

**not freshman E**

TOPIC:Organized crime- wildlife and forestry crime



SOCOMUN XXVIII

NOT Freshman E

Organized Crime - Wildlife and Forestry Crime

Hello delegates! My name is Angela Zhang and I will be your chair at SOCOMUN this year! I am currently a senior at SMCHS, and this is my fourth year participating in the SM MUN program but my sixth year involved in MUN. MUN has provided me the opportunity to be more observant of the world around me and helped me to find my passion in world affairs. I really enjoy MUN because MUN has not only improved my public speaking and research skills, but it has also opened up my world to new experiences, such as meeting new people and traveling to new places. I was fortunately given the opportunity to participate in overseas conferences in Singapore, Taipei, Montreal, London, and this year I will be traveling to Prague, Czech Republic for another European-styled MUN conference. Outside of MUN, I love playing piano and performing with Marching Band and Symphony Orchestra. I also enjoy playing the expert witness role in Mock Trial competitions and being the Robotics team’s spokesperson at competitions. I look forward to meeting you all in committee and I hope you will find MUN as meaningful as I do here at SOCOMUN!

Hi! I am Kaylin Maddox and during this conference, I will be serving as your vice-chair. This is my second time being part of the dais at SOCOMUN and I am sure that you will have a fun learning experience! This is my third year being a part of MUN. Outside of MUN, I enjoy cross country, track, and I love volunteering at Pretend City on the weekends. MUN has really allowed me to develop my leadership and public speaking skills, which are super important in the real world. I learned so much at SOCOMUN, as it was my first conference, and I hope that you learn something too. Good luck delegates!

Hi my name is Annie Mulvihill and I will be your rapporteur at SOCOMUN. I am a sophomore here at SMCHS and this is my second year in MUN. I have attended multiple conferences all around California and will be traveling to UC Berkeley later this year. I really enjoy MUN because it helps me broaden my understanding of global issues and allows me to explore many perspectives on problems facing our world today. Other than MUN, I play water polo and swim and I also enjoy reading, watching tv, and hanging out with my friends.

I hope that SOCOMUN will be a fun and educational conference and that you will be encouraged to continue to grow as MUN delegates. We will begin committee with an explanation of the flow and procedure of the debate, followed by an example speech and comment. After roll call, we will begin debate by adding delegates who wish to speak onto the Speaker’s List. Delegates are expected to give a speech on their country’s solutions on the topic rather than pure background information of the topic. At the end of each speech, delegates may raise their placard to give a comment on the speech and the solutions presented by the previous delegate. Delegates are also encouraged to make motions at anytime during the committee to go into informal consultations. During informal consultations, delegates are free to directly approach other delegates in the committee to discuss possible solutions and consider forming resolution groups to work on resolution papers. It is important that the delegates are aware of their country policy in terms of writing solutions and choosing countries to work with in their resolution group. When resolutions are completed, the committee will then go into formal consultation, where the resolution paper of each resolution group will be presented by representing delegates. After presentations of resolutions, the committee will then go into voting bloc where each resolution will be voted on by all delegates. Please do not hesitate to ask us any questions about anything, feel free to email us at [socomunnote@gmail.com](mailto:socomunnote@gmail.com) at any time. We wish you the best of luck and we cannot wait to see all of you in committee!

**E4JMUN Resources from the UNODC**

The UNODC has provided some great resources for students involved with Model United Nations.

<https://www.unodc.org/e4j/mun/crime-prevention/organized-crime.html> - Information about organized crime and. Also information about organized crime and the sustainable development goals.

<https://www.unodc.org/e4j/mun/resources/organized-crime.html> - Looks like the other link but scroll down and you will see some links to additional resources. The “SHERLOC” database you can search by “crime type” , “wildlife, forest, and fisheries crime”. The Digest of Organized Crime Cases has numerous sections about environmental crimes. (You might want to Ctrl + F search for “environmental” because it is a lengthy report) The Globalization of Crime report has a section about Environmental Resources (wildlife and forests).

