



PE564.905v01-00

3.7.2015

AMENDMENTS

1 - 39

Draft motion for a resolution

Linda McAvan

(PE560.703v01-00)

on the protection of the Virunga National Park in the Democratic Republic of Congo

Amendment 1
Louis Michel

Draft motion for a resolution
Citation 5 a (new)

Draft motion for a resolution

Amendment

– having regard to the Final Statement of the agreement reached in complaint from WWF International against SOCO International of July 2014,

Or. en

Amendment 2
Judith Sargentini, Maria Heubuch
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Draft motion for a resolution
Citation 5 a (new)

Draft motion for a resolution

Amendment

– having regard to the Final Statement of the agreement reached in complaint from WWF International against SOCO International of July 2014,

Or. en

Amendment 3
Louis Michel

Draft motion for a resolution
Recital A

Draft motion for a resolution

Amendment

A. whereas the VNP, located in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), in the Provinces of North-Kivu and 'Province Orientale', on the border with Rwanda and Uganda, is Africa's oldest national park, a

A. whereas the VNP, located in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), in the Provinces of North-Kivu and 'Province Orientale', on the border with Rwanda and Uganda, is Africa's oldest national park, a

UNESCO World Heritage Site, and is globally renowned for its unique habitats and rich biodiversity, making it the most biodiverse park in Africa;

UNESCO World Heritage Site, and is globally renowned for its unique habitats and rich biodiversity, making it the most biodiverse park in Africa: *in particular the Park is renowned for its mountain gorillas, a critically endangered species listed on the Appendix I of the 1973 Convention on the Illegal Trade on Endangered Species (CITES)*;

Or. en

Amendment 4

Judith Sargentini, Maria Heubuch
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Draft motion for a resolution **Recital A**

Draft motion for a resolution

A. whereas the VNP, located in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), in the Provinces of North-Kivu and 'Province Orientale', on the border with Rwanda and Uganda, is Africa's oldest national park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and is globally renowned for its unique habitats and rich biodiversity, making it the most biodiverse park in Africa;

Amendment

A. whereas the VNP, located in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), in the Provinces of North-Kivu and 'Province Orientale', on the border with Rwanda and Uganda, is Africa's oldest national park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and is globally renowned for its unique habitats and rich biodiversity, making it the most biodiverse park in Africa; *in particular, whereas the Park is renowned for its mountain gorillas, a critically endangered species listed on the Appendix I of the 1973 Convention on the Illegal Trade on Endangered Species (CITES)*;

Or. en

Amendment 5

Louis Michel

Draft motion for a resolution **Recital E**

Draft motion for a resolution

Amendment

E. whereas the VNP was founded in 1925 (at the time of the 'Belgian Congo') as the Albert National Park and officially became the 'Virunga National Park' in 1969 (at the time of the second Republic, still called the Republic of Congo, before 'zaïrianisation' in 1971);

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 6

Judith Sargentini, Maria Heubuch
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Draft motion for a resolution

Recital E

Draft motion for a resolution

Amendment

E. whereas the VNP was founded in 1925 (at the time of the 'Belgian Congo') as the Albert National Park and officially became the 'Virunga National Park' in 1969 (at the time of the second Republic, still called the Republic of Congo, before 'zaïrianisation' in 1971);

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 7

Ignazio Corrao

Draft motion for a resolution

Recital E a (new)

Draft motion for a resolution

Amendment

Ea. whereas, according to the 2013 WWF report 'The economic value of Virunga park', the Virunga National Park currently produces an annual economic value of USD 48.9 million; whereas, in a

stable situation, the park could contribute to growth in the economy and tourism and could produce a value of USD 1 billion per year and create 45 000 jobs;

Or. it

Amendment 8

Judith Sargentini, Maria Heubuch
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Draft motion for a resolution

Recital E b (new)

Draft motion for a resolution

Amendment

Eb. whereas, despite its status as protected wilderness, the park has been under threat for decades by armed groups that engage in poaching, deforestation and other unsustainable and illegal resource exploitation; whereas, as a result, Virunga has been included on the List of the World Heritage Sites in Danger; and whereas an oil rush in a context of massive poverty, weak state, poor governance and regional insecurity would have severe social and environmental destabilizing effects;

