

**Forum:** United Nations Environment Programme

**Question of:** Protecting Fragile Ecosystems from Exploitation

**Submitted by:** China



**Co-submitted by:** Bangladesh, Belarus, Chad, Congo, Croatia, Cuba, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malaysia, Namibia, Oman, Peru, Philippines, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Türkiye, Viet Nam, Yemen

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- 1 *The United Nations Environment Programme,*  
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3 *Taking the possibility of lowering the number of plastics flowing into the ocean by 80 % by*  
4 *using circular economy measures into consideration,*  
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6 *Alarmed by the earth being heated up by 1,5°C in 2029,*  
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8 *Realizing that no country worldwide is taking necessary measures to achieve the 1,5°C goal,*  
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10 *Noting that up 150 species go extinct every day,*  
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12 *Recalling the principles enshrined in the World Charter for Nature, particularly Article 3 which*  
13 *emphasizes the need to give protection to all areas of the earth, both land and sea,*  
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15 *Recognizing the significance of fragile ecosystems in sustaining biodiversity, providing*  
16 *essential ecological services, and supporting the livelihoods of local communities,*  
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18 *Acknowledging the vulnerability fragile ecosystems, including the Lake Chad Basin, the Sahara*  
19 *Desert, and other unique habitats, to various forms of exploitation, such as unsustainable*  
20 *resource extraction, deforestation, illegal wildlife trade, and pollution,*  
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22 *Alarmed by the adverse impacts of ecosystem exploitation, including loss of biodiversity,*  
23 *habitat degradation, climate change, and the displacement of indigenous communities,*  
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25 *Emphasizing the importance of international cooperation and collective action in addressing*  
26 *the global challenges posed by ecosystem exploitation,*  
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28 *Pointing out the importance of deforestation programs,*  
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30 *Calls upon strengthening the legal framework to make the protection of terrestrial ecosystems*  
31 *based on non-binding laws,*

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*Recognizing* that our terrestrial ecosystems have to contend with many humans made problems, such as overuse, deforestation, pollution and over-fertilization, which have led to irreversible terrestrial damage in the last decades,

*Noting with deep concern* that overuse of agricultural land multiplies the rate of degradation all over the world and desertification in dry areas, which contributes to loss of cultivated lands and thus to a progressive food shortage in arid areas,

*Fully alarmed* that deforestation, leads to consequences such as soil erosion and degradation, due to the removal of important nutrient layers and a lack of humus,

*Taking into account* that the increase in degradation leads to increased fertilization of cultivated lands, as nutrient deficiencies in the soil are to be compensated, which leads to pesticide contamination of land and food,

*Fully believing* that the introduction of sustainable agriculture and control of land use may significantly reduce or even stop the progression of these processes in the near future,

*Recognizing* that all sorts of terrestrial exploitation are of great danger and should be prohibited,

*Recognising* the loss of habitat due to common measures like deforestation and not sustainable agriculture leading to reduced biological diversity, the function of ecosystems getting lost, and the biological balance of resources being destroyed,

*Therefore emphasising* the importance of protecting terrestrial ecosystems from exploitation to counteract climate change, pollution, land overuse and other anthropogenic influences,

*Supporting* the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which the United Nations agreed on, which emphasise promoting sustainable consumption and production, inserting protected areas, forest management and combating desertification,

*Guided by* the UN's Sustainable Development Goals,

1. **Encourages** members of local communities, indigenous groups, and individuals to have autonomy to protect and manage fragile ecosystems in their respective territories/regions;
2. **Allows** for creation of budgets and finance management in local communities;
3. **Proposes** support for countries facing the affects directly linked to climate change not only during crisis such as droughts or hurricanes but also to help them get more sovereign in the future by:
  - a. financially supporting and therefore aiding the country's infrastructure,
  - b. providing food packages or other nutrition, if necessary,

