

Code: UNEA/1/1

Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly

Topic: Protection of the Environment in Areas Affected by Armed Conflict

1 *The United Nations Environment Assembly,*

2 *Stressing the importance of assessing the effectiveness of current tools and the resources that exist within the*
3 *international law to protect the environment,*

4 *Noting* the United Nations Environment Programme released “Protecting the Environment During Armed Conflict:
5 An Inventory and Analysis of International Law” in 2009,

6 *Recalling* Agenda 21, adopted during the United Nations Conference of Environment and Development at Rio de
7 Janeiro, Brazil in 1992 which encourages all Member States to cooperate in the field of environmental law,

8 *Further recalling* on the guidelines for military manuals and instructions on the protection of the environment in
9 times of armed conflict adopted by the 26th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in Geneva
10 of 1995,

11 *Reaffirming* the article 6, section B (IV) of the *Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court* in defining
12 environmental damage during intentional militaristic attacks as violations of international law,

13 *Acknowledging* the work of the General Assembly, which promotes the progressive development of public
14 international law within the international community,

15 *Realizing* the lack of implementation and signatories on the *Convention on the Prohibition of Military or the use of*
16 *Environmental Modification Techniques* to which state parties agree to not engage in deliberate tactics that have
17 long lasting effects on the Environment,

18 *Referring* to the International Campaign to Ban Landmines, of which only 80% of countries have joined,

19 *Observing* the Global Environmental Outlook, which detailed regional assessments of environmental issues released
20 to the United Nations Environment Assembly affecting the world’s six major regions,

21 1. *Recommends* Member States to develop a pre-conflict expert monitoring group specialized in the environmental
22 protection and human rights to:

23 a. Pinpoint the areas affected by environmental damage;

24 b. Identify the long-term consequences of environmental damage during conflict;

25 c. Presenting summary reports to the United Nations Environment Assembly containing the direct,
26 indirect and institutional environmental impact that occur as a result to armed conflict and report
27 finding to the General Assembly;

28 2. *Suggests* all Member States to consider updating their current environmental laws on an annual basis to ensure
29 strategic solutions concerning modern weapons of war and report to the General Assembly with appropriate
30 changes and enhancing the cooperation between national legal experts to implement these environmental laws
31 adequately;

32 3. *Calls upon* the General Assembly to expand upon the vague definitions of “widespread,” “long-term,” and
33 “severe,” with which are currently the necessary elements to be in violation of international law during the
34 International Law Commission;

- 50
- 51 4. *Urges* all Member States to implement the 1994 guidelines, given by the International Red Cross, into domestic
52 legislation to ensure that international law protecting the environment in times of armed conflict is indeed put
53 into practice;
- 54
- 55 5. *Requests* Member States to voluntarily submit annual summary reports to be presented in front of the General
56 Assembly containing direct, indirect, and institutional environmental impacts that occur as a result of long term
57 armed conflict;
- 58
- 59 6. *Emphasizes* the need for developing Member States to enhance national legislative capabilities in the field of
60 environmental law and to strengthen institution by:
- 61
- 62 a. Utilizing the support of the International Law Commission to analyze national environmental
63 legislation and to propose recommendations of the substantial laws to be revised;
- 64
- 65 b. Enhancing the multilateral cooperation between national legal experts to come to hold environmental
66 law, and the recommendation of violators to International judicial bodies, in higher recognition;
- 67
- 68 7. *Further recognizes* the United Nations Mine Action Service, which helps provide professional assistance to
69 Member States for cleaning landmines and develop multi-year assistance by:
- 70
- 71 a. Submitting an annual report to the General Assembly in relations to the current status of the
72 frameworks being practically implemented with the agenda to complete landmine cleaning by 2030;
- 73
- 74 b. Reminding State Parties to observe the *Conventions and forbid the production, exporting, stockpiling
75 and usage of anti-personnel landmines, especially in environmentally vulnerable areas*;
- 76
- 77 8. Reaching agreements on the fulfillment of responsibilities as mandated in the convention, and to cooperate with
78 other Member States and non-government organizations in the provision of technical and financial assistance;
- 79
- 80 9. *Urges* the General Assembly to reconvene on the *Convention on the Prohibition of Military or any other
81 Hostile use of Environmental Modification Techniques* with the goal of achieving greater consensus and
82 implementation on the matter through possible revisions by:
- 83
- 84 a. Encouraging Member States that are currently signatories to the convention to ratify it within their own
85 states;
- 86
- 87 b. Collaborating with Member States to update the *Convention on the Prohibition of Military or any
88 other Hostile use of Environmental Modification Techniques* to incorporate new technologies, policies,
89 information, and tactics;
- 90
- 91 c. Cooperating with Member States who have and have not signed the *Convention on the Prohibition of
92 Military or any other Hostile use of Environmental Modification Techniques* to come to a mutually
93 beneficial consensus;
- 94
- 95 10. *Strongly encourages* Member States to support the creation of a geographical and equitable group of experts
96 who will meet on an annual basis in order to create and maintain an international standard of measure of
97 environmental damage through the Environmental Cooperation for Peacebuilding Programs.