Or. en

Amendment 9

Judith Sargentini, Maria Heubuch
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Draft motion for a resolution

Recital E c (new)

Draft motion for a resolution

Amendment

Ec. whereas in December 2007, the DRC government granted oil concessions covering 85% of the park; and whereas Soco International PLC (Soco) is so far

the only company to have explored the park;

Or. en

Amendment 10

Judith Sargentini, Maria Heubuch
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Draft motion for a resolution

Recital E d (new)

Draft motion for a resolution

Amendment

Ed. whereas despite DRC's law prohibiting environmentally harmful activities in protected areas, Soco's exploration licence exploits an exemption in that law that allows for "scientific activities" in protected areas;

Or. en

Amendment 11

Judith Sargentini, Maria Heubuch
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Draft motion for a resolution

Recital E e (new)

Draft motion for a resolution

Amendment

Ee. whereas the responsibility to respect human rights is a global standard of expected conduct for all business enterprises wherever they operate, as recalled in the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises;

Or. en

Amendment 12
Catherine Bearder

Draft motion for a resolution
Recital F

Draft motion for a resolution

F. whereas violent conflict has taken place in the VNP for over two decades; whereas trade in natural resources, in particular, has funded both the rebels and the official army forces, while exploration and exploitation of oil fuels further violence and serious breaches of human rights;

Amendment

F. whereas violent conflict has taken place in ***and around*** the VNP for over two decades; whereas ***illegal mining, illegal exploitation of its natural resources (timber, charcoal, etc.) and poaching of endangered animals as well as other illegal*** trade in natural resources, in particular, has funded both the rebels and the official army forces, while exploration and exploitation of oil fuels further violence and serious breaches of human rights;

Or. en

Amendment 13
Judith Sargentini, Maria Heubuch
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Draft motion for a resolution
Recital F

Draft motion for a resolution

F. whereas violent conflict has taken place in the VNP for over two decades; whereas trade in natural resources, in particular, has funded both the rebels and the official army forces, while exploration and exploitation of oil ***fuels*** further violence and serious breaches of human rights;

Amendment

F. whereas violent conflict has taken place in the VNP for over two decades; whereas trade in natural resources, in particular, has funded both the rebels and the official army forces, while exploration and exploitation of oil ***will most likely fuel*** further violence and serious breaches of human rights ***and generate pollution in the area;***

Or. en

Amendment 14
Louis Michel

Draft motion for a resolution
Recital F

Draft motion for a resolution

F. whereas violent conflict has taken place in the VNP for over two decades; whereas trade in natural resources, in particular, has funded both the rebels and the official army forces, while exploration **and exploitation** of oil fuels further violence and serious breaches of human rights;

Amendment

F. whereas violent conflict has taken place in the VNP for over two decades; whereas trade in natural resources, in particular, has funded both the rebels and the official army forces, while exploration of **potential** oil fuels **reserves** further violence and serious breaches of human rights;

Or. en

Amendment 15
Judith Sargentini, Maria Heubuch
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Draft motion for a resolution
Recital F a (new)

Draft motion for a resolution

Fa. whereas the most critical environmental risks associated with oil development in areas that lack good governance include: large scale clearance of vegetation, introduction of invasive plants, fragmentation of habitats, increased likelihood of poaching and pollution from oil spills, gas flaring and waste dumping; whereas the risk of an "oil curse" could result in worsening poverty and inequality indicators as illustrated by case studies such as Niger Delta;

Or. en

Amendment 16
Judith Sargentini, Maria Heubuch

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Draft motion for a resolution

Recital F b (new)

Draft motion for a resolution

Amendment

Fb. whereas sustainable management of Virunga's land, water and wildlife will have direct and indirect economic benefits for communities that rely heavily on the park's natural resources; whereas according to the WWF, mountain gorilla tourism alone could generate 30 million US dollars per year and create thousands of jobs;

Or. en

Amendment 17

Catherine Bearder

Draft motion for a resolution

Paragraph 1 a (new)

Draft motion for a resolution

Amendment

Ia. Commends the management authorities within the park for their efforts to ensure a sustainable income from natural solar and hydro energy generation, which improves the income for many of the local population without destroying the natural area and which is within the permitted development of a World Heritage site;