**Background:**

Wildlife and forestry crime refers to the illegal killing and trading of wild fauna and flora, including all types and species of animals and forest products. Wildlife and forestry crimes has gradually become one of the most ominous organized crimes due to the need and demand of black markets and the continuing wildlife and forest product trafficking. The market continues to grow and expand in size as criminals discover the financial benefits which they believe are worth risking for. The black market for trafficked and smuggled animal and plant parts has grown into an industry and directly caused the decline in wildlife and forest product population and scientifically raised the values of certain endangered species. Wildlife and forestry crime is considered the murdering of species which is threatening and endangering all species. As more species are facing challenges surviving the massive killing, awareness has been raised among the global community. Across the world, over 150 countries signed treaties to ban trade of around 29,000 species to protect them from becoming endangered or extinct. International agreements have been formed that the import and export of 34,000 species will be deemed illegal through the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). These 34,000 species will be known as CITES-listed species that will be protected from international trade.

Being concerned with this threatening issue, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) has formed the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICCWC) along with four other international bodies to support countries to combat wildlife and forestry crimes. The G20 High Level Principles on Combatting Corruption Related to Illegal Trade in Wildlife and Wildlife Products incorporate proper punishment and consequences for criminal activities depending on the seriousness of the crime. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is another UN organization that combats illegal trade and killing of wildlife and forest products. The UNDP-GEF (Global Environment Finance) manages to cover over 130 countries with monetary support in fighting against wildlife and forestry crime and works alongside Global Wildlife Program (GWP) to assist GEF-financed countries combatting illegal activities and reducing the number of crimes.

**Possible Solutions:**

The following solutions are only general solutions that may possibly be implemented by countries to combat wildlife and forestry crime. However, it is imperative that delegates also do research and come up with specific and detailed solutions that will address the issue in different aspects. When delegates are creating solutions, make sure to also research about country policies and be sure that the solutions proposed are what the country is supportive of. Furthermore, all funding will be coming from UN’s Fifth Committee (Administrative and Budgetary Committee) and the World Bank; therefore, funding should not be an issue for solutions.

In order to prevent wildlife and forestry crimes, there need to be proper law enforcement and established punishment. Laws and punishments will be the most effective way to prevent crimes if they are well-established and followed. Thus, international laws should be created as a guideline for all country to follow and punishments should also be set up in case there are violations to these laws.

To increase public attention and awareness on this prevalent issue will stimulate and influence more actions to be taken towards reducing such crimes. Awareness needs to be raised for people to be aware of the status of the endangering species due to these crimes to better protect the species. One effective way to raise awareness is to organize large events that involve large populations. Activities can be organized on the international World Wildlife Day that is on the third day of March every year. On this day people can come out on the streets and march through while spreading facts and educational information about wildlife and forestry crimes and how they must be stopped.

Considering that one factor that caused wildlife and forestry crime is the misbelief that some valuable parts of animals or plants may serve as medicines that will cure some sorts of diseases. This misbelief has caused certain species to be endangered and face survival challenges due to the high depend and price in black markets. Education will play an important role there. It will be important to educate young generation that parts of species may not necessarily be the best type of medicine and that with the current medical advancement there is no need to use animal parts and plants to cure diseases. Though this may be a tradition and a belief of the older generation, it would be more effective to educate the younger generation so they will be able to clear out this misbelief with their education.

**Questions to consider:**

These questions are only to guide and help you with your research, they do not necessarily need to be answered for the conference.

1. What actions has your country taken to reduce or prevent wildlife and forestry crimes?

2. What can non-governmental organizations (NGOs) do to help with combatting this issue? What can governments do to help address this issue?

3. What is your country’s policies on this issue? Does your country have any laws or regulations against this type of crime?

4. Are there any wildlife and forestry crimes going on within your country? If so, how did your country deal with the situation?

5. Has the United Nations General Assembly pass a resolution addressing this issue? If so, what was/were the solution(s)?

6. What would be an action that your country has not done yet but is willing to do in the future to combat wildlife and forestry crimes?

7. What are some long-term and short-term solution to combat this issue? Which type of solution will be better in terms of addressing this issue?

8. What are some factors that leads to this issue and how can you address that to help resolve this issue?

Works Cited

Ciupagea, Adrian. “United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.” *Global*

*Programme*, [www.unodc.org/unodc/en/wildlife-and-forest-crime/global-programme.html](http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/wildlife-and-forest-crime/global-programme.html).

This resource discusses the Global Programme for Preventing Wildlife and Forest Crime and what it stands for. It also talks about it’s plan to decrease this crime and how to implement it. This is important because it provides a concrete plan of action. It also provides us with data on solutions that may not have been quite successful in the past. This is critical to find a lasting solution to this problem.