- 76 c. equipping affected countries with medicine and health services,  
77 d. recommending that all member states provide financial support to struggling or  
78 developing nations for the continued improvement of the ecosystems in the nation,  
79 e. urges countries with sufficient investing power to provide investments in countries  
80 that are struggling or have been affected by climate change;  
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- 82 4. **Establishes** an all-encompassing database to monitor plant and animal species' which are  
83 facing extinction that is accessed and administered by local governments and federal  
84 agencies:  
85 a. the database will be composed of data and information compiled by top natural  
86 scientists worldwide, but be accessible to all UNEP member states,  
87 i. the relevant data will be monthly check-ups on the quantity of each at-risk  
88 species, as well as data on their reproduction and expansion rates,  
89 ii. the data will also include credited reasons as to why a species may be increasing  
90 or decreasing in prevalence,  
91 b. the database will be distinct from other databases as it is an open area to comment  
92 on the respective natural conditions of;  
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- 94 5. **Initiates** a collective UNEP fundraising effort to promote the expansion of research in pro-  
95 environmental technologies that will allow nations to maintain their degree of natural  
96 resource production and extraction:  
97 a. the need for economic and social prosperity backed by natural resources is  
98 emphasised, especially in developing countries,  
99 b. the fundraising will be distinct from already existing efforts in that it targets  
100 technologies which allow for continued natural resource extraction, not to replace  
101 natural resources at a nation's expense,  
102 c. the fundraising effort will be open to all private citizens and will be kicked off with  
103 highly encouraged donations from UNEP member states,  
104 d. the funds of the effort will be managed by UNEP financial offices and the expansion  
105 of the effort in the future to be more consistent and directed will be also managed  
106 by UNEP;  
107
- 108 6. **Encourages** all countries to set a goal for transitioning from using natural resource  
109 extraction to renewable energy:  
110 a. support countries, which are struggling to reach their goal;  
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- 112 7. **Recommends** to sustain natural resource extraction to keep workers employed:  
113 a. support workers by helping them in their transition to renewable energy jobs;  
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- 115 8. **Suggests** all countries to:  
116 a. incentivize their industries to reduce their carbon emissions by lowering taxes for  
117 companies that try effectively to lower the emissions of their production process,  
118 moreover, incentivize their companies by imposing taxes on greenhouse gases,

119           b. nonetheless respect the sovereignty of countries which decide to not introduce the  
120           measures named above;

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122 **9. Recommends** that countries promote jobs focusing on topics such as:

123           a. renewable energy, reforestation, sustainable agriculture,

124           b. preserving endangered living organisms from extinction and environmentally  
125           friendly human development, protect fragile forest soil due to non-aggressive  
126           deforestation,

127           c. save living organisms including wildlife and vegetation from extinction,

128           d. safeguard habitats of biotic forest population in relation to abiotic components;

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130 **10. Endorse** this recommendation due to its many advantages including the facts that green  
131           investments;

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133 **11. Strongly affirms** the need to promote recycling systems in all parts of the world to reduce  
134           pollution of the environment, at least by:

135           a. introducing deposit systems,

136           b. establishing waste separations,

137           c. create more workplaces than unsustainable investments,

138           d. can offer good wages as well as work security, safety and social protection for  
139           developing countries;

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141 **12. Proposes** to support research, innovation and new technologies to develop alternative  
142           agricultural practices, by:

143           a. promoting the research, development and use of technologies to counteract the  
144           previous damage to the terrestrial environment,

145           b. guiding the development and appropriate use of new agricultural innovations   to  
146           ensure they are not harmful to the environment,

147           c. collaborating on research to determine their impact on human and terrestrial health;

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149 **13. Suggests** to invest in recultivation measures, afforestation of new forests and promotion of  
150           the nutrient content of the soil, by:

151           a. investing in afforestation projects and projects that try to rebuild the natural humus  
152           layer;

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154 **14. Recommends** the responsible control of government owned land to prevent the  
155           exploitation of land and enable controlled sustainable use;

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157 **15. Calls for** higher legal regulations on the use of pesticides and herbicides such as:

158           a. Chemicals causing lasting damage,

159           b. Chemicals used in ways contaminating the groundwater;

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161 **16. Reminds** that the protection and restoration of terrestrial ecosystems is a global issue that  
162           all countries should try to solve together also, but not only through:

- 163 a. not discriminating against other countries through economic sanctions that limit a  
164 country's ability to fight this global issue,  
165 b. encouraging the forbidding of economic sanctions to interfere with the funding of a  
166 country's environmental goals;  
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- 168 **17. Calls upon** all nations, especially those with high greenhouse emissions, to create a  
169 national climate policies strategy, which:  
170 a. sets dated goals for the end of fossil fuels,  
171 b. defines measures to take to stop critical deforestation,  
172 c. specifies a waste management system;  
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- 174 **18. Urges** the development and implementation of ecological replacements in industrial  
175 processes, focusing on reducing carbon emissions caused by conventional cement  
176 production;  
177
- 178 **19. Strongly urges** its member states to find better ways to defend themselves against water  
179 shortages, water waste, floodings and droughts in endangered areas by:  
180 a. Working out methods to share water resources between nations,  
181 b. Creating water reservoirs,  
182 c. Help each other during ecological crises with equipment and rescue workers;  
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- 184 **20. Strongly urges** to increase the speed of measures taken, as the well-being of many  
185 (developing) countries depends on these decisions in climate policies;  
186
- 187 **21. Supports** any further ideas, measures, and strategies to combat and decrease the harmful  
188 effects of climate change on humans and nature;  
189
- 190 **22. Calls** upon the international community, relevant UN agencies, regional organisations, and  
191 development partners to provide technical and financial assistance to developing countries  
192 for the implementation of comprehensive measures aimed at protecting its fragile  
193 ecosystems by:  
194 a. aiding the developing countries with reforesting dry areas through projects,  
195 b. financially supporting local farmers in ecologically modernising their farms,  
196 c. creating incentives for farmers to cultivate sustainably;  
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- 198 **23. Encourages** the development and strengthening of partnerships between developing  
199 countries and industrial countries, as well as relevant international and regional  
200 organisations, to enhance capacity-building initiatives, knowledge-sharing, and best  
201 practices in sustainable ecosystem management;  
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- 203 **24. Urges** the establishment and enforcement of robust legal frameworks at the national,  
204 regional, and international levels to combat illegal activities, including:  
205 a. illegal resource extraction,  
206 b. deforestation,

- 207 c. wildlife trafficking,  
208 d. and pollution while ensuring the rights and participation of local communities in  
209 decision-making processes;  
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- 211 **25. Stresses** the need for increased investment in research and innovation to develop  
212 sustainable practices, technologies, and alternative livelihood options that minimize the  
213 negative impact on fragile ecosystems and promote the conservation of biodiversity;  
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- 215 **26. Calls upon** the international community to support developing countries in strengthening  
216 its environmental monitoring and enforcement capacities, including the deployment of  
217 modern surveillance technologies, training of law enforcement personnel, and collaboration  
218 in intelligence sharing to prevent and deter illegal activities;  
219
- 220 **27. Urges** all Member States to enhance public awareness and education campaigns, both  
221 nationally and internationally, to promote responsible behaviour, sustainable consumption  
222 patterns, and the appreciation of the intrinsic value of countries' fragile ecosystems like:  
223 a. lakes and seas that have lost up to 90% of their size due to climate change,  
224 b. deserts such as the Sahel zone that threatens the existence of many agricultures in  
225 developing countries through its increased spread,  
226 c. rain forests such as the Amazons rainforest that has lost close to 40% of its original  
227 size due to deforestation;  
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- 229 **28. Invites** the international community to support especially developing countries in its efforts  
230 to restore and rehabilitate degraded ecosystems, including through:  
231 a. reforestation programs,  
232 b. the promotion of sustainable agriculture,  
233 c. land management practices focusing on:  
234 i. the Investment in small and medium-sized farms and strengthening of  
235 ii. value chains,  
236 iii. local markets,  
237 iv. and the organization of exports,  
238 d. the establishment of protected areas,  
239 e. and wildlife corridors;  
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- 241 **29. Requests** the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) and other relevant bodies to  
242 provide technical expertise and guidance to especially developing countries in developing  
243 and implementing effective strategies for the conservation and sustainable management of  
244 its fragile ecosystems by focusing on:  
245 a. the increased capacity enhancing data collection, analysis and reporting systems,  
246 b. strengthening regional and multi-country regulatory, policy and budgetary  
247 frameworks for translating disaster and climate data into risk-informed  
248 development,

