

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME: CURRENT
AND EMERGING THREATS**
Rome, 29-30 October 2012

Points for Expert Group Roundtables discussion:

The Conference foresaw three Expert Groups roundtables held in parallel, during which participating experts discussed their specific topics and proposed recommendations to be included in the final document on environmental crime adopted at the conclusion of the conference.

Expert Group I – Environmental crime in the current international legal framework: current flaws and possible steps ahead

The Expert Group looked at improving international legislation and its implementation. Participants discussed flaws in the current international legal framework in relation to environmental crime at the regional and international level, and developed specific recommendations to promote compliance with and enforcement of international and regional legal framework.

Key discussion topics included:

1. Assessment of flaws and gaps of existing environmental law vis-à-vis current and emerging environmental crimes.
2. Concrete measures to assess and improve the implementation of existing environmental laws.
3. Coordination of criminal and environmental legislation.
4. Review of the application and effectiveness of current penalties and sanctions against environmental crimes.
5. Harmonization between current national and regional frameworks on environmental crime.
6. Concrete ways to further international cooperation to improve detection and prosecution of environmental crimes.

Expert Group II: Environmental crimes: a growing business for organised crime and corruption

The Expert Group looked at the role of organised crime and corruption in different environmental crimes. Participants discussed case studies from different countries or regions to identify trends, patterns and modalities of intervention and prepared specific recommendations on how to improve investigations and prevention, and better exchange information across borders.

Key discussion topics included:

1. Evidence of the connection between environmental crime and other serious crimes.

2. Evidence of the role of transnational criminal organizations and the influence of corruption in the phenomenon of environmental crime.
3. Applicability of United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organised Crime (UNTOC) and the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) in combating transnational environmental crime.
4. Concrete ways of improving detection and prosecution.
5. Concrete ways of improving cooperation and transnational knowledge-sharing.
6. Concrete ways of preventing the involvement of criminal organizations in the phenomenon of environmental crime.

Expert Group III - Illicit trafficking of waste: an international emergency

The Expert Group discussed the issue of illicit trafficking in waste (including toxic waste, e-waste, plastic etc.) as an emerging international threat, the increasing role of organised crime groups, its links with other serious crimes, such as counterfeiting, corruption, money laundering, and the role played by the different actors into this crime. Participants presented data and case studies to develop specific recommendations on how to improve of data collection and analysis, and exchange of information, and on how to improve international investigations in this field.

Key discussion topics included:

1. Evidence and cases of illicit transnational trafficking of waste, including toxic waste, e-waste, plastic, etc.
2. Evidence and cases of the role of transnational criminal organizations and corruption in the phenomenon of illicit trafficking of waste.
3. Evidence of the impact of illicit trafficking of waste on citizens' health, the environment and the economy.
4. Concrete ways of improving detection and prosecution.
5. Concrete ways of improving cooperation and transnational knowledge-sharing.
6. Concrete ways of preventing the phenomenon of illicit trafficking of waste.