

**ANNEX 1
NOMINATION FORM
MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE TO SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AND
COMPLIANCE OF THE ESCAZÚ AGREEMENT**

ALL FORMS RECEIVED WILL BE PUBLISHED

**PLEASE SEND TO secretaria.escazu@cepal.org by 15 December 2022
(11:59 pm Santiago, Chile time)**

A. Personal details

(1) Full name: Claudia Beatriz Ituarte Lima

(2) Date of birth (day/month/year): 04/04/1977



(3) Nationality: indicate if you have more than one and whether you have initiated legal procedures to acquire new nationalities. If you have multiple nationalities of the countries listed in annex 1 of the Escazú Agreement, indicate which is to be considered the main nationality for the purposes of your nomination.

I have a Mexican nationality. I also hold a Swedish nationality.

(4) Country of residence: Sweden

(5) Email address for communications with the Secretariat:

B. Languages: please indicate whether you are fluent in at least one of the working languages of the Escazú Agreement, English or Spanish, both oral and written. Knowledge of other languages of the region would be an asset.

Level of Spanish:

Oral:	Basic: <input type="checkbox"/>	Intermediate: <input type="checkbox"/>	Advanced: <input type="checkbox"/>	First language: X
Written:	Basic: <input type="checkbox"/>	Intermediate: <input type="checkbox"/>	Advanced: <input type="checkbox"/>	First language: X

Level of English:

Oral:	Basic: <input type="checkbox"/>	Intermediate: <input type="checkbox"/>	Advanced: X	First language: <input type="checkbox"/>
Written:	Basic: <input type="checkbox"/>	Intermediate: <input type="checkbox"/>	Advanced: X	First language: <input type="checkbox"/>

Other language: please indicate here: French _____

Oral:	Basic: X	Intermediate: <input type="checkbox"/>	Advanced: <input type="checkbox"/>	First language: <input type="checkbox"/>
Written:	Basic: X	Intermediate: <input type="checkbox"/>	Advanced: <input type="checkbox"/>	First language: <input type="checkbox"/>

Other language: please indicate here _____

Oral:	Basic: <input type="checkbox"/>	Intermediate: <input type="checkbox"/>	Advanced: <input type="checkbox"/>	First language: <input type="checkbox"/>
Written:	Basic: <input type="checkbox"/>	Intermediate: <input type="checkbox"/>	Advanced: <input type="checkbox"/>	First language: <input type="checkbox"/>

Other language: please indicate here _____

Oral:	Basic: <input type="checkbox"/>	Intermediate: <input type="checkbox"/>	Advanced: <input type="checkbox"/>	First language: <input type="checkbox"/>
Written:	Basic: <input type="checkbox"/>	Intermediate: <input type="checkbox"/>	Advanced: <input type="checkbox"/>	First language: <input type="checkbox"/>

C. Statement of motivation for applying (600–1,000 words maximum)

I am very excited to become a member of the Escazu Agreement Committee to Support Compliance and Implementation (Committee hereafter). The strategic functions of this independent Committee will influence significantly the extent to which the Escazu Agreement contributes to a thriving Latin American and Caribbean region where present and future generations can enjoy their right to a healthy environment. I explain below my motivation to apply and how I intend to use my expertise to conduct the functions that Committee members, as specified in its rules of the procedure adopted in the 1st Escazu Agreement COP.

In performing the functions of the Committee, I will build on my long-term experience on access rights including providing guidance on interpreting international environmental agreements in line with international human rights standards. In **reporting to the Escazu Conference of the Parties and developing general comments and responding to queries on interpretation of the Escazu Agreement**, I will build on my experience on providing guidance on interpreting the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to the CBD Secretariat since 2013. My work has fed directly into high-level CBD Decisions. The CBD guidelines for human rights safeguards in biodiversity financing were based on a discussion paper that I led involving a participatory process: I navigated tense political processes and responded to comments by governments and other groups (incl. international conservation organizations, indigenous peoples and local communities) culminating with the adoption by 196 countries and the European Union of these guidelines to enact policy change. Thereafter, I led another report specifying [pathways for implementing these CBD guidelines](#).

