



American Model United Nations
General Assembly Plenary (Concurrent)

GA Plen/II/5

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Nature knows no borders: transboundary cooperation—a key factor for biodiversity conservation, restoration and sustainable use

SUBMITTED TO: The General Assembly Plenary (Concurrent)

The General Assembly Plenary (Concurrent),

1 *Acknowledging* the importance of cooperation within regions who share cross-border biomes,

2 *Taking note* of the need to maintain connectivity across ecosystems that requires cooperation among range
3 States inhabited by a certain species,

4 *Emphasizing* that large transboundary biomes are essential for all life on Earth and to maintain the balance
5 for the world such as the Amazon Rainforest and the Arctic Circle,

6 *Recognizing* the historical division between developing and developed States on environmental issues and the
7 pressing need to resolve this divide, ,

8 *Affirming* the work done by international biome organizations such as the Convention on International Trade
9 in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) to distribute the funding for countries in need for dealing
10 with biodiversity degradation and climate change,

11 1. *Encourages* the establishment of regional, intergovernmental organization to be named the Shared Biome
12 Agency (SBA) to enhance international cooperation for the protection of cross-border biomes that function in the
13 following way:

14 (a) The SBA shall be responsible for the following;

15 (i) Increasing international exchange of information, expertise and technology on the preservation
16 of regional biomes that are high in ecological value;

17 (ii) Providing scientific, ecological information to support biome-specific subcommittees, the func-
18 tions of which are outlined below;

19 (b) The plan will rely on expertise and science from the Environment Programme to identify key
20 biomes of interest (BOI), based on the following measures;

21 (i) Diversity of species;

22 (ii) Biocapacity of the area;

23 (iii) Air quality;

24 (iv) Decline in biomass in the last 50 years;

25 (v) Extinction of species in the last 50 years;

26 (vi) Decline in water resources in the last 50 years;

27 (c) A SBA subcommittee shall be created around each BOI with State membership conforming to
28 the following criteria;

29 (i) A portion of the territory occupied by the BOI is located within the Member State's borders;

30 (ii) The Member State pledges to work sincerely across State-specific interests to promote environ-
31 mental conservation;

32 (d) Each SBA subcommittee specific to a BOI should convene with the following guidelines;

33 (i) Meetings shall be held at least twice a year to discuss biome-related matters;

34 (ii) Binding decisions on common biome preservation policies shall be agreed upon with at least 70%
35 of Member States in favor;

36 (e) Each SBA subcommittee should discuss and come to an agreement on environmental issues,
37 should they be appropriate to the type of biome, including but not limited to;

38 (i) Share of water resources and waterways, including the constructions of hydroelectric dams;

39 (ii) Restrictions on commercial and industrial access to important biomes in order to minimize
40 exploitation and destruction of natural resources;

41 (iii) Protections of the rights of indigenous communities whose stewardship of land supports biodi-
42 versity in BOIs;

43 (f) The SBA will work in cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural
44 Organization (UNESCO) in order to make an evaluation of the policies that countries are following to protect this
45 international biomes, aiming to ensure that countries are;

46 (i) Properly using the funds assigned to these governments;

47 (ii) Following similar policies for the protection of a specific cross-boundary biome;

48 2. *Recommends* the creation of a Sustainable Development Fund (SDF) to provide the SBA the with the
49 ability to adequately protect these essential biomes, with the following details:

50 (a) The financial sources of the Sustainable Development Fund can include the following;

51 (i) Higher-income countries, as part of their pledge to provide finance to lower-income countries to
52 combat climate change;

53 (ii) Private corporations, especially those in relevant industries such as agriculture and energy, under
54 the encouragement of national governments and the international community;

55 (iii) Joint initiatives with existing Non-governmental Organizations;

56 (b) The fund will only be available for members of the SBA and these governments can use it to
57 finance plans with the following goals;

58 (i) Discourage poaching, logging, overfishing and other resource abuses;

59 (ii) Ensure the space and safety for endangered species;

60 (iii) Generate local and global awareness for the importance of essential biomes;

61 (c) The SDF funding shall be given with the following specific considerations;

62 (i) Priority should be given to lower-income countries;

63 (ii) Priority should be given to countries with larger areas of the BOIs concerned;

64 (iii) Funds shall not be used for any military purposes;

65 (d) The SDF should have a holistic approach to supporting the sustainable development of lower-
66 income countries, by providing funding to economic initiatives with environmental protections as conditions, so
67 that;

68 (i) An economic incentive is provided to lower-income countries to support environmental protec-
69 tions;

70 (ii) The economic potential of lower-income countries is not disregarded;

71 (iii) Genuine sustainable development can be pursued in the long term.

Passed, Yes: 46 / No: 6 / Abstain: 14