**APPLICATION PROCESS**

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: 4 MAY 2018 AT 12:00 NOON GREENWICH MEAN TIME (GMT)**

* The application process consists of two parts: **(1) online survey[[1]](#footnote-1)** (<https://ohchr-survey.unog.ch/index.php/842239>) and **(2) application form in Word format[[2]](#footnote-2)** (whichcan be downloaded from [http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/SP/Pages/HRC38.aspx](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/SP/Pages/HRC38.aspx))
* Once fully completed, the Word application form should be submitted by e-mail to [hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org](mailto:hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org)
* A maximum of up to three reference letters (optional) may be attached to the e-mail (in Word or pdf format).
* No additional documents (e.g. CVs, resumes or supplementary reference letters) will be accepted.
* Applicants will receive an acknowledgment e-mail when both parts of the application process, i.e. the data submitted through the online survey and the Word application form, have been received by e-mail.
* General description of the selection process is available at [http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/SP/Pages/Nominations.aspx](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/SP/Pages/Nominations.aspx)

**NOTE:**

* An application will only be considered if both parts and all sections of the Word application form have been completed and received by the Secretariat before the expiration of the deadline.   
  **No incomplete or late applications will be accepted.**
* For Working Group appointments, only citizens of States belonging to the specific regional group are eligible (see the list at <http://www.un.org/depts/DGACM/RegionalGroups.shtml>).
* In case of technical difficulties or problems with accessing or completing the forms, you may contact the Secretariat by e-mail at [hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org](mailto:hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org) or fax at + 41 22 917 9008.

**I. PERSONAL DATA**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **1. Family (last) name:**       Madrigal-Cordero | **5. Year of birth:**     1962 |
| **2. First (given) name:**    Patricia | **6. Place of birth:**    San José |
| **3. Other name, if any:** | **7. Nationality (please indicate the nationality that will appear on the public list of candidates):**    Costa Rican |
| **4. Gender:**       Female | **8. Any other nationality:**   None |

**II. MANDATE - SPECIFIC COMPETENCE / QUALIFICATIONS / KNOWLEDGE**

**NOTE: Please describe why the candidate’s competence / qualifications / knowledge is relevant in relation to the specific mandate:**

1. **QUALIFICATIONS** (200 words)

**Relevant educational qualifications or equivalent professional experience in the field of human rights; good communication skills (i.e. orally and in writing) in one of the six official languages of the United Nations (i.e. Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish.)**

I majored in Law at the University of Costa Rica. Simultaneously, I took Ethic classes at the School of Philosophy (1980-1986). Later, I specialized on Public international Law (1987), in a program held by the Law School and the Interamerican Institute of Human Rights. This program was taught annually by Judges and professionals related to the Interamerican Institute of Human Rights, as an interdisciplinary human rights course. My graduation project´s tittle was “The relation between a healthy environment, development and peace rights”.

As an Advisor to the Legislative Assembly, I worked on the reform of the article 50 of the Political Constitution, which recognizes the right to a healthy and ecologically balanced environment.

I participated on the drafting of the Costa Rican General Environmental Law, the Biodiversity Law and the Wildlife Conservation Law.

As the Coordinator of the Environmental Law Program of the International Union for Conservation of Nature Regional Office for Mesoamerica, I supported the Executive and Legislative Powers of Central America to promote the constitutional and legislative reforms to recognize the right to a healthy and ecologically balanced as a human right.

Spanish is my first language. My professional work has mostly been in Spanish and English.

1. **RELEVANT EXPERTISE** (200 words)

**Knowledge of international human rights instruments, norms and principles. (Please state how this was acquired.)**

**Knowledge of institutional mandates related to the United Nations or other international or regional organizations’ work in the area of human rights. (Please state how this was acquired.)**

**Proven work experience in the field of human rights. (Please state years of experience.)**

My professional training as a Lawyer has been marked by orientation towards human rights. I have worked in the Academic field as a Professor on Environmental and International Environmental Law, both in Costa Rica and at a regional level; supporting local based organizations on the advocacy and knowledge of their rights; as researcher for the better understanding of specific environmental rights matters and their relation with other human rights

As a Member of E-Law, I established an action of unconstitutionality against oil concessions in the Caribbean, which were given without prior consultation with the indigenous peoples, action that was resolved on our favour, overruling the concessions.

