



Economic and Social Council

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Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

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Agenda item 4

**International cooperation in combating transnational
crime**

Ecuador and Peru: draft resolution

The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Illicit trafficking in species of wild flora and fauna and illicit access to genetic resources

The Economic and Social Council,

Taking note of the principles on which are founded the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora,¹ an agreement regulating international trade in endangered species and establishing recommendations for illicit trafficking therein, and the Convention on Biological Diversity,²

Deeply concerned about the existence of groups dedicated to illicit trafficking in species of wild flora and fauna and to gaining illicit access to genetic resources, groups that operate transnationally and are increasingly employing sophisticated technologies,

Recognizing the links between transnational organized crime and illicit trafficking in species of wild flora and fauna, as well as the need to prevent, combat and eradicate this form of illegal traffic, which is becoming an ever more frequent manifestation of organized crime,

¹ United Nations *Treaty Series*, vol. 993, No. 14537.

² See United Nations Environment Programme, *Convention on Biological Diversity* (Environmental Law and Institution Programme Activity Centre), June 1992.

Aware of the adverse environmental, economic, social and scientific repercussions of transnational organized criminal activities devoted to illicit trafficking in species of wild flora and fauna and to illicit access to genetic resources,

Aware also that the conservation of wild flora and fauna and of genetic resources is essential for the maintenance of biological diversity and sustainable development, these being of fundamental importance, in particular, for local and indigenous communities with traditional lifestyles based on biological resources, and that the eradication of poverty in developing countries depends on the implementation of policies directed towards conservation and the sustainable use of biological resources,

Recognizing that international cooperation, especially mutual assistance in combating organized crime, is essential for the protection of species of wild flora and fauna against illicit trafficking,

Taking into account General Assembly resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000, in which it is stated that the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime³ constitutes an effective tool and the necessary legal framework for international cooperation in combating such criminal activities as illicit trafficking in endangered species of wild flora and fauna,

1. *Urges* Member States to adopt the legislative or other measures necessary for establishing illicit trafficking in species of wild flora and fauna and illicit access to genetic resources as a criminal offence in their domestic legislation;

2. *Encourages* Member States to explore possible means of promoting judicial cooperation and information exchange aimed at preventing, combating and eradicating illicit trafficking in species of wild flora and fauna and illicit access to genetic resources;

3. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so, in recognition of the links between transnational organized crime activities and illicit trafficking in species of wild flora and fauna, to sign and ratify as soon as possible the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,³ an instrument that will provide a framework for combating this illicit activity;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare, in coordination with other competent entities of the United Nations system, a report analysing the bilateral, regional and multilateral legal instruments and other relevant documents, resolutions and recommendations dealing with the prevention, combating and eradication of illicit trafficking in species of wild flora and fauna and of illicit access to genetic resources, and to present its report to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its eleventh session.

³ General Assembly resolution 55/25, annex I.