



*American Model United Nations*  
**General Assembly Third Committee**

GA Third/II/2

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Preventing and combating crimes that affect the environment

SUBMITTED TO: The General Assembly Third Committee

*The General Assembly Third Committee,*

1 *Considering* the multilateral nature of environmental crimes,

2 *Further considering* the frequency with which environmental crimes are committed outside of the home  
3 country of the offending party,

4 *Asserting* the validity of the fight against environmental crimes as a cross-national endeavor,

5 *Reaffirming* General Assembly resolution 76/185 of 16 December 2021 and its definition of environmental  
6 crime,

7 *Deeply saddened* by the progression of the deterioration of global environmental health,

8 *Aware of* the difficulty that Member States face in the attempt to punish environmental criminals,

9 *Recognizing* the Rome Statute in giving jurisdiction concerning international crime to the International  
10 Criminal Court,

11 *Reaffirming* the work by the European Union Action Plan Against Wildlife Trafficking to combat environ-  
12 mental crime,

13 *Acknowledging* the 2023 Common Heritage of Mankind Bonn Conference in Germany where 25 countries  
14 joined together in donating 9.3 billion US dollars to developing countries in efforts to combat climate change,

15 1. *Recommends* that Member States consider environmental crime as detrimental to the human condition;

16 2. *Further recommends* that Member States acknowledge environmental crimes such as:

17 (a) Overfishing;

18 (b) Deforestation;

19 (c) Poaching;

20 (d) Wildlife trafficking;

21 (e) Illegal mining;

22 (f) Pollution;

23 (g) Destruction of coral reefs;

24 (h) And other natural resource exploitation as a cause of significant harm to the environment, natural  
25 resources and human health;

26 3. *Suggests* that the aforementioned considerations offer standardization of environmental crime discussion  
27 in future actions of the United Nations, including:

28 (a) Further discussion between Member States of each region on the classification of environmental  
29 crimes, especially regarding the width of impact, the longevity of the crime and the severity;

30 (b) Member States in those regions clarifying their definitions of vague terms such as poaching and  
31 overfishing and how they differ from similar legal activities;

32 4. *Strongly discourages* the criminal exploitation and depletion of resources in biodiverse, often developing,  
33 countries for the disproportionate growth of economies without such biodiversity, such as the crimes listed above;

- 34 5. *Recommends* that Member States provide educational material to the people within their states about  
35 the harms of crimes against the environment and the consequences of their actions on the environment;
- 36 6. *Further recommends* that Member States work with people within their states who rely on what would be  
37 considered crimes against the environment as their means of supporting themselves to find new ways of supporting  
38 themselves with less impact to the environment;
- 39 7. *Suggests* that Member States set up programs that work with those who have unknowingly committed  
40 crimes against the environment as a means of supporting themselves to both stop the crimes being committed as  
41 well as replace the economic need that was filled by the crime;
- 42 8. *Further suggests* that Member States work with other Member States with whom they share borders to  
43 continue the aforementioned effort because crimes against the environment frequently occur between borders;
- 44 9. *Recommends* that states ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;
- 45 10. *Strongly encourages* Member States to implement programs to monitor environmental health so that  
46 crimes that affect the environment may be discovered more promptly, and to make such information about any  
47 environmental concerns available to the public;
- 48 11. *Requests* the creation of a pool of funds and other resources to which Member States could volun-  
49 tarily donate, the funds of which will be re-allocated to Member States in need, allowing them to better combat  
50 environmental crime in their own state;
- 51 12. *Urges* Member States to recognize the need to aid the recovery of economies that struggle more in their  
52 responses to environmental crimes committed in their countries;
- 53 13. *Requests* that Member States commit themselves to the global effort to rebuild developing economies  
54 damaged by exploitative environmental crimes such as deforestation and over-mining;
- 55 14. *Suggests* that an independent impartial committee be created to evaluate the Member States who are  
56 most in need of funds and resources and equitably allocate these funds and resources to the Member States who are  
57 most in need of them;
- 58 15. *Recommends* that this committee consist of independent representatives from a variety of regions,  
59 with rotating appointments of representatives, with at least one representative from each continent serving on the  
60 committee at a time so that the needs of different regions and Member States are properly addressed;
- 61 16. *Further suggests* that Member States submit requests to the appropriate United Nations bodies for funds  
62 and resources and provide detailed outlines for what they are in need of, how they would be used and why they are  
63 needed;
- 64 17. *Requests* that Member States who receive funds and resources provide reports on how they were used in  
65 order to promote accountability;
- 66 18. *Further calls for* Member States to voluntarily join the aforementioned environmental crime cooperative;
- 67 19. *Encourages* Member States that join the aforementioned cooperative to create a system of communication  
68 to locate and remain aware of known offenders of environmental crimes;
- 69 20. *Requests* that Member States create a universal international system of approach to combat crimes  
70 against the environment with which states can voluntarily cooperate;
- 71 21. *Further encourages* Member States to maintain sovereignty as a priority as they decide when and how  
72 to cooperate within the suggested system of approach;
- 73 22. *Urges* states to address environmental crime collaboratively by cooperating with existing international  
74 groups such as the United Nations Renewal of Law Enforcement Assistance Programme to Reduce Tropical Defor-  
75 estation (LEAP).

Passed, Yes: 61 / No: 0 / Abstain: 6