- 249 c. enhancing regional recovery and resilience-building processes that address  
250 underlying disaster and climate change risks and restore pathways to sustainable  
251 development in the threatened regions,  
252 d. enhancing regional capacities for urban risk management,  
253 e. enhancing innovations and knowledge of risk-informed development through  
254 regional dialogue and international exchange;  
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- 256 **30. Further requests** the establishment of a dedicated fund, with voluntary contributions from  
257 Member States, international organizations, and the private sector, to support especially  
258 developing country's initiatives for protecting fragile ecosystems and promoting  
259 sustainable development;  
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- 261 **31. Decides** to remain actively seized of the matter and requests the Secretary-General to report  
262 on the progress achieved in the implementation of this resolution to the General Assembly  
263 on an annual basis;  
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- 265 **32. Calls upon** all member states to strengthen their national legislation and regulatory  
266 frameworks to protect fragile ecosystems from exploitation, including but not limited to:  
267 a. establishing protected areas and implementing appropriate management measures  
268 to conserve and restore fragile ecosystems, taking into account the rights and needs  
269 of local communities and indigenous people;  
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- 271 **33. Encourages** member states to foster international cooperation and collaboration, including  
272 through regional and multilateral initiatives, to address the protection of fragile ecosystems,  
273 by:  
274 a. sharing best practices, lessons learned, and scientific knowledge on ecosystem  
275 conservation and restoration,  
276 b. promoting the exchange of experiences and expertise in sustainable land and  
277 resource management, including traditional and indigenous knowledge,  
278 c. facilitating technology transfer and providing technical assistance to developing  
279 countries to enhance their capacity in ecosystem monitoring, conservation, and  
280 restoration;  
281 d. promoting restoration specifically in nations dependent on fossil fuels,  
282 e. developing comprehensive strategies and action plans that integrate environmental  
283 considerations into relevant sectors, such as agriculture, fisheries, forestry, and  
284 urban planning, to ensure the sustainable management of ecosystems,  
285 f. strengthening law enforcement and monitoring mechanisms to prevent illegal  
286 activities, including poaching, illegal logging, and illegal wildlife trade, and  
287 enhancing international cooperation and information sharing to combat  
288 transnational environmental crimes;  
289
- 290 **34. Calls upon** relevant international organizations, including the United Nations Environment  
291 Programme, the United Nations Development Programme, and the Food and Agriculture

292 Organization, to provide technical support, capacity-building initiatives, and financial  
293 assistance to member states in their efforts to protect fragile ecosystems from exploitation;  
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- 295 **35. Calls upon** all member states to save terrestrial ecosystems from exploitation by other  
296 states/organizations/companies or any other foreign groups,  
297 a. in case of illegal exploitations by foreign groups, help from other member states  
298 should arrive,  
299 b. especially from the economical powerful countries with plenty of resources  
300 changing help is expected and necessary;  
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- 302 **36. Calls upon** all companies or organizations that operate illegally in foreign ecosystems to  
303 be held accountable internationally:  
304 a. companies operating illegally in foreign rainforests must be stopped with potential  
305 legal action taken internationally,  
306 b. law enforcement by member state cooperative establishing of a task force, including  
307 specialised and trained units, to target and engage major criminal networks and  
308 combat illegal activities in fragile ecosystems;  
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- 310 **37. Emphasizes** that every country should decide by their own self-determination about their  
311 rightfully owned ecosystems, preferably for the sake of climate change:  
312 a. helping, foreign or not foreign, organizations preferably should be accepted,  
313 b. every member state should act protectively and sustainable with their ecosystems,  
314 as they are important in the fight against global warming,  
315 c. deforestation should be done with caution and sustainable, preferably deforestation  
316 should not be done,  
317 d. every member state can decide which organization or company can operate in their  
318 ecosystems and should be allowed to use force against illegal operations,  
319 e. investing in sustainability of ecosystems is necessary, and especially developing  
320 countries should receive financial help by other member states;  
321

- 322 **38. Encourages** companies and organizations to invest in sustainable ecosystems;  
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- 324 **39. Encourages** funding for seeds of variant local crops that can grow in seawater (for ocean-  
325 adjacent states);  
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- 327 **40. Recommends** the expansion of mass tree planting campaigns globally that:

- 328 a. countries can choose the trees they want to plant in their borders,  
329 b. these efforts can be collaborative with NGOs;  
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- 331 **41. Calls upon** all nations to

- 332 a. invest in alternative energy sources in developing countries,  
333 b. diversify their top exports, and not rely on one natural resource so as to develop a  
334 stable economy,  
335 c. support each other in its ventures, whether its with financial aid or resources,



- 336 d. rethink their use of herbicides and pesticides,  
337 e. protect their intact ecosystems through:  
338 i. enacting a prohibition of building new roads through intact ecosystems,  
339 ii. enacting a prohibition of building residential and commercial areas or factories  
340 there,  
341 f. reduce monocultures,  
342 g. conduct better water management,  
343 h. work against over-fertilisation,  
344 i. make agriculture more sustainable,  
345 j. endorse any further ideas, measures and strategies which can be beneficial for the  
346 problem-solving process;  
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- 348 **42. Supports** ecotourism and its propagation in order to allow tourism-dependent countries to  
349 continue their economic growth with minimal environmental impact:  
350 a. encourages funding for developing or existing tourism that is trying to convert to  
351 eco-friendly methods,  
352 b. encourages member countries to share their ecotourism knowledge with each other  
353 to more efficiently and cleanly host tourists.  
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356 **Voting Results**  
357 In favour: 65  
358 Against: 0  
359 Abstentions: 2