In **responding to communications** and making the respective observations and recommendations and **examining cases concerning compliance**, I will build on my experience designing and implementing RWI blended learning courses for judges and National Human Rights Institutions on human rights, environment and climate change in Asia and the Pacific with relevant transferable lessons for Latin America and the Caribbean. During the last three years, I have developed on-line materials and gave presentations discussing jurisprudence from various countries on how to integrate international human rights standards and gender in environmental cases.

I will also bring my experience from international and interinstitutional projects in the **consultations and dialogue with parties and the public**. Since 2018, I have worked with the United Nations Development Programme and Swedish Environment Protection Agency [Environmental Governance Programme](#) (EGP)

where I have developed tools and methodologies to integrate access rights and environment in the mining sector, strengthening the capacities of governments in Colombia, Peru, Ecuador and Argentina as well as of National Human Rights Institutions in the region. Also as part of EGP, I led a Multi-actor Dialogue which was the first of its kind advancing the [synergies between the Escazu Agreement and the Convention on Biological Diversity](#). This peer-to-peer learning platform brought together more than 730 registered participants. I was responsible for its conceptualization, coordinating United Nations Agencies and academic partners, and presenting [findings](#) at the first Escazu Agreement Conference of the Parties.

As a member of the Committee, I will provide guidance on **overcoming the divide between human rights and environment “communities” of practice for the effective implementation** of the Escazu Agreement. For doing so, I will build on my experience serving as Regional Deputy Director for Latin America of the [Global Network of Human Rights and Environment](#) which has more than 500 members and where we engage in dialogue and develop guidance and principles on how to advance the realization of the right to a healthy environment of present and future generations. I will also bring my experience working at the Nordic Institute of Latin American Studies at Stockholm University and collaborating with ECOSUR, where I designed and lead the transdisciplinary law laboratory/course on building socio-ecological resilience through enhancing public participation and open information and understanding the role of the plurality of laws and institutions. This lab contributed to the generation of knowledge, and enhancing capacities of staff and students from the southern border of Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean. As for the rights of indigenous people, I designed and implemented an Inter-American Organization for Higher Education (IOHE) on-line course on intellectual property and indigenous peoples’ bio-cultural patrimony where students from 11 Latin American countries participated. In continuing to engage in dialogue with Caribbean countries such as with Saint Lucia focal point, I am interested on a deeper understanding on climate-related risks faced by small island states and the opportunities that Caribbean countries have by having rich biocultural diversity and endemic species.

Considering my long-term expertise on environmental democracy and access rights for triggering societal change for a healthy environment in Latin America and the Caribbean, I am confident that I would contribute significantly to the work of the Committee. I would relish the opportunity to be part of the Committee and work intensively with other Committee members, Escazu Agreement Parties and the public to advance the implementation and compliance of the Escazu Agreement obligations and thereby addressing critical environmental and human rights challenges of our time.

D. Time availability: please explain your time availability and commitment to perform the functions of the Committee, i.e. at least three months (90 days) per year (100 words maximum).

The Raoul Wallenberg Institute on Human Rights and Humanitarian Law (RWI) where I work is very supportive of my application including devoting the time and travels required to successfully perform the functions of the mandate. As a long-standing and well-respected institute with international scope and a particular focus on the Global South, RWI will provide an excellent space to conduct my functions as part of the Committee and I will also benefit from exchange with experts from various countries. RWI has prior experience providing an enabling and vibrant environment for independent experts and UN Special Rapporteurs to conduct their work.

E. Recognized competence in access rights or other matters covered by the Agreement: Please explain how you meet this requirement (600 words maximum).

I have competence on the whole legal cycle from legal analysis and interpretation of human rights and environmental law to detailed analysis of cases to collaboration with duty-bearers and the public for monitoring implementation of the right to a healthy environment.

