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Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

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Item 6 (d) of the provisional agenda*

Integration and coordination of efforts by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and by Member States in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice: other crime prevention and criminal justice matters

Angola, Ghana, Honduras, Kenya, Malawi and Peru: draft resolution

Strengthening the international legal framework for international cooperation to prevent and combat illicit trafficking in wildlife

The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions [69/314](#) of 30 July 2015, [70/301](#) of 9 September 2016, [71/326](#) of 11 September 2017, [73/343](#) of 16 September 2019 and [A/RES/75/311](#) of 23 July 2021 on tackling illicit trafficking in wildlife,

Reaffirming that the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto represent the principal worldwide legal instruments to prevent and combat the scourge of transnational organized crime, which affects individuals and societies in all countries,

Reaffirming further that the Convention, as a global instrument with wide adherence, offers a broad scope for cooperation to address existing and emerging forms of transnational organized crime,

Recalling General Assembly Resolution 69/314, entitled “*Tackling illicit trafficking in wildlife*” which strongly encourages Member States, in line with Economic and Social Council resolution 2013/40, to cooperate at the bilateral, regional and international levels to prevent, combat and eradicate international illicit trafficking in wildlife and wildlife products through, inter alia, the use of international legal instruments such as the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the United Nations Convention against Corruption,

Recalling its resolution [28/3](#), adopted at its twenty-eight session held on 20-24 May 2019, entitled “*Strengthening regional and international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice responses to illicit trafficking in wildlife*”,

* E/CN.15/2022/1.

Recalling further General Assembly Resolution 76/185, entitled “*Preventing and combating crimes that affect the environment*”, bearing in mind that the fight against illicit trafficking in wildlife can be part of the broader international effort to prevent and combat crimes that affect the environment,

Recalling further the Kyoto Declaration on Advancing Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law: towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted at the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held from 7 to 12 March 2021, in particular paragraph 6 and paragraph 87,

Noting also resolution 10/6 of 16 October 2020 of The Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, entitled “*Preventing and combating crimes that affect the environment falling within the scope of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime*”,

Noting the 2016¹ and 2020² World Wildlife Crime Reports of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,

Noting also the 2019 Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services³, the 2020 Global Biodiversity Outlook 5 of the Convention on Biological Diversity⁴, the 2020 Report of the IPBES Workshop on Biodiversity and Pandemics⁵ and the Interim Guidance on “*Reducing public health risks associated with the sale of live wild animals of mammalian species in traditional food markets*”⁶ issued in 2021 by the World Health Organization, the World Organisation for Animal Health, and the United Nations Environment Programme,

Determined to reduce the risks for future outbreaks of zoonotic diseases, which may lead to epidemics and, in extreme cases, pandemics and their devastating impact on human health and livelihoods, and recognizing that curbing illicit trafficking in wildlife and conserving and restoring biodiversity and functioning ecosystems can contribute to reducing the risk of emergence and spread of zoonotic diseases,

Recalling that the protection of wildlife must be part of a comprehensive approach to achieving poverty eradication, food security, sustainable development, including the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, economic growth, social well-being and sustainable livelihoods,

Recognizing with concern the growth in online and cybercrime as well as the role of social media platforms in the context of illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products, which require innovative strategies and increased intergovernmental cooperation, as appropriate,

Noting that the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime may be supplemented by one or more protocols, and that existing Protocols have adopted internationally agreed definitions, provided comprehensive frameworks to prevent and combat crimes, and led to increased capacity and more effective international cooperation in law enforcement,

Further noting paragraph 38 of the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 75/311 of 23 July 2021 on tackling illicit trafficking in wildlife inviting parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime to more effectively use the Convention to address illicit trafficking in wildlife, and to

¹ UNODC, *World Wildlife Crime Report: Trafficking in protected species*, 2016.

² UNODC, *World Wildlife Crime Report: Trafficking in Protected Species*, 2020.

³ Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Service (IPBES), *Global assessment report on biodiversity and ecosystem services*, 2019.

⁴ Convention on Biological Diversity, *Global Biodiversity Outlook 5*, 2020.

⁵ IPBES, *Workshop Report on Biodiversity and Pandemics*, 2020.

⁶ World Health Organization, *Reducing public health risks associated with the sale of live wild animals of mammalian species in traditional food markets*, 2021.

continue discussions on other possible international tools to combat wildlife trafficking,

Also noting in this regard ongoing efforts under the authority of the COP to the UNTOC,

Further recognizing the legal framework provided by and the important role of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora for regulating international trade in species of wild fauna and flora listed in its appendices, and *recognizing also* the importance to parties of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage and the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat,

Recognizing the important work of the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime, a collaborative effort of the secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Bank and the World Customs Organization, by, inter alia, providing technical assistance to Member States, upon request,

Acknowledging the crucial role played by all relevant stakeholders, including civil society, as well as local, rural and indigenous communities, in addressing illicit trafficking in wildlife, (CCPCJ resolution 28/3, PP10)

Taking note of the efforts of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in promoting and facilitating effective responses to prevent and combat illicit trafficking in wildlife,

Taking note with appreciation also the expert discussions on crimes that affect the environment held during the inter-sessional meeting of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice from 14 to 16 February 2022,

1. *Invites* Member States to provide UNODC with their views on possible responses including the potential of an additional protocol to the UNTOC, to address any gaps that may exist in the current international legal framework to prevent and combat illicit trafficking in wildlife, as well as with their experiences, good practices and challenges when preventing and combating illicit trafficking in wildlife, and their national legislation in this sphere;
2. *Invites also* Member States which are parties to the UNTOC to provide UNODC with information on the use of the Convention as an international legal instrument to address illicit trafficking in wildlife, taking into account relevant resolutions in this regard, inter alia resolution 10/6 of 16 October 2020 of the COP UNTOC;
3. *Requests* UNODC to compile a report on the information provided by Member States and submit it for the consideration of the 32nd session of the CCPCJ;
4. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary contributions for the above-mentioned purposes, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.