organized by UNDP to present the digital tool for small and medium-sized enterprises “Guide 11: Implementing Human Rights Due Diligence”.



- On October 27, RINDHCA's Technical Secretary, Consuelo Olvera, participated in the Regional Forum: Protecting People Displaced by Climate Change in Central America and Mexico.
- Support for the public consultation on the draft Plan of Action on Human Rights Defenders in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean prepared by an open-ended ad hoc Working Group on Human Rights Defenders in Environmental Matters created at the First Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Escazú Agreement (COP1) held in Santiago from April 20-22, 2022.
- In the context of the 14th International Conference on National Human Rights Institutions: Torture and other ill-treatment, the Secretary General of RINDHCA and Ombudsman of Bolivia, Mr. Pedro Callisaya, [met with Mr. Eamon Gilmore, Special Representative for Human Rights of the European Union Assembly.](#)



- On Tuesday, November 14, RINDHCA participated virtually in the second session of the Virtual Regional Consultation on General Comment No. 6 (GC6) on the convergence of the International Convention on the Protection of all Rights of Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (International Convention) and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and

Regular Migration (Global Compact). The Regional Consultation is organized by the OHCHR Regional Offices for Central America (Panama) and for South America (Santiago, Chile) and the Committee on Migrant Workers with the main objective of presenting and discussing the zero draft of GC6 with a view to obtaining comments in order to enrich its content. This session focused on the role of National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) and Academia in the implementation and compliance of both international instruments.

- On Tuesday, November 21, RINDHCA, together with OHCHR and Sweden Sverige, presented the virtual toolkit for the “My Rights Migrate with Me” campaign developed by OHCHR. In addition, on Wednesday, December 13, both organizations made a special virtual presentation of the toolkit to the social communication teams of RINDHCA’s member NHRIs.



- On Thursday, December 7, a meeting was held with the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID) Colombia, in order to work together on cooperation activities and support to NHRIs in the field of human rights.
- On Friday, December 8, Consuelo Olvera, Permanent Technical Secretariat of RINDHCA, participated in the discussion “Challenges and good practices in the framework of the 30th anniversary of the Paris Principles and 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: Defending freedom in the current context”. This discussion was organized by the National Human Rights Commission of Mexico and was held in person at the National Center for Human Rights (CENADEH) in Mexico City.



16. Statements 2023

- [February 1, 2023, Statement from the General Secretariat of RINDHCA 01/2023 introducing the Technical Secretariat team.](#)
- [February 22, 2023, Statement from the General Secretariat of RINDHCA 02/2023 on the crisis in the Republic of Peru and the important work of its Ombudsman.](#)
- [March 3, 2023, Statement of the General Secretariat of RINDHCA 03/2023 welcoming the election of the Ombudswoman of Costa Rica.](#)
- [March 12, 2023, Statement of the RINDHCA General Assembly 04/2023 on the situation of the Ombudsman's Office of the Republic of Peru.](#)
- [March 29, 2023, Statement of the General Secretary of RINDHCA, 05/2023 derived from the unfortunate events that occurred in the provisional migratory stay in Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua Mexico.](#)
- [April 13, 2023, Statement of the General Secretariat of RINDHCA 06/2023 on the election of the Coordination Committee.](#)
- [May 12, 2023, Statement of the RINDHCA Coordinating Committee 07/2023 on its second working meeting and the agreements adopted at that meeting.](#)
- [May 24, 2023, Statement of the Coordinating Committee of RINDHCA 08/2023 welcoming the election of the Ombudsman of the Republic of Peru.](#)
- [June 24, 2023, Statement of the Coordinating Committee of the RINDHCA 09/2023 on events that occurred at the National Female Penitentiary of Social Adaptation \(PNFAS\) Honduras.](#)
- [August 1, 2023, Statement of the RINDHCA Coordinating Committee 10/2023. Acts of violence occurred in different provinces of Ecuador that have resulted in the loss of human lives.](#)
- [September 11, 2023, Statement of the Coordination Committee of RINDHCA 11/2023. Solidarity with the people of Morocco, country affected by the earthquake that claimed the lives of thousands of people.](#)