In terms of **participatory processes in national and multilateral processes**, I have a long-term experience in catalysing such processes. For instance, when I worked as environmental advisor on public participation at Ministry of Environment (SEMARNAT), I led the organization of a series of consultations with indigenous peoples across the country concerning their rights associated to traditional environmental knowledge. I also coordinated the participation of indigenous women and men as part of the Mexican delegation to an international technical meeting of the Convention on Biological Diversity—this was the first time that indigenous people participated as part of the Mexican delegation to this type of meetings. I will build on these experiences in supporting the significant participation of the public in the functions of the Committee. I am committed to ensure that the principle of non-regression and progressive realization is applied for ensuring meaningful and effective participation which will in turn benefit the Committee's performance by being better informed by realities faced directly by a wide range of people including those in vulnerable situations.

My publications include articles discussing the importance of supporting **environmental human rights defenders** and catalysing the powerful agency of people in vulnerable situations. Courageous women, youth, Afrodescendants and indigenous people in Latin America and the Caribbean who may be in a vulnerable situation. Yet, at the same time, they often undertake the role of environmental human rights defenders who are at the forefront of making the right to a healthy environment and the right to sustainable development matter in practice.

As for **synergies between the Escazu Agreement and other multilateral processes**, my research shows that implementing procedural access rights helps achieve substantive commitments under for example the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Convention on the Rights of the Child to which all Latin American and Caribbean countries are parties. As a member of the Committee, I will support countries to advance environmental rule of law and environmental democracy through the effective implementation of access rights and synergies with other multilateral treaties and processes. I will also build on my research on review mechanisms such as Special Procedures mechanisms of the UN Office of the High Commission on Human Rights (incl. Universal Peer Review, country visits by UN Special Rapporteurs) and my long-term collaboration with the current and past UN Special Rapporteurs on human rights and environment as well as with UN agencies including the UN Office of the High Commission on Human Rights, UN Environment and UNDP.

F. Legal experience and knowledge: Please explain if you have legal experience and knowledge (300 words maximum).

I am an international public lawyer and scholar with direct experience in international law and policy making. For the last 20 years, I have worked on human rights and environmental law (in particular biodiversity and climate change). I hold a Degree in Law from Universidad Iberoamericana, Mexico and a PhD (University College London) and a MPhil (University of Cambridge). My work unites legal analysis and sustainability science for examining environmental and human rights governance challenges and innovative levers to address them. In my research, I have analysed the interplay between laws at distinct geographical scales. My research methodology ranges from empirically-based case studies to legal analysis examining the interactions between legal regimes in particular multilateral environmental agreement and international human rights treaties.

As a result of my leadership role in advancing knowledge relevant to environmental law and governance, I was awarded the 2020 International Legal Specialist Award on Biodiversity by the Center for International Sustainable Development Law. Recipients of this award are selected based on an outstanding and long-term contribution through their knowledge and professional skills to solutions for biodiversity, justice, peace and the fulfillment of the Sustainable Development Goals.

G. Academic background

Degree	Institution	Place	Year
PhD in Socio-Legal Studies. Thesis: <i>‘Negotiating intellectual property rights in the Upper Amazon’</i> . One-year fieldwork in Peru and Ecuador. -Project member, Global Centre of Excellence Programme in Conflict Studies, Osaka University, Japan (12 months). -Research Associate, Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences, FLACSO- Ecuador (12 months).	University College London (UCL)	England	Nov 2005– Feb 2011
MPhil in Social Anthropological Analysis. Thesis: <i>‘The Social Life of Traditional Knowledge of Biodiversity: the case of the ‘Regional information meetings with indigenous peoples on the Convention on Biological Diversity, Article 8(j)’</i>	University of Cambridge	England	2004 – 2005
Bachelor of Law/Duly licensed attorney at law. Thesis <i>‘Indigenous Peoples’ Rights and the Environment, an International Law Perspective’</i>	Universidad Iberoamericana	Mexico	1997 – 2002
Diploma in Ecology, Environmental Management and Sustainable Development.	Universidad Iberoamericana	Mexico	2001 – 2002
International Relations Certificate , Law Faculty.	Université de Bourgogne	France	2000 – 2001

