Subject: OHCHR Expert Meeting on Human Rights and Climate Change

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights presents its compliments to all Permanent Missions to the United Nations Office at Geneva and has the honour to invite them to participate in a two-day expert meeting on climate change and human rights to take place in Room XXIV of the Palais des Nations in Geneva from 6 – 7 October. A draft concept note for the meeting is attached.

Noting that the most recent Human Rights Council resolution on human rights and climate change affirms (A/HRC/32/L.34) “that human rights obligations, standards and principles have the potential to inform and strengthen international, regional and national policymaking in the area of climate change,” references “the importance of facilitating meaningful interaction between the human rights and climate change communities at both the national and international levels,” and “calls upon States to consider, among other aspects, human rights within the framework of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,” OHCHR respectfully encourages Permanent Missions to the United Nations Office at Geneva to promote the active participation of climate negotiators in this expert meeting.

This meeting will serve as an opportunity to develop a strategy for integration of human rights in climate action including at the UNFCCC and COP22; to increase awareness of the links between human rights and climate change, including by promoting improved monitoring of the human rights impacts of climate change; and to inform OHCHR’s future work in the area of climate change and human rights.

If you would like more information or to confirm participation please contact Mr. Benjamin Schachter (bschachter@ohchr.org). For regular updates on the programme and relevant planning for the meeting, please check the OHCHR website at http://www.ohchr.org/EN/issues/HRAAndClimateChange/Pages/HRClimatChangeIndex.aspx as of 9 August 2016.

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights avails itself of this opportunity to renew the assurances of its highest consideration to all Permanent Missions to the United Nations Office at Geneva.

3 August 2016