

**Question for written answer E-000956/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: UNTOC wildlife trafficking protocol and Commission measures

In April 2021, in the EU strategy to tackle organised crime, the Commission publicly expressed its support for an additional protocol under the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) against wildlife trafficking. The new strategy stated that 'since the international dimension of wildlife trafficking is crucial, the Commission will promote the adoption of an additional protocol under the UNTOC'.

Objective 15 of the revised EU action plan of November 2022 against wildlife trafficking involves, 'promoting the adoption of a protocol covering wildlife trafficking under the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime'.

In view of the above:

1. What will the Commission do to promote the adoption of an additional protocol under the UNTOC, including after the next United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice session in May 2023?
2. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime sent out the official questionnaire inviting Member States to share their 'views on possible responses, including the potential of an additional Protocol'. How does the Commission intend to respond given its commitment to promoting an additional protocol?
3. How will the Commission ensure that the views of Member States on the proposed UNTOC protocol on wildlife trafficking are transparent to all stakeholders?

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