Fedotov, Yury. “United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.” *Wildlife and Forest Crime*,

UNODC, 22 Apr. 2013, www.unodc.org/unodc/en/wildlife-and-forest-crime/index.html.

This source underlines different global programs created by the United Nations as well as an in-depth definition of “wildlife and forest crime”. It also talks about the International Consortium on Combatting Wildlife Crime and provides an analytical toolkit to see how officials ascertain wildlife and forestry crime. There is also a tab for resources, which will provide periodical updates to assist any MUN delegate in creating realistic and modern solutions.

Kiener-Manu, Katharina. “Organized Crime Module 3 Key Issues: Wildlife & Forest

Crime.” *Organized Crime Module 3 Key Issues: Wildlife & Forest*

*Crime*, [www.unodc.org/e4j/en/organized-crime/module-3/key-issues/wildlife-forest-crime.html](http://www.unodc.org/e4j/en/organized-crime/module-3/key-issues/wildlife-forest-crime.html).

This source gives a definition of the problem and really provides a solid overview of the issue from multiple stand points. It also discusses CITES, or Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, which is critical while discussing this issue. It provides details about the issue and give background on a crucial convention. While discussing this it is imperative to keep in mind previous action.

Lehmacher, Wolfgang. “Wildlife Crime: a $23 Billion Trade That's Destroying Our Planet.”

*World Economic Forum*, World Economic Forum, 28 Sept. 2016,

www.weforum.org/agenda/2016/09/fighting-illegal-wildlife-and-forest-trade/.

This source specifically explains the epidemic of wildlife crime and underlines the issues involving poaching and wildlife trafficking. It also provides accurate statistics that can serve as captivating hooks for speeches or for reference when writing a position paper. This article also discusses how transportation is mainly what allows the trafficking of wildlife. It also talks about the organization, TRAFFIC, which has helped immensely in supporting the halt of wildlife trafficking.

Mendjisky, Maia. “United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.” *Wildlife and Forest*

*Crime*, www.unodc.org/westandcentralafrica/en/newrosenwebsite/TOC/wildlife-and-forest-crime.html.

This informational article created by the UNODC discusses the region of West and Central America, where large-scale poaching and illegal logging are creating a huge threat to wildlife. It specifically underlines the effect that poaching has on wildlife. While this article discusses the effects of poaching and logging in West and Central Africa, it also talks about the Global Programme for Combating Wildlife and Forest Crime, which contains a framework of specific legal systems.

“Organized Crime Module 3 Key Issues: Wildlife & Forest Crime.” *Organized Crime*

*Module 3 Key Issues: Wildlife & Forest Crime*, Apr. 2018,

www.unodc.org/e4j/en/organized-crime/module-3/key-issues/wildlife-forest-

crime.html.

This website contains almost all of the basic information that a delegate needs to know for the topic of Organized Crime of Wildlife and Forestry. It discusses the certain markets and trends on which areas contain the largest threat to wildlife, which animals are being poached the most, and which illegal materials are being sold the most on the market. It contains certain framework that has been implemented and also points out the weak points to provide insight for solutions.

Picheta, Rob. “This Is the 'Last Generation' That Can Save Nature, WWF Says.” *CNN*,

Cable News Network, 30 Oct. 2018, www.cnn.com/2018/10/29/health/wwf-wildlife-population-report-intl/index.html.

This article, written by Rob Picheta, shows the true gravity of organized wildlife crime. Because it is not exclusively written for wildlife and forestry crime, it only provides the basic information that one might need to learn about global issues in nature. It discusses the future meeting that the United Nations will host in 2020. In this article, there are many actions that have been taken by France, which can be used to institute an international coalition in the future.

Rosen, Tanya. “ICCWC Launches Toolkit on Wildlife and Forest Crime | News | SDG

Knowledge Hub | IISD.” *SDG Knowledge Hub*, IISD, 27 July 2012,

sdg.iisd.org/news/iccwc-launches-toolkit-on-wildlife-and-forest-crime/.

This article discusses wildlife and forest crime in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals. Because this is a major theme in the SOCOMUN conference, it will serve as a helpful tool that will give a delegate the advantage. The Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit is the main topic of the article. This provides a perfect example of a solution for analyzing wildlife and forest crime.

