

2022 CCPCJ Expert Discussions on Crimes that Affect the Environment  
1st intersessional meeting

International Cooperation to Address Crimes against Environment  
**A statement of Criminologists Without Borders**  
February 2022 – justiceworks@yahoo.com

International cooperation to address crimes against environment

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International cooperation requires mutual understanding of the seriousness of the problem.

Global surveys now reflect **broad consensus** about the seriousness and urgency of violations of the environment.

Many environmental violations **now bring** civil and criminal penalties, but they **rarely occur**.

**Without enforcement**, environmental laws have no meaning.

The impacts very often cross national borders.

Enforcement of emissions of greenhouse gases.

Enforcing carbon impacts, such as illegal logging, & ocean vessel pollution.

Enforcing integrity of renewable energy programs from fraud & abuse.

**Insiders** in business and government possess first-hand knowledge of exploitive decisions.

Whistle-blowers and informants **must be protected by law** from retribution for coming forward.

Environmental compliance must become a **required component** of corporate and state culture.

Conflicts of interest must be treated as **ACTUAL conflicts**, rather than **potential** problems of concern.

Penalties for environmental violations must also become **proportionate to the harm caused**.

For example, penalties for dumping waste must include a **requirement to pay** for the clean-up.

Penalties for illegal logging must include **requirements to replace** the illegally harvested trees.

Penalties for air pollution violations must include requirements to **pay for mitigation efforts**.

In this way, environmental crimes require penalties that restore to the victimized area to its **original condition**.

**Without enforcement**, environmental laws have no meaning.

**Public education and awareness of the science** underlying environmental problems must be improved.

Public education, awareness, and **intolerance of** public and private sector **corruption** must also be increased.

Positive environmentally-friendly efforts **must be publicized** as much as negative acts.

It should become a **global theme**, shared by all, that:

**Public health includes the environment!**

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