Code: UNEA/2/1

Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly

Topic: Protection of the Environment in Areas Affected by Armed Conflict

1 *The United Nations Environment Assembly,*

2 *Fully aware* of the necessity of preventing armed conflict, particularly in environmentally sensitive areas,

3 *Emphasizing* the need for predictive measures to prepare all environmental areas for their sensitivity of the
4 possibility of conflict,

5 *Noting with satisfaction* the progress of the *Non-Proliferation Treaty* which aims to prevent the spread of nuclear
6 weapons and the work done by the United Nations Office of Disarmament Affairs which incentivizes Member
7 States to autonomously disarm to be compliant with the principle of the universal right to safety found in the
8 *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*,

9 *Expressing its appreciation* with the work of United Nations Office of Disarmament Affairs in promoting
10 confidence-building measures as a method to achieve a state of trust and confidence between Member States and the
11 United Nations in regards to weapons of mass destruction,

12 *Acknowledges* the success of Global Environment Monitoring Systems/Water Programme and *Convention on the*
13 *Prohibition of Military or Any Other Hostile Use of Environmental Modification Techniques*,

14 *Taking into consideration* the void left by the dissolution of the Division of Early Warning and Assessment of the
15 United Nations Environment Programme, which provided efficient predictive measures for preventing extensive
16 environmental damage in areas prone to conflict,

17 *Affirming* General Assembly resolution 71/220 of 3 February 2017 which addresses the relationship between
18 chemical weapons and the declining quality of clean drinking water,

19 *Reiterating* its resolution 2/15 of 4 August 2016 for the need of an education processes in order to prevent armed
20 conflict, and to increase knowledge of the Member States to protect and sustain an environment and its natural
21 resources,

22 1. *Calls* for the re-establishment of the Division of Early Warning Assessment that would work to prevent future
23 environmental threats by:

24 a. Establishing criteria to identify environmentally sensitive areas where Member States could take steps
25 to reduce the impact of potential armed conflict;

26 b. Recommending Member States utilize a mutually agreed upon, certified and qualified observer
27 between the DEWA and the Member State government to evaluate the environmental situation as it is
28 observed;

29 c. Encouraging Member States take into account recommendations made by the observer and the
30 Division of Early Warning and Assessment on the reduction of environmental damage from potential
31 armed conflict;

32 2. *Encourages* Member States to continue supporting the Confidence Building Measures outlined by the United
33 Nations Office of Disarmament Affairs which aim to increase transparency in armaments, advance notification
34 of military exercises, establishment of demilitarized zones, and joint peacekeeping troops through:

- 49 a. Information sharing about arms and weapons to the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms
50 which encourages a reduction in transfer and production of arms and lead to preventive diplomacy;
51
- 52 b. Supporting the United Nations Report on Military Expenditures to harness confidence between
53 Member States;
- 54
- 55 3. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to discuss the parameters for the development and implementation
56 of a public education program, which prioritizes the reduction of environmental degradation in order to:
- 57
- 58 a. Offer access to knowledge of potential disaster threats to vulnerable Member States including
59 technological and natural risks;
- 60
- 61 b. Educate local governments and citizens within Member States not traditionally affected by nuclear
62 arms of the environmental dangers presented by conflict;
- 63
- 64 4. *Recommends* the General Assembly to discuss forming a five-year reporting system that would aim to gauge the
65 steps being taken by Member States towards improving environmental health and prevention of armed conflict;
- 66
- 67 5. *Invites* the General Assembly to include in its debate regarding nuclear disarmament and the impact of nuclear
68 weapons have on the environment;
- 69
- 70 6. *Supports* the contribution of Global Environment Monitoring Systems /Water Programme mentioned in its
71 resolution 1/9 of 27 June 2014, for its contribution towards improving environment quality;
- 72
- 73 7. *Urges* the General Assembly to allocate funds towards implementing scientific methods and research, to
74 fundamentally improve the quality of the environment in areas that have been affected by armed conflict as a
75 post-conflict measure;
- 76
- 77 8. *Further recommends* that Member States work actively to contribute complete, accurate, and up-to-date
78 environmental information to the United Nations Environmental Data Explorer to generate more relevant
79 reports available to the public;
- 80
- 81 9. *Calls upon* Member States to adhere to environmental and humanitarian law during conflict.

Code: UNEA/1/3

Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly

Topic: Protection of the Environment in Areas Affected by Armed Conflict

1 *The United Nations Environment Assembly,*

2 *Alarmed by the lack of specific agreed-upon definitions and distinctions among environmentally damaging arms*
3 *themselves, which obscures the relative environmental impact of different kinds of weapons,*

4 *Recognizing the need to expand the scope of the *Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons* to encompass*
5 *environmental aspects of degradation and the human suffering caused by this degradation,*

6 *Noting with deep concern the shortcomings of the *Convention on the Prohibition of Military or Any Other Hostile**

7 *Use of Environmental Modification Techniques*, which has not resulted in a firm and standardized position on the

8 *use of chemical herbicides in armed conflict,*

9 *Reaffirming the importance of General Assembly resolution 47/37 of 9 February 1993 regarding environmental*
10 *conservatism prior to armed conflict,*

11 *Acknowledging previous post-assessments on armed conflict including version 2.0 the United States Agency for*
12 *International Development Conflict Assessment Framework, in which section 4 focuses on post-conflict assessment*
13 *prioritizing possible responses as well as the importance of the *Convention on Cluster Munition* in order to preserve*
14 *the environment and crucial resources from munitions and explosives left after conflicts have ceased,*

15 *Realizing the importance of Member States working collaboratively with the existing and established inter-agency*
16 *force to extract regional and global environmental data in post-conflict regions,*

17 *Affirms the work of NGO VOICE (Voluntary Organizations in Cooperation in Emergencies), a network that funds*
18 *projects in humanitarian and environmental aspects, and emphasize the importance for other Member States to join*
19 *in the contribution,*

20 *Fully Aware of the importance of environmental health impact assessments of the World Health Organization as an*
21 *effective way of assessing the impact and depth of environmental damage and humanitarian damage caused by*
22 *armed conflict,*

23 *Recognizing the prominent role of natural resource allocation, ownership and access in the process of peacebuilding*
24 *and peacekeeping as outlined in the United Nations Environment Programme report entitled “From Conflict to*
25 *Peacebuilding: The Role of Natural Resources and the Environment,”*

26 *Emphasizing the statement of UN Environment Executive Director Erik Solheim on the International Day of Peace*
27 *in 2016, which referred to the importance of protecting the environment and civilians from the targeting of natural*
28 *resources with weapons and other methods of degradation,*

