Joint Pledge to Support and Enhance the Role of Law Enforcement Agencies in the Context of Global Climate Change Scenarios

Law enforcement agencies and the wider global law enforcement community continue to play a significant role in pre-empting and tackling environmental crimes. This includes addressing challenges that impair the resilience of natural ecosystems to withstand climate change and developing solutions considering the impact of climate change as a cause and consequence of transnational organized crime. Crimes that affect the environment may be more prone to producing a negative impact on economies, public health, human safety, food security, livelihoods, and habitats. They may exacerbate existing vulnerabilities, inequalities, and injustices, constituting as a threat to human security, public safety, and human rights.

The impact of these crimes poses the potential to hinder and undermine efforts undertaken by states to protect the environment, promote the rule of law, and achieve sustainable development, including efforts to contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Upon recognition of the above, United Arab Emirates has recently launched the International Initiative of Law Enforcement for Climate (I2LEC) in partnership with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, as a platform to coordinate and enhance the relevant efforts by the global law enforcement community.

In line with this objective, the United Arab Emirates would like to present the following pledge to continue to work together with member states and international partners to:

1. Support the research and analysis of patterns and trends in crimes that affect the environment and the potential impacts of global climate change scenarios for law enforcement operations, as well as the exchange of data and knowledge thereof, in order to better inform law enforcement policies, strategies, practices and operations to prevent and combat such crimes and to address broader challenges faced by law enforcement agencies in the context of global climate change scenarios;

2. Ensure the global law enforcement community addresses, supports processes and raises awareness for identifying all forms of crimes that affect the environment, including those crimes that impair the resilience of natural ecosystems to withstand climate change by strengthening global law enforcement’s capacity to prevent and combat crimes;

3. Continue efforts to provide guidance on enhancing the capacity of law enforcement agencies to effectively prevent and combat crimes that affect the environment, including those crimes that impair the resilience of natural ecosystems to withstand climate change.

4. Enhance cooperation with relevant stakeholders to promote awareness surrounding crimes that affect the environmental, including those crimes that impair the resilience of natural ecosystems to withstand climate change and broader challenges associated with climate change, in order to enable relevant operational and research capacities that will increase prevention methods.

5. Promote national, regional, and international cooperation and coordination among law enforcement agencies in addressing crimes that affect the environment, including those crimes that impair the resilience of natural ecosystems to withstand climate change, for the purposes of sharing information, preventing, detecting and investigating such crimes, disrupting and dismantling organized criminal groups involved, as well as exchanging experiences, disseminating best practices and facilitating joint capacity-building activities with a particular focus on strengthening South-South cooperation and promoting gender equality and the protection of human rights.

6. Continue to support the effective implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime as well as the other relevant international and regional legal instruments, to prevent and combat crimes that affect the environment and to address broader challenges faced by law enforcement agencies in the context of global climate change scenarios.
My delegation is grateful to all the support received from member states to this pledge and invite member states and observer members to join and support such efforts.