



United Nations
Office on Drugs and Crime



ANCILLARY MEETING

Addressing Crimes That Affect the Environment

to Support the Implementation of Global Environmental Commitments

★ Building Block for the 1st Global Review of the KMGBF



DATE
27 September 2026
10:00–11:00 (Abu Dhabi)



VENUE
Room 2B, ADNEC Centre,
Abu Dhabi, UAE



HOST
15th UN Congress on Crime
Prevention & Criminal Justice

BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES



Background

Crimes that affect the environment, including illegal wildlife trade, logging and fishing, illegal mining, pollution and land-use violations, pose a significant threat to biodiversity, ecosystems and sustainable development.

They contribute to biodiversity loss and environmental degradation while undermining livelihoods and governance and enabling corruption and organized crime.

These crimes also hinder implementation of the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF), which calls for cross-sectoral action, international cooperation and effective enforcement.



Objectives

- Examine how criminal-justice systems can better support biodiversity protection;
- Foster dialogue between biodiversity and criminal-justice actors;
- Highlight the role of criminal justice in implementing NBSAPs and the KMGBF;
- Identify good practices and priorities for addressing crimes that affect the environment.



As incoming Presidency of CBD COP17 and within the framework of the UN Crime Congress, Armenia is convening this dialogue to strengthen international cooperation and criminal-justice responses in the lead-up to COP17.



AGENDA • 60 MIN

Time	Format	Speaker(s)	Focus
10:00–10:04	Opening	Ms. Srubhi Galyan Minister of Justice of Armenia / Head of Delegation	Opening remarks; position criminal justice as an enabling pillar for biodiversity protection; frame the lead-up to CBD COP17.
10:04–10:09	Keynote 1	Mr. Bo Mathiasen Director, UNODC Division for Operations	
10:09–10:14	Keynote 2	Mr. Stephen Fry Executive Director, Investigation Support, INTERPOL	
10:14–10:55	From Policy to Practice	Moderator: Ambassador Andranik Hovhannisyan • Ms. Anna Karapetyan — Deputy Minister of Justice of Armenia • Mr. Clément Payeur — police counsel, Permanent Mission of France to the UN in Vienna • Mr. Marcis Schroeder — Head of Division, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Climate Action, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety of Germany • Mr. Carlos Sanchez del Águila — Minister Alternate Representative of Peru to the UN Vienna • Mr. Rafael Benítez — Director of Social Rights, Health and Environment, Council of Europe • Mr. Giovanni Broussard — Africa Coordinator, UNODC Global Programme on Crimes that Affect the Environment • Ms. Simona Hayson — Director of Environmental Crime, GFI-TOC	Country & institutional interventions. <i>“From your perspective, what are the key steps needed to translate international commitments on biodiversity and crimes that affect the environment into effective national policies, criminal-justice responses and practical action, and where do you see the greatest opportunities for international cooperation?”</i>
10:55–11:00	Closing takeaways	Ambassador Andranik Hovhannisyan	Closing remarks.