29 *Reaffirming the precedents set forth by the 1976 *Convention on the Prohibition of Military or Any Other Hostile Use**

30 *of Environmental Modification Techniques* regarding the terms of the triple cumulative standard,

31 *Recalling General Assembly resolution 64/292 of 3 August 2010, on the right to safe and clean water and sanitation*
32 *as a human right that is essential for the full enjoyment of life and all human rights,*

33 *Emphasizing the role of non-governmental organizations in pre-conflict assessment of previous environmental*
34 *degradation and in recognition of the necessity for post-conflict reconstruction peace solutions,*

- 49 1. *Recommends* the expansion of the *Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons* to become more inclusive to
50 encompass environmental damage by:
51
52 a. Calling for substantive changes to be made at the next review conference;
53
54 b. Including adverse environmental damage as an additional protocol that should be addressed within the
55 *Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons*, to alleviate humanitarian issues caused by
56 environmental degradation;
57
58 c. Expanding upon Protocol V of the *Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons* to also recognize the
59 serious post-conflict humanitarian problems caused by other environmentally devastating weapons that
60 fall outside of the category of explosive ordnance;
- 61 2. *Recommends* that the *Convention on the Prohibition of Military or Any Other Hostile Use of Environmental
Modification Techniques* agreement be modified to address the weaponized use of herbicides more forcefully,
62 by:
63
64 a. Calling for a review conference by states party to the *Convention on the Prohibition of Military or Any
Other Hostile Use of Environmental Modification Techniques*;
65
66 b. Condemning, unconditionally and without exception, the use of chemical herbicides as a method of
67 warfare;
68
69 c. Drawing attention to the intergenerational consequences of herbicides which can damage the
70 ecosystem irreparably, leading to far-reaching agricultural and ecological problems;
- 71 3. *Suggest* Member States implement federal regulations limiting militant capacity in accordance with the 1996
72 International Committee of the Red Cross guidelines on military practices for protection of the environment in
73 areas and in times affected by armed conflict and:
74
75 a. Encourages Member States to work with public and private entities to efficiently reduce environmental
76 degradation due to armed conflict;
77
78 b. Prioritizes the protection of natural resources through recommendations that enhance legal frameworks
79 established by the international Law Commission (ILC) to minimize environmental degradation;
- 80 4. *Recommends* the creation of a new assessment program under the United Nations Environment Programme
81 which addresses environmental post conflict assessment including environmental clean-up caused by damaging
82 after effects of leftover munitions and other adverse substances and actions, with a focus on areas including
83 water resources, oil wells, and agriculturally based lands so as to ensure the protection of natural resources and
84 the preservation of the environment:
- 85 5. *Further recommends* that this program reports annually to the United Nations Environment Assembly through
86 an executive summary and be updated annually to be presented with the collective data in an executive
87 summary to the UNEA;
- 88 6. *Recommends* the environmental health impact assessment to include the depth of environmental damage caused
89 by armed conflict and its extent of influence upon human health during and post conflict by:
90
91 a. Focusing particular attention to lack of hygienic water and access to food;
92
93 b. Tracking physiological and mental conditions that are present in conflict zones;
- 94 7. *Recommends* that the General Assembly adopt the following terms under the *Geneva Convention*:

Code: UNEA/1/4

Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly

Topic: Protection of the Environment in Areas Affected by Armed Conflict

1 *The United Nations Environment Assembly,*

2 *Emphasizing the importance of post-war regional stability in preventing future conflicts,*

3 *Acknowledging the key role of the environment on the cultures and economies of Member States,*

4 *Bearing in mind that the environment is the silent victim of armed conflicts,*

5 *Recalling its resolution 2/15 of 4 August 2016, entitled “Protection of the Environment in Areas Affected by Armed*
6 *Conflict,”*