2024 PRIORITIES

For the following months, the main objective of RINDHCA is to continue with the concrete efforts that will allow strengthening the network and establishing itself as a support for NHRIs in the region. This implies advancing in the following general objectives:

- To perform its functions as a professional, effective, and efficient organization.
- Consolidate itself as the regional network of NHRIs, bringing together its members at the Americas level to network, collaborate and support each other; and to develop common learning and experience-based knowledge projects to contribute to regional policy debate and effective action at the national level.
- In cooperation with GANHRI and the United Nations, contribute to the establishment, strengthening, accreditation and ongoing capacity building of NHRIs.
- Define a regional agenda for capacity building of NHRIs in the Americas and RINDHCA to expand civic space, promote and protect human rights defenders, as well as generate strategies for cooperation in the development of the Marrakech Declaration.
- Reaffirm the role of business in the fulfilment of the 2030 Agenda and in the protection of human rights, which implies aligning private sector actions to the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and welcoming the 2010 Edinburgh Declaration on the role of NHRIs in relation to business and human rights.
- Reaffirm that the response to the situation of people who have migrated forcibly from their countries of origin and who are in transit or staying in the countries of the Americas must be carried out under strict protection of their human rights and in accordance with the SDGs of the 2030 Agenda.
- Define a regional agenda for the protection of human rights related to political participation.
- Strengthen the fundamental role of NHRIs in the promotion, implementation and monitoring of human rights recognized in the SDGs of the 2030 Agenda.
- Encourages NHRIs to comply with the recommendations made by the IACHR in order to promote due respect for human rights.
- Reinforce and deepen knowledge of the Paris Principles and their application in the field and the important role played by the SCA, in order to enhance the capacities of NHRIs in the region.

Maintaining the logic behind the efforts of 2023, in 2024 RINDHCA will frame its actions within the three general lines of work established in its current Action Plan:



These three lines of work, which are developed through 9 objectives with 15 goals and their respective specific actions, pursue the general objective of ensuring that RINDHCA contributes significantly to the effective promotion and protection of human rights, responding to the priorities of the various NHRIs in the region. These lines of work are aimed at contributing to establish, strengthen, support, bring together and coordinate the joint efforts of its members.

In particular, RINDHCA, considering the urgencies identified in the region in recent months as well as the interests and priorities of the NHRIs that make up the network, during 2024 will pay attention to the following:

- Consolidation of the six working groups, following the plan outlined for each of them. This involves ensuring knowledge and dissemination products that allow progress on the agenda of migrant and refugee population, human rights and business, prevention of torture and ill-treatment, Afro-descendant population, human rights and the environment, and human rights in old age and aging.
- It strengthens the fundamental role of the NHRI in the promotion, implementation and monitoring of human rights recognized in the SDGs of the 2030 Agenda, and, above all, in the observation of the Paris Principles. This implies deepening training and dissemination strategies so that NHRIs' staff members have a deeper understanding of these instruments for their proper monitoring and compliance.
- Pay more attention to training related to issues of a preventive nature of human rights violations, such as early warning systems. In this area, the issues of migration and change can be identified as two that require special attention in the region.
- Promote that more NHRIs in the Americas carry out the Capacity Assessment, as well as assist them in the process through external expert facilitators. The objective is for NHRIs to achieve an assessment that considers qualitative and quantitative elements to identify their weaknesses and anticipate future needs.
- Publish the protocol on human rights defenders and civic space as a follow-up to the Marrakech Declaration, as well as the model national reports on the situation of human rights defenders.
- Publish the translation into six indigenous languages of General Recommendation No. 39

(2022) of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), on the rights of Indigenous women and girls. The six languages are Guaraní, Zapoteco, Náhuatl, Mojeño Trinitario, Maya K'iche and Aymara.

- Accompanying selected NHRIs in the Americas for the effective implementation of the support to be provided by the GANHRI-OHCHR-UNDP Tripartite Partnership (TPP) with the objective of strengthening the capacities of NHRIs and enhancing collaboration between NHRIs and the UN system, including the implementation of the Call to Action on the increase in reprisals against NHRIs and human rights defenders.
- Ensure that NHRIs in the network maintain a mandate at the national level, the main feature of which is the independence and autonomy of their actions and guarantees of plurality aimed at the promotion and protection of human rights.

January 2024