Or. en

Amendment 18

Judith Sargentini, Maria Heubuch

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Draft motion for a resolution

Paragraph 2

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Draft motion for a resolution

2. Deplores that the VNP has also become one of the most dangerous places in the world when it comes to wildlife conservation. While the park is full of wilderness, its two million acres (790,000 hectares) make it difficult to control effectively, especially with limited government funding. On 15 April 2014, the Chief Warden of the Park, Belgian Prince Emmanuel de Merode, was *shot at* by three gunmen and more than 140 rangers have been killed in the Park on active service in the past decade;

Amendment

2. Deplores that the VNP has also become one of the most dangerous places in the world when it comes to wildlife conservation; ***notes with deep concern that armed groups have been involved in illegal exploitation of the Park's natural resources through mining activities and charcoal production used both to sustain their military operations and for personal gain; deplores, equally, that armed groups have been involved in large-scale poaching for food purposes and for war-sustaining trade in ivory and bush meat; in addition, notes with concern that poor discipline, irregular pay and lack of food have resulted in the growing participation of military personnel in illegal activities, including artisanal mining, charcoal production and wildlife poaching; notes that*** while the park is full of wilderness, its two million acres (790,000 hectares) make it difficult to control effectively, especially with limited government funding. On 15 April 2014, the Chief Warden of the Park, Belgian Prince Emmanuel de Merode, was ***severely injured*** by three gunmen and more than 140 rangers have been killed in the Park on active service in the past decade;

Or. en

Amendment 19
Catherine Bearder

Draft motion for a resolution
Paragraph 2

Draft motion for a resolution

2. Deplores that the VNP has also become one of the most dangerous places in the world when it comes to wildlife conservation. While the park is ***full of***

Amendment

2. Deplores that the VNP has also become one of the most dangerous places in the world when it comes to wildlife conservation. While the park is ***an area of***

wilderness, its two million acres (790,000 hectares) **make it difficult to control effectively**, especially with limited government funding. On 15 April 2014, the Chief Warden of the Park, Belgian Prince Emmanuel de Merode, was shot at by three gunmen and more than 140 rangers have been killed in the Park on active service in the past decade;

great wilderness, its two million acres (790,000 hectares) **have huge protection problems**, especially with limited government funding. On 15 April 2014, the Chief Warden of the Park, Belgian Prince Emmanuel de Merode, was shot at by three gunmen and more than 140 rangers have been killed in the Park on active service in the past decade;

Or. en

Amendment 20

Judith Sargentini, Maria Heubuch
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Draft motion for a resolution **Paragraph 3**

Draft motion for a resolution

3. Emphasises that irreversible damage to the VNP could occur as a result of exploration and exploitation of oil or other illegal activities; deems it unacceptable that oil concessions in the VNP were granted in 2007 to the French oil company TOTAL and the British oil company SOCO International, in violation of the Paris Convention on the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage, the 1992 Convention on Biological Diversity and Congolese law. Recalls that, while TOTAL agreed never to explore within the boundaries of the VNP (even if the Congolese Government decides to change the boundaries), SOCO International has carried out oil exploration in the VNP and concluded a seismic survey in July 2014, the results of which are expected to be handed over soon to the Congolese government, which will then decide whether to explore further;

Amendment

3. Emphasises that irreversible damage to the VNP could occur as a result of exploration and exploitation of oil or other illegal activities; deems it unacceptable that oil concessions in the VNP were granted in 2007 to the French oil company TOTAL and the British oil company SOCO International, in violation of the Paris Convention on the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage, the 1992 Convention on Biological Diversity, **the Ramsar Convention** and Congolese law. Recalls that, while TOTAL agreed never to explore within the boundaries of the VNP (even if the Congolese Government decides to change the boundaries), SOCO International has carried out oil exploration in the VNP and concluded a seismic survey in July 2014, the results of which are expected to be handed over soon to the Congolese government, which will then decide whether to explore further;

Or. en

Amendment 21
Judith Sargentini, Maria Heubuch
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Draft motion for a resolution
Paragraph 4