7 *Observing how damage inflicted onto world heritage sites in environmental areas involved in armed conflict have*
8 *negative impacts on history, culture, and the future of the global environment,*

9 *Guided by the “Greening the Blue Helmet” Initiative which aims to combat and minimize the environmental impacts*
10 *of the peacekeeping missions such as securitizing political, socio-economic, military and technical opportunities for*
11 *the betterment of vulnerable societies gravely affected by this issue at hand,*

12 *Recognizing the mission of the United Nations Development Programme on post-conflict reconstruction to establish*
13 *peacekeeping and rebuilding frameworks in areas of armed conflict,*

14 *Guided by the success of the Afghanistan Conservation Corps in implementing 350 sub-projects revitalizing 3,200*
15 *hectares of forestry as well as increasing local incomes by 30%,*

16 *Recalling article 55 of Additional Protocol I which deals with the protection of the environment during military*
17 *conflict, and the customary international humanitarian law that protects non-combatant civilians and the methods in*
18 *which war could be conducted,*

19 *Emphasizing the importance of facilitating the transfer of specific knowledge and previous improvements on areas*
20 *affected by armed conflict by new technology,*

21 *Recognizing the work of the International Commission of Irrigation and Drainage, aimed to expand a professional*
22 *network of experts in the field of irrigation, on the drainage for safe water and infrastructure,*

23 *Noting with appreciation the approval by the World Bank of a \$400 million USD financial package to further*
24 *finance the Iraq Emergency Operation for Development Project in attempt to rebuild and restore the infrastructure*
25 *and public services in areas of Iraq recently emancipated from Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS),*

26 *Acknowledging the post-conflict peacebuilding achieved by the Declaration of Goma (2005) in which participating*
27 *Member States worked collaboratively to improve their shared park system,*

28 *Recognizing the disastrous impact of invasive species introduced ballast water of battleships and military transport*
29 *vessels,*

30 1. *Recommends the Food and Agricultural Organization collaborate with civil society to aid in rebuilding*
31 *communities affected by armed conflict through:*

- 48 a. Programs aimed at repairing land damaged by armed conflict and developing green economy that
49 combines local knowledge and modern technologies;
- 50 b. Repairing environmental infrastructures post-conflict, focusing on implementing sustainable
51 agricultural practices including:
- 52 i. Adoption of water saving technologies and water management solutions;
53 ii. Use of organic fertilizers derived from animal wastes and vegetable matter;
54 iii. Prevention of soil erosion through soil management techniques such as no-till farming,
55 incorporation of wind breaks and reduction of chemical fertilizers;
- 56 2. *Requests* Member States to share environmental resources transnationally through joint management of land
57 resources and developments of programs to promote public participation in environmental protection;
- 58 3. *Encourages* the General Assembly to hold discussions on decontamination methods for post-conflict
59 environmental cleanup in affected areas;
- 60 4. *Confirms* its support for the “Greening the Blue Helmets” Initiative in supporting positive environment action in
61 times of peacekeeping;
- 62 5. *Recommends* the United Nations Economic and Social Council to assist Member States in the implementation
63 of post-conflict reconstruction by the United Nations Development Programme by:
- 64 a. Expanding existing programs to include an environmental focus through collaboration with the United
65 Nations Environment Programme and non-governmental organizations dealing with environmental
66 issues;
- 67 b. Working Jointly with United Nations Development Programme in holding the World Humanitarian
68 Conference to discuss humanitarian conflict intervention and reconstruction;
- 69 6. *Urges* the implementation of a Conservation Corps framework which will consist of:
- 70 a. Identification of environmentally strained areas and implementation collaboration with the
71 administration of the Economic and Social Council, the United Nations Development Programme, and
72 the United Nations Environment Programme;
- 73 b. Collaboration between the United Nations Environment Programme, Member States, and local
74 communities to conserve biodiversity and create structures to manage the local environment
- 75 c. Implementation of public-private partnerships in conjunction with multinational corporations to
76 employ the local populations for the execution of this proposal;
- 77 7. *Encourages* an initiative administered by the United Nations Environment Programme in conjunction with other
78 United Nations development agencies which would expedite the post-conflict process by implementing
79 investment between the private sector and local businesses which are located in areas of recent armed conflict to
80 foster environmental reconstruction;
- 81 8. *Requests* the General Assembly to engage in discourse with the Economic and Social Council, the International
82 Maritime Organization, and the United Nations Environment Programme to reduce the transport of invasive
83 species on warring vessels;
- 84 9. *Requests* the General Assembly to further implement existing legal guidelines that address damage inflicted
85 onto world heritage sites proactively including policies in regards to minimizing the scale of damage during the
86 post-conflict stages by:

- 102
- 103 a. Expanding the office of the Bureau of Strategic Planning of the United Nations Educational, Scientific
104 and Cultural Organization, focusing on risk management to further strengthen policies and an
105 emergency plans in times of armed conflict;
- 106
- 107 b. Continuing research under the partition of the United Nations Environment Programme regarding
108 possible future risks to the environment in areas of world heritage sites;
- 109
- 110 10. *Recommends* all Member States to use information from the Food and Agriculture Organization and the United
111 Nations Environmental Programme to incorporate case studies which engage institutions and private sectors,
112 and to contribute to the AQUASTAT databases of the Food and Agricultural Organization and the annual
113 reports of the United Nations Environment Programme effectively to proceed research and development in
114 areas affected by armed conflicts in order to best seek methods for recovery from;
- 115
- 116 11. *Encourages* programming in affected communities which would include:
- 117
- 118 a. Collaborating with the World Bank, African Development Bank and the Asian Infrastructure
119 Investment Bank to finance sectors of water and sanitation, electricity, health, transport and municipal
120 services;
- 121
- 122 b. Contributing to sectors of education, agriculture, irrigation, and urban service delivery;
- 123
- 124 c. Restoring and preserving cultural heritage sites and assets under the administration of the United
125 Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;
- 126
- 127 d. Improving the education of children and promoting the employment of women, youth, and the poor
128 regardless of societal structure under the administration of the United Nations Children's Fund;
- 129
- 130 e. Marketing to the private sector for the purpose of promoting the participation in funding and
131 reconstruction efforts;
- 132
- 133 f. Suggesting the United Nations Economic and Social Council to assist Member States in efforts to
134 rebuild critical channels of infrastructure including but, not limited to, regional airport and public
135 transportation terminals and crucial components of the railway network.

Code: UNEA/1/5

Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly

Topic: Protection of the Environment in Areas Affected by Armed Conflict

1 *The United Nations Environment Assembly,*

2
3 *Recognizing* the significant work on environmental protection carried out in the framework of the United Nations
4 Environment Programme on aiding in monitoring and reducing the impacts of environmental degradation from
5 armed conflicts,

6
7 *Aware of* the critical importance of protecting the environment at all times, especially in the post-conflict period,

8
9 *Fully supporting* existing national and regional monitoring institutions and programs which prevent the exploitation
10 of the environment in armed conflict,

11
12 *Appreciating* the work of academia, local experts, non-governmental organizations, and scientists who provide
13 expertise upon this matter,

14
15 *Noting with appreciation* General Assembly resolutions 55/2 of 8 September 2000 entitled “United Nations
16 Millennium Declaration” and 70/1 of 21 October 2015 entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for
17 Sustainable Development,” which indicate the necessity to invest in future generations,

18
19 *Endorsing* General Assembly resolutions 50/70 of 15 January 1996, 53/242 of 10 August 1999, and 57/337 of 18
20 July 2003, which recognize the need for coordinating the prevention of armed conflict throughout the UN system,

21
22 *Acknowledging* the report of the United Nations Environment Programme entitled “Protecting the Environment
23 during Armed Conflict: An Inventory and Analysis of International Law 2009,” which reviewed current
24 international law that has been ineffective and unused in the protection of the environment,

