KENTUCKY UNITED NATIONS ASSEMBLY OFFICIAL PROPOSAL

Proposal #: 23

Assignment: '

Country: New Zealand School: Henry Clay HS City: Lexington

Author(s): Michael Kamer

Michael Sommer

Title: An act to strengthen enforcement of the Convention on Biological Diversity to better protect signatory nations from the dangers of invasive species.

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Justification Clause: Invasive species represent a major ecological threat in many countries of the world, particularly those regions which have a past of isolation followed by intense colonization. The ecosystems in these regions can be irreparably damaged by the presence of exotic species. Moreover, not only plants, but also animals may be victimized by the presence of exotic species. The Convention on Biological Diversity of 1992 aims to address this threat but provides for no adequate enforcement, establishing only the Subsidiary Body for Scientific, Technical, and Technological Advice (SBSTTA). The SBSTTA meets only infrequently and has no scientists assigned regionally to assist in the enforcement of the Convention while signatory nations struggle to enforce its provisions.

Section I: To properly enforce the biodiversity standards set by the Convention on Biodiversity, a new regional authority - the United Nations Biodiversity Enforcement Assistance Authority (UNBEAA) - will be established with an office in each of the following jurisdictions: North & Central America, South America, Europe & the Middle East, North Africa, Southern Africa, South Asia, East Asia, and Australia & Oceania. The regional authorities will have the responsibility of monitoring and assisting in the enforcement of the Convention in the region's nations in conjunction with local authorities.

Section II: The SBSTTA will now have the requirement of meeting every twelve months and will have the sole discretion in the regulation of the UNBEAA including the appointment of each regional director.

Section III: The UNBEAA will serve solely as an advisory body to all UN member states with the exception of the United States and the Holy See who have not ratified the Convention, but those states can request guidance on protection of local biodiversity if deemed appropriate by the regional director. Moreover, if a member state party to the Convention expresses reservations about the assistance of the body in its internal affairs, that state holds the sole discretion of rejecting assistance from the UNBEAA.

Section IV: The UNBEAA will station at least one qualified scientist/representative in each UN member state- with the exceptions listed in Section 3- to help local authorities in customs enforcement to protect the biodiversity of that particular nation. However, the UNBEAA scientist/representative will not have any authority in the country's decision-making process unless specifically granted said permission while the scientist/representative will also have to submit findings and progress to his/her regional director to permit coordination of eco-protection efforts in a particular region.

Section V: This proposal will be enacted January 1st, 2014.