

UNDP Statement

HRC55 | Thursday 7 March 2024 (10.00-12.00)

Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on human rights and the environment

(1.5 min)

Excellencies,

As the United Nations Development Programme, we are supporting efforts to ensure that businesses respect the right to a healthy environment.

Firstly, UNDP is assisting 39 states in implementing the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, including through the development of National Action Plans.

Secondly, through our Business and Human Rights Academy, we annually train over 1,000 businesses on human rights due diligence.

Thirdly, UNDP is supporting rights-holders, environmental human rights defenders and CSOs to monitor human rights abuses by businesses, including by developing tools for National Human Rights Institutions in monitoring the right to a healthy environment.

Finally, further to the recommendation made to UNDP by the Special Rapporteur, we are developing guidance for both states and businesses, including on human rights due diligence with environmental dimensions, climate change and biodiversity loss.

Excellencies,

To conclude, we echo two of the recommendations from the reports of the Special Rapporteur:

States and businesses must build internal capacities related to environmental and human rights due diligence, and; there needs to be an increased investment from both states and businesses with respect to a healthy environment.

UNDP reiterates our continued support to all actors in advancing the right to a healthy environment.

Thank you.