From May 2014 to May 2018, I have worked as Viceminister of Environment of the Government of Costa Rica. In this position, a great part of my job was to design and implement the national public policy on biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of their utilization. From day one, our orientation was achieving these objectives by respecting and recognizing human rights, and warranting the implementation of international environmental and human rights instruments.

1. **ESTABLISHED** **COMPETENCE** (200 words)

**Nationally, regionally or internationally recognized competence related to human rights. (Please explain how such competence was acquired.)**

At the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, also known as Rio 2012, ten governments of Latin America and the Caribbean promoted the Declaration of Rio on Environment and Development, reaffirming their commitment with access to information, justice and participation rights on environmental matters, manifesting their will to advance towards a regional instrument to promote their implementation, and requested he support of the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to act as the Secretariat of the process. This negotiation process ended on March 4, 2018 in Costa Rica, when 27 countries of Latin America and the Caribbean adopted the Escazu Agreement. My participation in this process began in 2010 working from the civil society, and then as a representative of the Government of Costa Rica as a result of my designation as Viceminister of Environment of the Ministry of Environment and Energy. Working in coordination with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Costa Rica held the Co-Presidency of the Presiding Board and a crucial leadership for the conclusion of the work to approve the first multilateral human rights instrument in the region.

1. **PUBLICATIONS OR PUBLIC STATEMENTS**

**Please listsignificant and relevant published books, articles, journals and reports that you have written or public statements, or pronouncements that you have made or events that you may have participated in relation to the mandate.**

* 1. **Enter three publications in relation to the mandate for which you are applying in the order of relevance:**

**1. Title of publication:** *Reconocimiento y protección de los derechos humanos de los pescadores artesanales-las áreas marino-comunitarias una alternativa?*

**Journal/Publisher:** IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic & Social Policy. *Policy Matters.* Conservation and Human Rights. Mowla Printing Corporation

**Date of publication:**   2007

**Web link, if available:**

**2. Title of publication:** Environmental Democracy Index

**Journal/Publisher:**  The Access Initiative, World Resources Institute.

**Date of publication:**  2014.

**Web link, if available:**

**3. Title of publication:**   Yearbook of International Environmental Law, Central America Report

**Journal/Publisher:**      Oxford Press

**Date of publication:**      1992-2013 annually

**Web link, if available:**

**If more than three publications, kindly summarize** (200 words):

* 1. **Enter three public statements or pronouncements made or events that you may have participated in relation to the mandate for which you are applying in the order of relevance:**

**1. Platform/occasion/event on which public statement/pronouncement made:**

**Event organizer:**    CEPAL and Costa Rica Government

**Date on which public statement/pronouncement made:**   March 3, 2018

**Web link, if available:**      https://www.facebook.com/cepal.onu/videos/20466502053503

**2. Platform/occasion/event on which public statement/pronouncement made:**

**Event organizer:**      Program REDD/CCAD-GIZ, #REDD Costa Rica, #Indígenas Costa Rica,

**Date on which public statement/pronouncement made:**  September 16, 2014

**Web link, if available:**      <https://vimeo.com/106252524>

**3. Platform/occasion/event on which public statement/pronouncement made:**

**Event organizer:**      Lawyers Bar Association

**Date on which public statement/pronouncement made:**   December 10,   2014

**Web link, if available:**  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8-PxcJcl1PM>

**If more than three, kindly summarize** (200 words):

1. **FLEXIBILITY/READINESS AND AVAILABILITY OF TIME** (200 words)

**to perform effectively the functions of the mandate and to respond to its requirements, including participating in Human Rights Council (HRC) sessions in Geneva and General Assembly sessions in New York, travelling on special procedures visits, drafting reports and engaging with a variety of stakeholders. Kindly indicate whether the candidate can dedicate an estimated total of approximately three months per year to the work of a mandate.**

**Please note that the work of mandate holders is unpaid. Those appointed as mandate holders serve in their personal capacities. They are not United Nations staff members, they are not based in United Nations offices in Geneva or at another United Nations location, and they do not receive salary or other financial compensation, except for travel expenses and daily subsistence allowance of “experts on mission”.**

My career as a Lawyer, Professor, activist and public servant has been an enriching experience, both at a personal and professional level. I understand that this Mandate has no salary, but I have no doubt it is gratifying. I have focussed my work on the protection of human rights and the conservation of nature, and in many occasions I have not received a remuneration.

