



Resolution No. 17

GA-2023-91-RES-17

Subject: Driving investigative measures to better prevent and disrupt environmental crimes and their enduring global harm through INTERPOL channels

The ICPO-INTERPOL General Assembly, meeting in Vienna, Austria, from 28 November to 1 December 2023, at its 91st session:

CONSIDERING that environmental crime poses a global threat to public health, economies, climate and security,

AWARE that environmental crime impacts all member countries,

RECOGNIZING that environmental crime includes crimes that have an impact on the climate, particularly the illegal, underreported or unregulated release of greenhouse gases through deforestation, polluting emissions or other means,

RECOGNIZING that member countries may be adopting regulatory systems in an effort to meet climate-related targets and that these efforts are vulnerable to criminal manipulation and avoidance by persons or entities acting transnationally,

NOTING that environmental crime is closely linked to fraud, corruption, money laundering and other forms of financial crimes that undermine governance and legitimate actors in economies,

ACKNOWLEDGING that environmental crimes linked to the Internet, particularly illegal online wildlife markets, continue to grow rapidly,

ACKNOWLEDGING the longstanding commitment of INTERPOL in supporting member countries' efforts to address environmental crime, including the adoption of Resolution AGN/45/RES/4 on Police Intervention and Co-Operation in Connection with the Illegal Traffic in Wildlife and its Products (Accra, Ghana, 14-20 October 1976), as well as Resolution AG-2010-RES-03 on Sustainable Environmental Crime Programme (Doha, Qatar, 8-11 November 2010) which acknowledged the need for a robust international environmental enforcement response,

NOTING that INTERPOL's Global Policing Goals recognize the threats of environmental crimes,

RECOGNIZING that tackling environmental crime is often multi-disciplinary in nature due to the complexity and diversity of the crime type,

CONSIDERING that due to the transnational nature of environmental crime, there is an immediate need for international law enforcement cooperation to tackle environmental crime and that INTERPOL can have a leading role in supporting international enforcement efforts,

RECALLING Resolution AG-2014-RES-03 which urged member countries to develop concepts and tools in response to current and emerging threats, such as the National Environmental Security Taskforce (NEST),

CALLS UPON member countries that have not yet developed a National Environmental Security Task Force to do so and to ensure that relevant law enforcement agencies responsible for investigating environmental crimes are connected to INTERPOL's secure information system, I-24/7;

URGES member countries to regularly use the INTERPOL Information Systems to share information on environmental crimes, including INTERPOL's Notices and Diffusions, as well as the Illicit Markets Analysis File to better identify criminal networks operating internationally;

FURTHER CALLS UPON member countries' Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs), where appropriate, to work closely with relevant law enforcement agencies on environmental crime cases;

ENCOURAGES member countries to increase the use of digital forensics in the investigation of environmental crime cases and, if needed, to request INTERPOL's assistance in this process;

FURTHER ENCOURAGES member countries to initiate cyber wildlife investigations with parallel financial inquiries, paying particular attention to social media groups;

REQUESTS member countries that detect cyber enabled environmental crimes to cooperate with the member countries of domain hosting, server hosting, and user locations to facilitate the acquisition and exchange of information on these crimes through INTERPOL channels;

URGES member countries to prioritize active participation, through INTERPOL channels, in transnational investigations related to wildlife crime, forestry crime, illegal mining, pollution crime, including carbon trading crime, and fisheries related crimes, and to consider the use of financial information to build more robust cases against identified suspects.

Adopted