Draft motion for a resolution

4. Points out that the ambiguous position of SOCO International leaves the door open to the Park being fully or partially declassified for oil drilling; Observes that in June 2014, just before its seismic survey in the VNP, SOCO International reached an agreement with the conservation group WWF to suspend its oil exploratory work in the VNP, “unless UNESCO and the DRC government agree that such activities are not incompatible with its World Heritage status”. This conditional agreement *does not put an end to oil activities* in the Park, *as it only binds SOCO to WWF and does not indicate cessation of any oil-related activity on the concessions granted by the Congolese government*; observes that the concession where SOCO has been exploring is located in and around Lake Edward, an area which is home to dozens of iconic (and some endangered) species, including chimpanzees, elephants, crocodiles and lions;

Amendment

4. Takes note of the agreement reached in June 2014 between SOCO International and the conservation group WWF, in relation to WWF's complaint to the UK National Contact Point (NCP) on the lack of compliance of SOCO with OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, according to which the company commits not to undertake or commission any exploratory or other drilling within Virunga National Park unless UNESCO and the DRC government agree that such activities are not incompatible with its World Heritage Status; notes that such conditional agreement gives no guarantee to the cessation of any oil-related activity in the Park; points out that the ambiguous position of SOCO International leaves the door open to the Park being fully or partially declassified for oil drilling; observes that the concession where SOCO has been exploring is located in and around Lake Edward, an area which is home to dozens of iconic (and some endangered) species, including chimpanzees, elephants, crocodiles and lions; hence, calls on Soco International PLC and its DRC-registered company to stop permanently all exploration and exploitation within Virunga and to respect the park's current boundaries; in addition, calls on the DRC government to cancel the oil exploration permits granted within the property of Virunga National Park, as requested by the World Heritage Committee;

Or. en

Amendment 22
Catherine Bearder

Draft motion for a resolution
Paragraph 4

Draft motion for a resolution

4. Points out that the ambiguous position of SOCO International leaves the door open to the Park being fully or partially declassified for oil drilling; Observes that in June 2014, just before its seismic survey in the VNP, SOCO International reached an agreement with the conservation group WWF to suspend its oil exploratory work in the VNP, “unless UNESCO and the DRC government agree that such activities are not incompatible with its World Heritage status”. This conditional agreement does not put an end to oil activities in the Park, as it only binds SOCO to WWF and does not indicate cessation of any oil-related activity on the concessions granted by the Congolese government; observes that the concession where SOCO has been exploring is located in and around Lake Edward, an area which is home to dozens of iconic (and *some* endangered) species, including chimpanzees, elephants, crocodiles and lions;

Amendment

4. Points out that the ambiguous position of SOCO International ***and the actions of the DRC government in permitting exploration*** leaves the door open to the Park being fully or partially declassified for oil drilling; Observes that in June 2014, just before its seismic survey in the VNP, SOCO International reached an agreement with the conservation group WWF to suspend its oil exploratory work in the VNP, “unless UNESCO and the DRC government agree that such activities are not incompatible with its World Heritage status”. This conditional agreement does not put an end to oil activities in the Park, as it only binds SOCO to WWF and does not indicate cessation of any oil-related activity on the concessions granted by the Congolese government; observes that the concession where SOCO has been exploring is located in and around Lake Edward, an area which is home to dozens of iconic (and *many* endangered) species, including chimpanzees, elephants, crocodiles and lions;

Or. en

Amendment 23
Ignazio Corrao

Draft motion for a resolution
Paragraph 4 a (new)

Draft motion for a resolution

Amendment

4a. Stresses that fishing in Lake Edward generates an estimated USD 30 million per year to the benefit of the local

community which lives near the Virunga National Park and, moreover, according to an independent study commissioned by the WWF, over 50 000 families rely on the lake for their fresh water supplies;

Or. it

Amendment 24
Louis Michel

Draft motion for a resolution
Paragraph 5

Draft motion for a resolution

5. Points out that, according to a Global Witness report published in September 2014, there are allegations that SOCO International and its contractors have made illicit payments, appear to have paid off armed rebels and benefited from fear and violence fostered by government security forces in eastern DRC, as they sought access to Africa's oldest national park for oil exploration.

