



American Model United Nations  
**Second Committee**

GA 2nd/II/1

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Convention on Biological Diversity

SUBMITTED TO: The Second Committee

SUBMITTED BY: Mauritania

*The Second Committee*

1           *Acknowledging* the progress achieved through international support for the UN  
2 Convention for Biological Diversity,

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4           *Affirming* that the genetic diversity of countless wild species of flora, fauna, and  
5 microorganisms accounts for the exquisite division of ecological labor that provides self-  
6 sustaining services for Nature,

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8           *Noting* that current estimates by Conservation International put the total economic  
9 value of these environmental services provided by Nature at \$30 trillion, which is the  
10 same as the entire global GDP,

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12           *Highlighting* key examples of the important role biological diversity has played in  
13 the past, including:

- 14           (1) American caterpillar saved Australian pastures from cactus overgrowth,  
15           (2) Norwegian fungus made organ transplantation possible,  
16           (3) Madagascar rosy periwinkle supplied a drug to combat Hodgkin's disease and  
17 acute childhood leukemia,  
18           (4) Saliva from leeches prevented unwanted blood clots during surgery,

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20           *Realizing* that 42% of vertebrate species (including mammals, birds, reptiles, and  
21 amphibians) and 50% of flowering plants reside exclusively in 34 biological hotspots  
22 around the world,

23  
24           *Recognizing* that a large majority of endangered species, as classified by the  
25 International Union for the Conservation of Nature, including 72% of endangered  
26 mammals, 86% of endangered birds, and 92% of endangered amphibians live within  
27 these biological hot spots,

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29           *Observing* that these hot spots only cover approximately 2.3% of Earth's land  
30 surface,

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32           *Bearing in mind* that these hot spots are often located in developing countries,

33 who often struggle to balance protecting biodiversity with addressing issues of poverty  
34 withing their borders,

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36 *Noting* that an international ecological conference of biologists and economists in  
37 2000, entitled “Defying Nature’s End,” estimated the total one-time cost of setting aside  
38 into reserves such biological hot spots at \$30 billion, which is 0.1% of the world’s GDP,

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40 *Emphasizing* that setting aside these biological hot spots would provide protection  
41 for an estimated 70% of terrestrial flora and fauna,

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43 1. *Requests* that the World Bank establish a fund, entitled HotSpot, specifically  
44 designed to raise \$30 billion by requesting donations from nations, multinational  
45 corporations, and individuals;

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47 2. *Asks* that the 5th Committee of the United Nations consider directing into the  
48 HotSpot Fund;

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50 3. *Politely requests* that nations containing the biological hot spots to agree to  
51 setting aside such areas for protection and managed eco-tourism;

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53 4. *Distributes* funds accordingly after having raised the money and obtained  
54 permission from relevant states.

Passed, Yes: 60 / No: 6 / Abstain: 13