I have full availability to travel. I have no inconvenience with visiting remote zones and sharing with different cultures and groups. I am an adaptable and flexible person, who is willing to give her best to protect and warranty the respect to environmental human rights in the world.

I am ending my service as Viceminister of Environment at the Ministry of Environment and Energy in Costa Rica, and I have no labour obligations or restrictions to hold this Mandate.

I like learning new things every day, researching, creating alternative solutions, seeking for consensus and building bridges between different positions. I think conflict is a powerful transformation tool that should be seen as an opportunity, not something that should always be avoid. My everyday motivation and passion is understanding that all forms of life are interconnected.

**III. MOTIVATION LETTER** (600 word limit, must be included below and not in a separate e-mail or as an attachment)

In 1993, a minor in a rural town in Costa Rica filed one of the first *amparo* appeals to claim for a garbage dump and the contamination of a river in his community. The Constitutional Court accepted the appeal, recognizing the active legitimation for all the people, the defence of the diffuse rights and the right to life, within which integrated the right to a healthy and ecologically balanced environment. A year later, the constitutional reform of article 50 of the Political Constitution was approved, which establishes this right within Social Rights to guarantee the distribution of wealth.

Pollution, the degradation of the environment, the reduction of sources of drinking water, the extensive and intensive development of productive activities that generate forms that exclude the use of the territory, the illegal activities linked to the trafficking of species, must be confronted daily by the communities that demand a better quality of life. The relationship of the environment with human rights ceased to be just an academic matter, to become a struggle for their defense and therefore a dangerous activity as shown by the increasing murder cases of Environmental Defenders in Latin America.

All of the ODS have to do in one way or another with a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment. From this recognition, a wave of jurisprudence has emerged at the international level for the protection of the rights of a river, a mountain, a species. How are these rights of mother earth, nature and human rights related?

The expression "Mother Earth" is a common name in various regions and countries, and refers to the interdependence between human beings and other forms of life as well as the delicate ecological and climatic balances that make it possible. Can we build a human rights approach that recognizes the interdependence between living beings and the value of each species?

I would like to propose myself as a Rapporteur to put at the service of many vulnerable groups my experience and training in the field of human rights and environment. I have dedicated my life to the study of human rights obligations related to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment; I have drafted and promoted legal instruments at the national and multilateral levels to improve the mechanisms to guarantee these rights; I have supported the defence of vulnerable groups in the vindication of their rights and promoted and deepened spaces for dialogue and consensus.

My participation in the process towards the Escazu Agreement, which negotiations ended on March 4, has convinced me that we can learn from each other, build more innovative instruments, and aspire to spaces for dialogue between civil society and governments. This process recognized from the beginning the significant and active participation of the public, understood as any natural or legal person with interest. This process gave us a better understanding that rights of access to information, public participation and environmental justice are at the heart of Environmental Democracy, strengthen the rule of law and protect human rights.

The recognition of the right to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment as an autonomous human right in the last Regional Consultation under the Interamerican System of Human Rights, can be claimed with an integral concept of Mother Earth that have been accepted in different countries of Latin America. The recognition of rights to non-human entities raises the need for a reconceptualization of human rights in the 21st century in harmony with nature. Scope and limitations that must be analysed carefully, where we must return to the sense of personal and collective responsibility.

**IV. LANGUAGES (READ / WRITTEN / SPOKEN)**

**Please indicate all language skills below.**

**1. Mother tongue:**Spanish

**2. Knowledge of the official languages of the United Nations:**

**Arabic:** No

**Chinese:** No

**English:** Yes

**Read: easily      
Write: easily       
Speak: easily**

**French:** No

**Russian:** No

**Spanish:** Yes

**Read:** Easily or not easily: **easily     
Write:** Easily or not easily: **easily      
Speak:** Easily or not easily: **easily**

**V. EDUCATIONAL RECORD**

**NOTE: Please list the candidate’s academic qualifications (university level and higher, indicating type of degree, subject, and whether full or part-time, ex. *Masters in law, University of xxx, part-time)*.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of degree and name of academic institution, full or part-time:** | **Years of attendance**  (provide a range from-to, for example 1999-2003): | **Place and country:** |
| Licenciatura Degree in Law.  Full time | 1980-1986 | University of Costa Rica. |
| Public International Law.  Full time | 1987 | University of Costa Rica. |
| Environmental Law Doctorate  Part time | 1994 | University of Alicante, Spain |
|  |  |  |