25
26 *Taking note* of the ongoing process being undertaken of redefining international laws to create global standards on
27 environmental protection during armed conflict by the International Law Commission, including its second report on
28 the protection of the environment in relation to armed conflict (A/CN.4/685),

29
30 *Taking into account* pre-existing frameworks and resolutions regarding the protection of the environment during
31 armed conflict such as the *Convention on the Prohibition of Military or Any Other Hostile Use of Environmental
32 Modification Techniques* (1978),

33
34 1. *Recommends* the General Assembly include protection of the environment during discussion of disarmament;

35
36 2. *Calls* upon Member States to continue support for prevention programmes, projects, and policies aimed at
37 reducing the impacts of armed conflicts on the natural environment;

38
39 3. *Expresses its satisfaction with* Member States who submit reports to the International Law Commission to
40 demonstrate their commitment to environmental preservation efforts during times of warfare;

41
42 4. *Suggests* Member States create regional agreements encouraging mutual cooperation and resource sharing,
43 allowing long term actions for the protection of the environment on a regional scale;

44
45 5. *Encourages* Member States to utilize an Environmental Impact Assessment that provides qualitative data to
46 more easily assess the needs of States’ military programs and be cognizant of the intensity of damages;

- 48 6. *Requests* that Member States refine and implement existing legal framework such as applying those guidelines
49 drafted by the International Committee of the Red Cross in 1996, including those values declared in Section III
50 Article 8;
- 51 7. *Supports* the creation of an annual report, submitted to the General Assembly, on the protection of the
52 environment during armed conflict, based on the former recommendation by the United Nations Environment
53 Programme for a permanent United Nations body, which would monitor, assess, and report on environmental
54 damage during and post conflict to support accountability.
- 55

Code: UNEA/1/6

Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly

Topic: Protection of the Environment in Areas Affected by Armed Conflict

1 *The United Nations Environment Assembly,*

2 *Keeping in mind* the report of the United Nations Environment Programme entitled “Protection of the Environment
3 During Armed Conflicts: An Inventory and Analysis of International Law”, which provides an overview of issues
4 related to the protection of the environment during armed conflicts situations,

5 *Recognizing* the existence of diverse sources of information and that variety in research and contextual engagement
6 are essential to our approach in realizing the information necessary to resolve the environmental issue at hand,

7 *Further recognizing* the urgency of all Member States in understanding the rehabilitation of war-torn landscapes for
8 the project of adaptable solutions in order to restore the health of the environment and ecosystems,

9 *Recalling* its resolution 2/15 of 3 August 2016, which stresses the critical importance of protecting the environment
10 at all times, especially during armed conflict, and of its restoration in the post-conflict period,

11 *Having considered* Agenda 21(A/S-19/29) that calls for an inter-agency task force that researches the best ways to
12 identify environmental issues, especially in conflict zones,

13 1. *Encourages* the active involvement of the civil society to provide mechanisms to restore the local ecosystem
14 post conflict through local programming;

15 2. *Supports* the establishment of the Grassroots Innovation and Solution Task Force as its subsidiary committee,
16 mandated to gather and consolidate information from local stakeholders about their environments to restore
17 local ecology post-conflict;

18 3. *Invites* Member States to work with and facilitate the involvement of local stakeholders in the gathering of such
19 information;

20 4. *Encourages* Member States to actively support GIST by supporting the sharing of information of the state of
21 local environments impacted by armed conflict and actively reporting on the latest rehabilitation and reintegration
22 measures in the community.

