Subject: Nomination of the Kaeng Krachan Forest Complex (Thailand) on the World Heritage List (N 1461)

Dear Ms Balbin,

I would like to thank you for your communication of 30 June 2021, transmitting a joint communication sent by the Special Rapporteur on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders and the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, in relation to the nomination of the Kaeng Krachan Forest Complex, Thailand.

Please rest assured that the Joint Communication of OHCHR dated 21 April 2020 (reference AL OTH 23/2020) was communicated to the members of the World Heritage Committee, namely through its integration in the documentation relating to the nomination of the Kaeng Krachan Forest Complex.

Please note that due to Covid-19 pandemic, the World Heritage Committee has not held its annual ordinary session in 2020. The extended 44th session of the World Heritage Committee shall take place online from 16 to 31 July 2021 and shall include the examination of the nomination of the Kaeng Krachan Forest Complex.

The Joint Communication of OHCHR dated 30 June 2021 (reference AL OTH 209/2021) shall be communicated to the members of the World Heritage Committee, namely through its integration in the documentation relating to the nomination of the Kaeng Krachan Forest Complex. In addition, a brief summary of both communications will also be provided orally at the beginning of the examination of the related item on the agenda of the meeting.

Moreover, both communications received from OHCHR on this subject have been transmitted to the Permanent Delegation of Thailand to UNESCO, as well as to IUCN, the Advisory Body to the World Heritage Committee in charge of evaluating nominations of natural sites.

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I shall be most grateful if you would transmit a copy of this letter to the three Special Rapporteurs co-signatories of the joint communication.

Thanking you for your cooperation and support in the implementation of the World Heritage Convention, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

Mechtild Rössler
Director