H. Relevant employment

Name of employer, functional title or position, and functions	Years of work	Place
The Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law. Leader of the Human Rights and Environment Thematic Area and Senior Researcher. Responsible	2019- on-going	Headquarters in Lund, Sweden with offices in six countries

for designing and teaching blended learning courses on environmental law and policy to judges and National Human Rights Institutions, research on human rights and disaster risk reduction; mentoring researchers working on human rights and environmental law; leading research on environment, climate change and human rights including gender equality.		
Stockholm University, Nordic Institute of Latin American Studies and Swedbio at Stockholm Resilience Center. Principal investigator of the Environmental Governance Program funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency focusing on mainstreaming environment and human rights into the mining sector; Principal investigator & researcher of the Swedish Research Council-funded research project on access rights and safeguards on innovative biodiversity financing mechanisms. International environmental law adviser at SwedBio at Stockholm Resilience Centre on equitable biodiversity governance supporting environmental defenders organizations in the Global South.	2012 - on-going	Sweden
University of British Columbia, Canada. Visiting Research Associate at the Institute of Resources, Environment and Sustainability (2019-2020) and School of Public Policy and Global Affairs (2020-2022) conducting research on biodiversity, human right to a healthy environment, sustainability and social justice.	2019- 2022	Canada
University of Oxford, Environmental Change Institute and Oxford Centre for Tropical Forests, England. Visiting Research Associate and Coordinator of the Mexico case study, project on reflexive, multi-level ecosystems and climate governance incl. On REDD+ and payment for ecosystem services.	2011- 2013	England
University of Southampton, England. Consultant. Ecosystem Services and Poverty Alleviation (ESPA) Project “Safeguarding local equity as global values of ecosystem services rise” in collaboration also with University of Oxford.	2013	England
United Nations University, Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU-IAS), Biodiplomacy Initiative, Japan. Postdoctoral Fellow. Research on on climate change and biodiversity law. Project funded by the Asia Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN) on land use change and Reducing Emissions from Deforestation, Forest Degradation and enhancing carbon stocks (REDD+).	2011- 2012	Japan
Mexican Centre of Environmental Law, Mexico. Public interest law firm. Consultant. Wrote a proposal to introduce traditional knowledge provisions in a law of the southern state of Chiapas, Mexico (1 month).	2004	Mexico
Ministry of Environment (SEMARNAT), Unit for Social Participation and Equity, Mexico. Legal advisor. Responsible for designing and implementing two main projects: (1) Course for heads of Natural Protected Areas, delivered in various regions of Mexico, on how to incorporate human rights in implementing	2003 – 2004	Mexico

biodiversity national law and policy and (2) information meetings with indigenous people about the UN Convention on Biological Diversity. Advice to high-level officials on conflict transformation for achieving positive social-ecological outcomes (17 months).		
Universidad Iberoamericana, Environmental Programme, Mexico. Assistant. Advised students on a one-to-one basis in natural resources related research as well as promoted multidisciplinary collaboration among the research community (4 months).	2002	Mexico
Sustainable Livelihood Project, PDP (a Mexican NGO) and Society for International Development (an international NGO based in Italy). Consultant. Facilitated regional meetings between rural communities and micro firms with public and private sector representatives (4 months).	2000	Mexico

I. Independence from the executive, legislative and judicial powers of the State: please indicate how you meet the requirement of being independent from the executive, legislative and judicial powers of the annex 1 countries of the Escazú Agreement (100 words maximum).

As an international public lawyer and scholar working in an institute affiliated to a university, I work independently from the executive, legislative and judicial functions of the State.

J. Ethics and integrity

(1) Do you have any official, professional, personal, or financial relationships that could limit, weaken, or bias the performance of your duties? If so, please explain.

