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**ON WORLD WATER DAY, INDIGENOUS AND WOMEN OF COLOR LEADERS CONNECT HUMAN RIGHTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE AT UN COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN ANNUAL MEETING**

On World Water Day, (March 22, 2017), the US Human Rights Network (USHRN) is hosting an official 61<sup>st</sup> UN Commission on the Status of Women side event on the climate crisis, sustainable economies, and the human right to clean water from the perspective of Black, Indigenous, and Global South communities.

“As Black, Indigenous and Global South communities continue to experience human rights violations - including the denial of the human rights to clean water and sanitation - the world is facing undeniable and disastrous impacts of climate change. Leaders and human rights defenders will offer important insights, lessons, and ways forward that defend basic human rights for all,” said US Human Rights Network (USHRN) Executive Director Colette Pichon Battle. USHRN is co-hosting this event with the US Climate Action Network.

**When:** March 22, 2017, 10:30am-12:00pm

**Where:** UN Church Center, 777 United Nations Plaza #8g, 2nd Floor Conference Room, New York, NY 10017

**Who:**

**Hosts:** Colette Pichon Battle, Executive Director of the US Human Rights Network and Ife Kilimanjaro, Senior Director of Network Engagement, US Climate Action Network

**Moderator:** Rosalee Gonzalez, Co-Coordinator of the Continental Network of Indigenous Women of the Americas, North Region; and USHRN Board of Directors

**Panelists:**

- Chief Caleen Sisk, Spiritual Leader and Tribal Chief of the Winnemem Wintu Tribe (California)
- Catherine Flowers, Director of the Alabama Center for Rural Enterprise (Alabama)
- Naeema Muhammad, Co-Director of NC Environmental Justice Network (North Carolina)
- Sarah Toumi, Founder of Acacias for All (Tunisia)

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**ABOUT THE US HUMAN RIGHTS NETWORK**

The US Human Rights Network (USHRN) is a national network of organizations and individuals working to strengthen a human rights movement and culture within the United States led by the people most directly impacted by human rights violations. It is a network of over 300 organizational members that is working to popularize human rights in communities across the United States in order to secure dignity and justice for all. [www.ushrnetwork.org](http://www.ushrnetwork.org)