



**INTERVENTION
BY**

THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA AT THE

**30TH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON CRIME PREVENTION AND
CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

AGENDA ITEM 8

**WORLD CRIME TRENDS AND EMERGING ISSUES AND RESPONSES IN
THE FIELD OF CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

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HYBRID FORMAT

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**Chairperson;
Ladies and gentlemen;**

Pursuant to General Assembly Resolution 46/152 which mandated the UNODC to collect international data on crime trends to assist member states in making informed policy position and criminal justice responses, South Africa has put in place a multi-stakeholder consultative forum in the form of a Presidential Advisory Committee that assists in the formulation of government policies, legislation, and programmes in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice.

My Government welcomes the background paper prepared by the UNODC Secretariat in facilitating deliberations in this regard.

Chairperson,

South Africa, like all countries, continues to face challenges in the field of cybercrime, environmental crimes and many more emerging forms of transnational organized crime which negatively impacts on the socio-economic developments and safety and security of the country.

My delegation looks forward to the negotiations in the Ad Hoc Committee tasked with Elaborating a Comprehensive International Convention on Countering the Use of information and Communication Technologies for Criminal Purposes. We are convinced that the work of the IEG on Cybercrime will immensely contribute in guiding the formulation of the envisaged international instrument.

Chairperson,

Illegal mining continues to plague my country and many others and we are convinced that the implementation of Resolution E/RES/2019/23 entitled “Combating transnational organized crime and its links to illicit trafficking in precious metals and illegal mining including by enhancing the security of supply chains of precious metals” is critical to addressing this issue.

To promote the implementation of this resolution and share good practice, we are pleased to inform that Columbia, South Africa and the UNODC hosted a side-event entitled “*All that Glitters is not Gold: Stepping up responses to illegal mining and trafficking in precious metals to enhance the security of supply chains of precious metals*”. We thank Member States for their participation and look forward to further engagements on this issue.

Chairperson,

The Covid-19 pandemic has highlighted the complex forms of environmental crime that South Africa continues to tackle, particularly rhino poaching.

In her opening remarks, the Minister of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries Ms Barbara Creecy stated that, while the extraordinary circumstances surrounding the battle to beat the Covid-19 pandemic contributed in part to

the decrease in rhino poaching in 2020, the role of rangers and security personnel who remained at their posts, and the additional steps taken by government to effectively deal with these and related offences, also played a significant role in curbing poaching.

She further remarked that during the various Lockdown Alert Levels in 2020, the movement of alleged poachers and rhino horn smugglers had been curtailed. Alongside this, the steps to address rhino poaching and wildlife crime across the country had been aligned to both the Integrated Strategic Management of Rhinoceros and the principles set out in the draft National Integrated Strategy to Combat Wildlife Trafficking (NISCWT).

We therefore encourage member states to foster enhanced international cooperation in ensuring that safe heavens are eliminated for this form of transnational organised crime.

Chairperson

South Africa reiterates its commitments to the spirit and the letter of the **Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)** as an international agreement between governments that seeks to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten the survival of the species.

We undertake to fully comply with our international obligations in this Convention and request UN member states to work together to fulfil the purpose of this Convention.

I thank you Chair.