**VI. EMPLOYMENT RECORD**

**NOTE: Please briefly list ALL RELEVANT professional positions held in the area of human rights, beginning with your current occupation.** **Also indicate whether positions held were not full-time.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of employer,**  **functional title,**  **main functions of position, full or part-time:** | **Years of work** (provide a range from-to, for example 1999-2005): | **Place and country:** |
| Ministry of Environment and Energy, Viceminister of Environment. Full time | 2014-2018 | Costa Rica |
| Professional Services Cooperative for Social Solidarity. Part time | 2000-2013 | Costa Rica |
| University of Costa Rica, Professor on environmental law and and international environmental law. Part time. | 2008-2014 | Costa Rica |
| Wildlife and Community Use Program for Central America. Part time.  Environmental Law Program for Central American, Regional Office of IUCN . Full time. | 1995-1999  1991-1993 | Central America |

**VII. COMPLIANCE WITH ETHICS AND INTEGRITY PROVISIONS   
(of Human Rights Council resolution 5/1)  
*To be completed by the candidate or by the nominating entity on the candidate’s behalf.***

**1. To your knowledge, does the candidate have any official, professional, personal, or financial relationships that might cause the candidate to limit the extent of inquiries, to limit disclosure, or to weaken or slant findings in any way? If yes, please explain.**

     No.

**2. Are there any factors that could either directly or indirectly influence, pressure, threaten, or otherwise affect the candidate’s ability to act independently in discharging the mandate? If yes, please explain:**

     No.

**3. Is there any reason, currently or in the past, that could call into question the candidate’s moral authority and credibility or does the candidate hold any views or opinions that could prejudice the manner in which the candidate discharges the mandate? If yes, please explain:**

     No.

**4. Does the candidate comply with the provisions in paragraph 44 and 46 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1? (Please answer YES if the candidate complies, NO if the candidate does not comply, together with an explanation.)**

***Para. 44: The principle of non-accumulation of human rights functions at a time shall be respected. YES***

***Para. 46: Individuals holding decision-making positions in Government or in any other organization or entity which may give rise to a conflict of interest with the responsibilities inherent to the mandate shall be excluded. Mandate holders will act in their personal capacity. YES. My role as Viceminister of Environment ends on May 8, 2018***

**5. Should the candidate be appointed as a mandate holder, the candidate will have to take measures to comply with paragraphs 44 and 46 of the annex to Council resolution 5/1. In the event that the current occupation or activity, even if unpaid, of the candidate may give rise to a conflict of interest (e.g. if a candidate holds a decision-making position in Government) and/or there is an accumulation of human rights functions (e.g. as a member of another human rights mechanism at the international, regional or national level), necessary measures could include relinquishing positions, occupations or activities. If applicable, please indicate the measures the candidate will take.**

**VIII. CERTIFY AND SUBMIT APPLICATION  
*To be completed by the candidate or by the nominating entity on the candidate’s behalf.***

**I hereby certify that all of the statements made in this application are true, complete and are made in good faith. I understand that falsifying or intentionally withholding information will be grounds for not being selected or appointed or the withdrawal of any proposed appointment or, if an appointment has been made and accepted, for its immediate cancellation or termination.  
  
Kindly note that whilst no changes can be made after this application form has been submitted and the deadline for applications has expired, any relevant change of current occupation, employment, or position, or any other relevant fact or circumstance should be brought to the attention of the secretariat by   
e-mail (**[**hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org**](mailto:hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org)**).**

**Please review your application before you insert your name and date to indicate your agreement.**

**Name:**      Patricia Madrigal-Cordero

**Date:**       May 3, 2018

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1. The short **online survey** is used to collect information for statistical purposes such as personal data (i.e. name, gender, nationality), contact details, mandate applying for and, if appropriate, nominating entity. The same name, gender and nationality should be used both in the online survey and in the Word application form. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. The **application form** includes a motivation letter of maximum 600 words (section III of the form). The application form should be completed in English only. It will be used as received to prepare the public list of candidates who applied for each vacancy and will also be posted as received on the OHCHR public website. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)