Code: UNEA/1/7

Committee: United Nations Environment Assembly

Topic: Protection of the Environment in Areas Affected by Armed Conflict

1 *The United Nations Environment Assembly,*

2
3 *Supporting* General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 21 October 2015 entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030
4 Agenda for Sustainable Development,” specifically Goal 15, life on land, which aims to protect, restore, and
5 promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems and halting and reversing land degradation and biodiversity loss,

6
7 *Guided by* the international commitment of its resolution 2/15 of 3 August 2016 that stresses the role of healthy
8 ecosystems, sustainably managed resources, and environmental restoration in the post-conflict period, to reduce the
9 risk of armed conflict,

10
11 *Noting with satisfaction* the success of the Peace Parks Foundation in establishing Transfrontier Conservation Areas
12 and aiding conflict-impacted ecosystems in fostering peaceful relationships that will provide livelihoods, jobs, and
13 infrastructures to achieve environmental sustainability within communities,

14
15 *Expressing its appreciation* of the installation of national Biosphere Reserves which are used to further understand
16 humanity’s relationship with the natural world, through programs of public awareness, information and education,
17 based on a long-term, inter-generational perspective,

18
19 *Recognizing* that collaborative initiatives between governments, non-governmental organizations, and local
20 communities promote lasting regional peace and stability,

21
22 *Believing* that environmental education leads to better awareness and appreciation of natural resources that will
23 mitigate future conflict and inspire peaceful relationships,

24
25 *Recalling* the KIT: World Heritage in Young Hands curriculum, developed at the 1998 World Heritage Youth
26 Forum, that teaches ecologically sustainable behavior, cultural respect, and global citizenship by teaching children
27 about World Heritage Sites,

28
29 *Further recalling* the Cultural Education Program, which includes education of cultural sites in curriculum, raises
30 awareness, and immerses individuals with the culture of the area when visiting parks and sites,

31
32 *Deeply conscious* that the first step to environmental recovery and lasting regional peace is based upon fostering
33 economic development and equity between Member States,

34
35 *Encouraging* private sector development, vocational education, and training through collaborative initiatives like the
36 Centre for International Migration and Development Experts Programme that dispatches highly qualified experts
37 with organizations in developing countries,

38
39 *Seeking* the improvement of environmental conditions and securing tangible community benefits through
40 partnership-based initiatives including the National Coalition on Gas Flaring and Oil Spills in the Niger Delta, which
41 partnered with local entities to clean up oil spills and recover local lands for sustainable use,

42
43 1. *Suggests* the establishment of Transfrontier Conservation Areas to be known as “Peace Parks,” which allow
44 bordering Member States to voluntarily share responsibility in restoration and stewardship of the land and
45 natural resources, which in turn prevents future environmentally-damaging conflicts through a common goal of
46 preserving and sustaining their shared resources;

- 48 2. *Recommends* the General Assembly to create the “Protecting the Environment from Armed Conflict
49 Exploitation (P.E.A.C.E.) Parks Program” that will:
50
51 a. Identify suitable locations for the creation of P.E.A.C.E. Parks by utilizing information reported
52 annually by a working group within the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural
53 Organization gathered through on-ground surveyors about the state of natural resources in vulnerable
54 areas;
55
56 b. Encourage cooperation on key issues related to conservation and sustainable use of shared natural
57 resources and ecosystems;
58
59 c. Foster appreciation of other cultures and better understanding between nations;
60
61 d. Establish educational programs and facilities on P.E.A.C.E. Park lands which promote appreciation of
62 historic and natural resources directly preventing conflicts afflicting important cultural sites;
63
64 e. Facilitate training programs in science and research for the ecological rehabilitation which will lead to
65 further understanding of cultural sites and the local environment for future generations;
66
67 f. Support the economic stability of local communities through employment and education of local
68 people;
69
70 g. Assist in developing local economies adjacent to the P.E.A.C.E. Parks through engagement of the
71 private sector and vocational education to ensure sustainable economic development and capacity
72 building in partner countries;
73
74 h. Promote ecotourism by instituting a plan to attract visitors from around the world to benefit from these
75 lands in a non-invasive way via sustainable tourism enhancing awareness of local peoples, customs,
76 and cultures.