Solinge, van, et al. “Organized Forest Crime: A Criminological Analysis with

Suggestions from Timber Forensics.” *Center for International Forestry Research*,

International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO), Vienna, Austria,

1 Jan. 2016,[www.cifor.org/library/6313/](http://www.cifor.org/library/6313/).

This source both provides a historical background of this issue and places an emphasis on how it affects us today. It also discusses the different types of criminal logging and how the illegal trade operates. I think this will help because it provides an in depth explanation of the issue. It also uses a variety of sources and data to overall provide a deeper look into the problem. Reflecting on this source, it will hopefully enhance the paper. It will hopefully give a very in depth look into the crimes surrounding specifically the illegal timber industry.

Steiner, Achim. “How to Fight Environmental Crime.” *CNN*, Cable News Network, 28

June 2016, www.cnn.com/2016/06/06/opinions/tackling-environmental-crime-

steiner/index.html.

This opinion article, written by Achim Steiner, explores different methods of eradicating wildlife and forest crime. It is written in the context of Angola, Nigeria, South Sudan, and Benfica. This article combats the issue of civil wars that break out because of the illegal trade of said materials. It takes an approach of first taking away the demand for illegal products that come from illegal poaching by raising awareness of environmental crime. From the research in the article, it is proven that satellites and control centers have helped increase the crackdown of people involved with deforestation in Brazil immensely.

“Strengthening Front-Line Action to Combat Wildlife and Forest Crimes | UN Chronicle.” *UN Chronicle*, United Nations, 2 Nov. 2014, unchronicle.un.org/article/strengthening-front-line-action-combat-wildlife-and-forest-crimes.

This article puts an emphasis on strengthening the action to combat wildlife and forest crimes. It takes examples from eight different countries that are considered pivotal to global efforts to combat illegal ivory trade. It talks about the certain policies of the Standing Committee and Conference of the Parties along with CITES and ICCWC to make a delegate more knowledgeable during committee.

“Strengthening Laws to Tackle Wildlife Crime in Central, West and Southern Africa | UN DESA Department of Economic and Social Affairs.” *United Nations*, United Nations, [www.un.org/development/desa/en/news/forest/strengthening-laws-to-tackle-wildlife-crime.html](http://www.un.org/development/desa/en/news/forest/strengthening-laws-to-tackle-wildlife-crime.html).

This article describes the importance of altering the laws to prevent the organized crime of wildlife and forestry. It talks about the recent symposium that was held from 11 to 12 September 2018. This source can be used to help form stronger examples of legal framework for individual countries that can be discussed and used in an international summit.

“The Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit.” *CITES*,

[www.cites.org/eng/prog/iccwc.php/Tools](http://www.cites.org/eng/prog/iccwc.php/Tools).

This analytical toolkit was created by the UNODC and the expertise of certain ICCWC partners. There are five main parts of this legal framework, some of which a delegate might want to place in their own framework, according to the policy of their country. This source is helpful for forming resolutions and learning more about laboratory, identification, and forensic evidence when dealing with organized wildlife and forestry crime.

“UNODC Special Event ‘Addressing the Nexus between Wildlife and Forest Crime and

Corruption.’” *CITES*,

[www.cites.org/eng/prog/iccwc/UNODC\_Special\_Event\_Addressing\_the\_nexus\_between\_wildlife\_and\_forest\_crime\_and\_corruption](http://www.cites.org/eng/prog/iccwc/UNODC_Special_Event_Addressing_the_nexus_between_wildlife_and_forest_crime_and_corruption).

This source discusses a special event put on by UNODC to address wildlife and forest crimes. It aimed to open the discussion and need for immediate action in regards to protecting them. This is important because it shows a real life event of the UN creating a plan. It emphasizes the threat that this poses to our livelihood and how imperative it is to solve it. This can be utilized particularly whilst considering previous UN actions and a model to follow.

Wahlen, Catherine Benson. “UN Corruption Conference Urges Action on Wildlife and Forest Crime | News | SDG Knowledge Hub | IISD.” *SDG Knowledge Hub*, IISD, 9 Nov. 2015, sdg.iisd.org/news/un-corruption-conference-urges-action-on-wildlife-and-forest-crime/.

This source covers a topic on the importance of addressing corruption that exists in organized wildlife and forest crime. This source describes many other methods that can be used to analyze specific organized crime that will reduce corruption, as it improves accuracy.