

*Wednesday, 15 January 2014 - Strasbourg*

### *Debate*

Pino Arlacchi (S&D ), in writing . – Mr. President I fully support this motion because wildlife crime constitutes a threat to the welfare of the animals and to the conservation of the animal and plant species concerned, putting the local ecosystems as a whole at risk.

Even more so, illicit wildlife trafficking often involves transnational organised criminal networks and is used as a source of revenue with an annual turnover of at least USD 19billion. This is why tackling wildlife crime requires a coordinated global response at the highest political level and between enforcement agencies. Moreover there is a need to establish an EU plan of action against wildlife crime and trafficking and to develop effective judicial systems in order to better combat this crime at local, national and regional level.

[source: [www.europarl.europa.eu](http://www.europarl.europa.eu) ]