cordially invite you to a panel discussion on

Human Rights Situation in Colombia:
Enforced disappearance, Impunity and Human Rights Defenders

Thursday 1st March, 14h00 – 16h00
Palais des Nations, Geneva, Room n° XXVII

As underlined by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in Colombia, "by May 2011, the cumulative total of disappeared individuals listed on the National Register of Missing Persons totaled more than 57,200. In 2010, OHCHR registered a significant increase in cases of forced disappearance, of almost 40% in 2010 compared to 2009". But instead of adopting measures to address this situation, several pieces of draft legislation which could deepen and reinforce impunity are being promoted. In this context, those who fight for justice, truth and reparation continue to suffer threats and attacks: individual attacks against human rights defenders increased by 126% in the first half of 2011, when compared with the same period in 2010.

Speakers:

Gloria Gómez, Association of relatives of victims of enforced disappearance (ASFADDES)
Situation of enforced disappearance in Colombia.

Christiane Schwarz, President of OIDHACO.
Preliminary conclusions of the "National and international verification mission on the situation of human rights defenders".

Jimena Reyes, FIDH
Impunity situation

Ana Maria Rodríguez, Colombian Commission of Jurists
Conclusions.

Light refreshments will be served.
Interpretation Spanish-English will be available.