

6 February 2017

Excellency,

Pursuant to paragraph 5 of the General Assembly Resolution 70/301, dated on 9 September 2016, entitled "Tackling illicit trafficking in wildlife", I have the honour to inform you that I will be convening a high-level thematic discussion on the global observance of World Wildlife Day, including on the protection of wild flora and fauna and on tackling illicit trafficking in wildlife.

This event will aim to maintain momentum of the on-going actions, review the progress made so far by various stakeholders, and discuss the challenges in our collective efforts to fight illicit wildlife trafficking. It will also address the theme: "Listen to the young voices".

The event will be convened on 3 March 2017, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., in the Trusteeship Council Chamber. It will consist of an opening session and high-level interactive panel discussions.

The draft provisional programme, which is in preparation in collaboration with the Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, will be circulated to Member States in the next few weeks.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Peter Thomson

All Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers to the United Nations New York