Amendment

5. Points out that, according to a Global Witness report published in September 2014, *Der Spiegel, The Telegraph and the New York Times*, there are allegations that SOCO International and its contractors have made illicit payments, appear to have paid off armed rebels and benefited from fear and violence fostered by government security forces in eastern DRC, as they sought access to Africa's oldest national park for oil exploration;

Or. en

Amendment 25
Judith Sargentini, Maria Heubuch
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Draft motion for a resolution
Paragraph 7

Draft motion for a resolution

7. Underlines that the issue of oil exploitation in the DRC is marked by an inadequate and ineffective legislative and regulatory system, *an obvious weakness vis-à-vis private actors and ongoing conflicts of interest; regrets that the draft*

Amendment

7. Underlines that the issue of oil exploitation in the DRC is marked by an inadequate and ineffective legislative and regulatory system; *calls on the DRC government to uphold and respect DRC law and regulations that prohibit*

Hydrocarbon Code, currently being examined by the National Assembly, does not address the weaknesses of the current framework and that, for now, only international instruments on human rights ratified by the DRC offer specific measures to identify and protect the rights of the most vulnerable populations;

environmentally harmful activities such as oil exploration and exploitation in protected areas including Virunga, and close existing loopholes in the draft hydrocarbon and conservation laws that allow for the exploration and exploitation of natural resources in national parks and World Heritage Sites;

Or. en

Amendment 26

Judith Sargentini, Maria Heubuch

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Draft motion for a resolution

Paragraph 8

Draft motion for a resolution

8. Points out that, since the early 1990s, serious breaches of human rights and much of the violence have stemmed from conflicts with armed guerrillas who live inside the Park; points out that the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR), a group of guerrillas accused of committing atrocities during the genocide that took place in Rwanda in the Spring of 1994 and that spread also to Eastern DRC, has been living in the Park since 1996 and it is still hiding out across the border in Virunga, while Mai-Mai militias are also reported to have killed, raped and injured many people, and to have destroyed villages, within the boundaries of the Park. Furthermore, regrets that the repression of human rights activists and journalists in the DRC has increased;

Amendment

8. Points out that, since the early 1990s, serious breaches of human rights and much of the violence have stemmed from conflicts with armed guerrillas who live inside the Park; points out that the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR), a group of guerrillas accused of committing atrocities during the genocide that took place in Rwanda in the Spring of 1994 and that spread also to Eastern DRC, has been living in the Park since 1996 and it is still hiding out across the border in Virunga, while Mai-Mai militias are also reported to have killed, raped and injured many people, and to have destroyed villages, within the boundaries of the Park; ***urges the DRC government to disarm rebels and restore security in the Park region;*** furthermore, regrets that the repression of human rights activists and journalists in the DRC has increased; ***urges once more the DRC Government to recognise and respect freedom of the press and media and to uphold the rule of law and human rights;***

Or. en

Amendment 27

Louis Michel

Draft motion for a resolution

Paragraph 8

Draft motion for a resolution

8. Points out that, since the early 1990s, serious breaches of human rights and much of the violence have stemmed from conflicts with armed guerrillas who live inside the Park; points out that the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR), a group of guerrillas accused of committing atrocities during the genocide that took place in Rwanda in the Spring of 1994 and that spread also to Eastern DRC, has been living in the Park since 1996 and it is still hiding out across the border in Virunga, while Mai-Mai militias are also reported to have killed, raped and injured many people, and to have destroyed villages, within the boundaries of the Park. Furthermore, regrets that the repression of human rights activists and journalists in the DRC has increased;

Amendment

8. Points out that, since the early 1990s, serious breaches of human rights and much of the violence have stemmed from conflicts with armed guerrillas who live inside **and around** the Park; points out that the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR), a group of guerrillas accused of committing atrocities during the genocide that took place in Rwanda in the Spring of 1994 and that spread also to Eastern DRC, has been living in the Park since 1996 and it is still hiding out across the border in Virunga, while Mai-Mai militias are also reported to have killed, raped and injured many people, and to have destroyed villages, within the boundaries of the Park. Furthermore, regrets that the repression of human rights activists and journalists in the DRC has increased;

Or. en

Amendment 28

Judith Sargentini, Maria Heubuch
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Draft motion for a resolution

Paragraph 9

Draft motion for a resolution

9. Recalls that, according to the Paris Convention on the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage, oil exploration and exploitation are not compatible with World Heritage Site