No

(2) Are there any factors that may directly or indirectly influence, pressure, jeopardize or otherwise affect your ability to act independently in exercising your duties? If so, please explain.

No

(3) Is there any reason, current or past, that could call into question your moral standing and credibility, or do you hold any views or opinions that might prejudice the way in which you discharge your mandate? If so, please explain.

No

K. Publications: please mention your participation, and explain what capacity, in any publications on access rights or other matters related to the Escazú Agreement (list the five most relevant).

1) **Ituarte-Lima, C.** (2021) [A Regional Agreement for Healthy Eco-Systems in Latin America & the Caribbean](#), Op-ed at Inter Press Service, News Agency. This an example of my articles targeting a broad audience focusing on the Escazu Agreement.

2) Koh, N., **Ituarte-Lima, C.**, and Hahn, T., (2022) [Mind the compliance gap: how insights from international human rights mechanisms can help the Convention on Biological Diversity](#), *Transnational Environmental*

Law Journal. 11(1), 39-67. I co-authored this piece; I was co-supervisor of the lead author Niak Koh. The article focuses on the role of compliance and review mechanisms to enhance implementation and compliance with international obligations.

3) Ituarte-Lima, C (2021) [‘Is COVID-19 frustrating or facilitating sustainability transformations? An assessment from a human rights law perspective’](#) in Human rights and COVID-19, Kjaerum, M, Davis, M., Lyons, A., (eds), Routledge. *I discuss challenges on the realization of access rights in the context of the pandemic and ways to overcome them.

4) Ituarte-Lima, C & Schultz, M (eds) (2019). [Human right to a healthy environment for a thriving Earth: Handbook for weaving human rights, SDGs, and the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.](#)

*I was lead editor this handbook published by SwedBio/Stockholm Resilience Centre, International Development Law Organization, Office of the High Commission of Human Rights-Special Procedures, UN Environment and Natural Justice. I also co-authored the following articles within this Handbook: Ituarte-Lima, C & Schultz, M. ‘Setting the scene: the human right to a healthy environment for a thriving Earth’; Ituarte-Lima, C & Tyrrell, T ‘Beyond borders: human rights, biodiversity and climate change’; Ituarte-Lima, C ‘Women’s courageous roles as guardians of the Earth’s ecosystems’; Ituarte-Lima, C & Stromberg, S ‘Mainstreaming human rights principles and the ecosystem approach into the mining sector’; Martinez-Peña, R, Ituarte-Lima, C, Kempf, I, Wong, G ‘Connecting the dots between Human Rights, Environmental Impact Assessments and the Convention on Biological Diversity’; Ituarte-Lima, C and Kibugi, R ‘Concluding remarks on weaving Human Right to a Healthy Environment, Sustainable Development Goals and the Post-2020 global biodiversity framework’.

5) Ituarte-Lima, C & McDermott, C (2017) [Are more prescriptive laws better? Transforming REDD+ safeguards into national law](#), *Journal of Environmental Law* 29 (3): 505–536. *I focus on Mexico and insights for access rights and safeguards in the process of implementing environmental and Constitutional law.

L. Travel and assistance:

(1) Do you have any limitations for travelling during the performance of your mandate? If so, please explain.

No, I do not have limitations and am available to travel according to the mandate needs. I have experience traveling in different countries in urban and rural settings as well as relatively isolated areas where I have conducted work with indigenous peoples and local communities.

(2) Do you require any special assistance to perform the duties of this position? If so, please explain.

No

M. References: please provide three references that can attest to your experience and competence in the matters of the Escazú Agreement (these individuals may be contacted during the selection process).

1. Xavier Mena, Deputy Regional Representative for South America, United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights,

2. Prof. Jonas Ebbesson, Professor of Environmental Law at Stockholm University and former Chair of the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee,

3. Ana Di Pangraccio, Deputy Director, Fundación Ambiente y Recursos Naturales, Argentina (FARN)
