

ECOSOC Resolution 2008/25

International cooperation in preventing and combating illicit international trafficking in forest products, including timber, wildlife and other forest biological resources

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 2001/12 of 24 July 2001 and 2003/27 of 22 July 2003, on illicit trafficking in protected species of wild flora and fauna, and its resolutions 2000/35 of 18 October 2000 and 2006/49 of 28 July 2006, concerning the international arrangements on forests,

Bearing in mind the relevance of international instruments such as the Convention on Biological Diversity¹ and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora,²

Recalling General Assembly resolution 62/98 of 17 December 2007, by which the Assembly adopted the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests, contained in the annex to that resolution,

Recalling also resolution 16/1 adopted by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its sixteenth session,³

Noting with concern that illicit international trafficking in forest products, including timber, wildlife and other forest biological resources, constitutes a major source of concern because such activities have an adverse environmental, social and economic impact on many countries,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the meeting of the Open-ended Expert Group on International Cooperation in Preventing and Combating Illicit International Trafficking in Forest Products, including Timber, Wildlife and Other Forest Biological Resources, held in Jakarta from 26 to 28 March 2008;⁴

2. *Encourages* Member States to continue to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with information on measures taken pursuant to Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 16/1,³ taking into consideration the emphasis that the Open-ended Expert Group, in its report, placed on, *inter alia*, the need for holistic and comprehensive national multisectoral approaches to preventing and combating illicit international trafficking in forest products, including timber, wildlife and other forest biological resources, as well as for international coordination and cooperation in support of such approaches, including through technical assistance activities to build the capacity of relevant national officials and institutions;

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

² *Ibid.*, vol. 993, No. 14537.

³ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2007, Supplement No. 10* (E/2007/30/Rev.1), chap. I, sect. D.

⁴ E/CN.15/2008/20.

3. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to make available the text of the present resolution and the report of the Open-ended Expert Group to the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime⁵ at its fourth session;

4. *Also requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to report on the implementation of the present resolution and to provide a brief summary of the mandates and the work of other relevant organizations in this area to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its eighteenth session.

*42nd plenary meeting
24 July 2008*

⁵ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.