Amendment

9. Recalls that, according to the Paris Convention on the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage, oil exploration and exploitation are not compatible with World Heritage Site

status; stresses, furthermore, that the VNP is home to many endangered species, such as the iconic mountain gorillas, among the last on the planet, and the okapis, and that the habitats of endangered species should be strictly protected;

status; stresses, furthermore, that the VNP is home to many endangered species, such as the iconic mountain gorillas, among the last on the planet, and the okapis, and that the habitats of endangered species should be strictly protected; **welcomes the decision of the DRC government to create a special anti-poaching brigade; but calls on the DRC government to identify and take additional legal actions in cooperation with the Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) to combat criminal networks involved in the illegal traffic; more broadly, urges the DRC government to strengthen the role of the park rangers and to punish illegal exploitation activities committed in the Park;**

Or. en

Amendment 29
Louis Michel

Draft motion for a resolution
Paragraph 9

Draft motion for a resolution

9. Recalls that, according to the Paris Convention on the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage, oil exploration and exploitation are not compatible with World Heritage Site status; stresses, furthermore, that the VNP is home to many endangered species, such as the iconic mountain gorillas, among the last on the planet, and the okapis, and that the habitats of endangered species should be strictly protected;

Amendment

9. Recalls that, according to the Paris Convention on the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage, oil exploration and exploitation are not compatible with World Heritage Site status; stresses, furthermore, that the VNP is home to many endangered species, such as the iconic mountain gorillas, among the last on the planet, and the okapis, and that the habitats of endangered species should be strictly protected; **welcomes the decision of the DRC government to create a special anti-poaching brigade; but calls on the DRC government to identify and take additional legal action in cooperation with the secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered**

Species (CITES) to combat criminal networks involved in the illegal traffic; more broadly, urges the DRC government to strengthen the role of the park range and to punish illegal activities committed in the Park;

Or. en

Amendment 30
Stelios Kouloglou, Lola Sánchez Caldentey

Draft motion for a resolution
Paragraph 12

Draft motion for a resolution

12. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to uphold the integrity of the Park *and* to support the DRC government in developing sustainable energy and economic alternatives to extractive industries, in improving governance, and in combatting poaching, illegal logging, illegal mining and corruption, which are persistent phenomena that risk causing irreversible damage to the Park;

Amendment

12. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to uphold the integrity of the Park *by increasing funding to sustainable development and diversification of the surrounding region, in particular, calls on the EU* to support the DRC government in developing sustainable energy and economic alternatives to extractive industries, in improving *domestic resources mobilization -specially through fair and progressive tax systems-*, governance, and in combatting poaching, illegal logging, illegal mining and corruption, which are persistent phenomena that risk causing irreversible damage to the Park;

Or. en

Amendment 31
Judith Sargentini, Maria Heubuch
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Draft motion for a resolution
Paragraph 12

Draft motion for a resolution

12. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to uphold the integrity of the Park **and** to support the DRC government in developing sustainable energy and economic alternatives to extractive industries, in improving governance, and in combatting poaching, illegal logging, illegal mining and corruption, which are persistent phenomena that risk causing irreversible damage to the Park;

Amendment

12. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to uphold the integrity of the Park, ***i.e. by increasing its commitment to funding sustainable conservation and economic development and diversification of the surrounding region, in particular, calls on the EU*** to support the DRC government in developing sustainable energy and economic alternatives to extractive industries, in improving governance, and in combatting poaching, illegal logging, illegal mining and corruption, which are persistent phenomena that risk causing irreversible damage to the Park;

Or. en

Amendment 32

Stelios Kouloglou, Lola Sánchez Caldentey

Draft motion for a resolution

Paragraph 14

Draft motion for a resolution

14. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to take measures to hold accountable those companies proven to circumvent national laws and international treaties in the pursuit of unsustainable financial gains and to use all possible legal means to ensure enforcement of the recommendations contained in the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and to ensure that foreign investors comply with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights;

