

**Reconvened thirty-second session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ)**  
7 to 8 December 2023  
Oral Statement  
Item 9

Thank you, Mister Chair,

Civil society participation has proven vital to the implementation of the Kyoto Declaration. We, Dominicans for Justice and Peace, have participated in the Thematic Discussions on Pillars 1 to 3 in the previous years and look forward to the session on Pillar IV next year.

Pillar IV of the Kyoto declaration is drawing special attention to the issues surrounding illicit profits gained by organised criminal groups through new and emerging forms of crime.

Organised crime is quick in adapting its operations and is already profiting from the worldwide move to renewable energy. Illicit cobalt mining in central Africa region is a good example of global decarbonization efforts being exploited by criminal groups.

By fermenting conflict in the region, which serves as avenue for exploiting vulnerable local populations, and their resources, organised crime is tainting efforts for a more sustainable future.

These criminal activities can be more effectively curtailed by strengthening international cooperation on all levels, through processes supported and enriched by multi-stakeholder participation.

The flexibility of organised criminal groups can best be met by combining the efforts of member states, with strong UN institutions, and the experience of NGOs on the ground.

Thank you for your attention.