Amendment

14. ***Urges the Commission to further promote initiatives for natural resources and their sourcing and in particular mining, logging, energy resources and water, and better oversight of the textile sector, together with private sustainability-bound schemes, throughout supply chains, and to step up product and process life-cycle analysis as regards environmental and social considerations; welcomes the fact that a broad range of industries and transnational companies have adopted codes of conduct detailing social and environmental performance standards for their global supply chains and insists that instruments such as the ILO Convention 169, the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises,***

the Guiding Principles of the United Nations on Business and Human Rights, and the EU Human Rights and Democracy Strategic Framework have to be applied systematically, and that any infringement has to be prosecuted, without accepting impunity and on delivering without further delay on the commitment made by the Council of the EU in 2013 through the "EU Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy"; Calls on the Commission and the Member States to take **binding** measures to **effectively** hold accountable those companies proven to circumvent national laws and international treaties in the pursuit of unsustainable financial gains and to use all possible legal means to ensure enforcement of the recommendations contained in the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and to ensure that foreign investors comply with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights;

Or. en

Amendment 33

Judith Sargentini, Maria Heubuch
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Draft motion for a resolution Paragraph 14

Draft motion for a resolution

14. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to take measures to hold accountable those companies proven to circumvent national laws and international treaties in the pursuit of unsustainable financial gains and **to use all possible legal means to ensure enforcement of the recommendations contained in** the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and **to ensure that foreign investors comply with** the UN Guiding Principles on

Amendment

14. **Stresses that EU Member States have a duty under international and European human rights law to ensure that those companies operating within their jurisdiction are not causing or contributing to human rights abuses, directly or indirectly, through their business activities;** calls on the Commission and the Member States to take **legally binding** measures to hold accountable those companies proven to circumvent national laws and international

Business and Human Rights;

treaties in the pursuit of unsustainable financial gains and ***calls for the effective implementation of*** the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights ***through legally binding mechanism***;

Or. en

Amendment 34
Louis Michel

Draft motion for a resolution
Paragraph 15

Draft motion for a resolution

15. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to further and better address armed conflicts and to support sustainable development and peace building in the VNP and in the surrounding region;

Amendment

15. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to further and better address armed conflicts and to support sustainable development and peace building ***strategies and projects*** in the VNP and in the surrounding region;

Or. en

Amendment 35
Ignazio Corrao

Draft motion for a resolution
Paragraph 15

Draft motion for a resolution

15. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to further and ***better*** address armed conflicts and to support sustainable development and peace building in the VNP and in the surrounding region;

Amendment

15. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to further address, ***in an effective manner, the root causes of*** armed conflicts and ***corruption***, to support sustainable development and peace building in the VNP and in the surrounding region;

Or. it

Amendment 36
Ignazio Corrao

Draft motion for a resolution
Paragraph 15 a (new)

Draft motion for a resolution

Amendment

15a. Urges the Commission, the Member States, the Democratic Republic of Congo and the oil companies interested in drilling for oil to protect the current borders and neighbouring areas of the VNP from the exploitation of fossil fuels;

Or. it

Amendment 37
Aldo Patriciello

Draft motion for a resolution
Paragraph 16

Draft motion for a resolution

Amendment

16. Calls on the European External Action Service to take all the necessary initiatives to persuade the DRC government to investigate acts of violence against human rights defenders active in the DRC, especially in the VNP, and including VNP wardens;

16. Calls on the European External Action Service to take all the necessary initiatives to persuade the DRC government to investigate acts of violence against human rights defenders active in the DRC, especially in the VNP, and including VNP wardens, ***and to encourage it to do its utmost to prevent the repetition of such acts of cruelty;***

Or. it

Amendment 38
Stelios Kouloglou, Lola Sánchez Caldentey

Draft motion for a resolution
Paragraph 16

Draft motion for a resolution

16. Calls on the European External Action Service to ***take all the necessary initiatives*** to persuade the DRC government to investigate acts of violence against human rights defenders active in the DRC, especially in the VNP, and including VNP wardens;

Amendment

16. Calls on the European External Action Service to ***rely on peaceful purely civilian conflict resolution strategies involving local and regional civil society and to take effective initiatives*** to persuade the DRC government to investigate acts of violence against human rights defenders active in the DRC, especially in the VNP, and including VNP wardens;

Or. en

Amendment 39
Ignazio Corrao

Draft motion for a resolution
Paragraph 16 a (new)

Draft motion for a resolution

16a. Urges the European External Action Service to take all the necessary measures to ensure that Soco International plc and its DRC-registered company Soco Exploration and Production DRC SPRL (SOCO) undertake publicly to permanently close all explorations and exploitation of resources within the VNP;

Or. it