

★ International Environmental Conventions/Organisations

06 July 2020 18:39

Convention	Year of establishment	Purpose	Remarks
International Whaling Commission	1946		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prohibition on commercial whaling in 1986 Iceland, Norway and Japan have withdrawn Intergov organisation Set up under International Convention for Regulation of Whaling ICRW India is a mem
International Union for Conservation of Nature IUCN	1948		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Red list of threatened species Observer and consultative status at UN
Ramsar Convention	1971	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> for the conservation and sustainable utilization of wetlands 	aka Waterfowl convention India is part 37 Ramsar sites in IN
Stockholm Declaration	1972	International protection of the environment	UNEP was the result of it Also recognised poverty alleviation for protection of env
Convention on International Trade in Endangered species of Wild flora and fauna (CITES)	1973	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Control or prevent international commercial trade in endangered species or products derived from them. 	Known as Washington Convention Legally binding but not take place of national laws <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secretariat by UNEP App I (most endangered currently 931 listed) - prohibits trade except for scientific purpose Appendix II may become threatened w/ extinction and look alike species export and re- export certificate required no import permit req Appx III - species that are regulated by 1 country wants helps of other, trade allowed only on presentation of appropriate permits/certificates The International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC) consortium of CITES, INTERPOL, UNODC, WB, WCO was established tackle illegal trade COP 18 2019 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Smooth Coated Otter, Indian Star tortoise to Appx I, Tokay Gecko included in App II Proposal to prohibit Smooth Coated Otter and Small Clawed otter international trade Proposal to remove Rosewood from Appx II
'The Wildlife Trade Monitoring Network' aka TRAFFIC	1976	Wildlife Trade monitoring Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alliance of WWF and IUCN NGO HQ in Cambridge, UK Close coop w/ CITES 'Wanted Alive Campaign' for Tiger, Leopard, Snow Leopard and Clouded Leopard Helped form SAWEN South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intergov body established in 2011 in Bhutan
Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)	1979	Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals	aka Bonn Convention under the aegis of UNEP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appx I migratory species threatened w/ extinction IN signed non legally binding MoU for conservation of Siberian Cranes, Marine Turtles, Dugongs and

			<p>Raptors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appx II migratory species that need conservation • COP 13 2019 : Gandhinagar, Gujarat <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Mascot was Gibi - Great Indian Bustard ◦ Kollam art shows Amur Falcon, Humpback Whale and Marine Turtles ◦ Asian Elephant, Jaguar, Great Indian Bustard, Bengal Florican, Little Bustard, Antipodean Albatross and the Oceanic White-tip Shark added to Appx 1 ◦ Gandhinagar declaration - concept of 'ecological connectivity' for UN Biodiversity Conference ◦ 1st ever Report on Status of Migratory Species
World Conservation Strategy	1980		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Document for implementation of conservation measures all over the world
Nairobi Declaration	1982	for achieving sustainable developments	<p>10th anniversary of Stockholm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategies to achieve sustainable dev up to year 2000
Vienna convention	1985	for the protection of the ozone layer	<p>It does not include legally binding reduction goals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieved universal ratification in 2009 • Montreal Protocol, Kigali amend under it
International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)	1986		
Montreal Protocol	1987	To control Ozone-depleting Substances	<p>It is a protocol to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of Ozone Layer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Universal treaty (Ratified by all UN countries) • Legally binding • Target only ozone depleting substances (Not GHG i.e. Hydro Fluorocarbons) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Led to phase out of 99% ozone depleting chemicals in refrigerators, AC's etc
Brundtland Report	1987	Sustainable Development	gave the concept of "sustainable development"
Helsinki Declaration	1989	Protection of Ozone layer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage states to join Vienna Convention
Basel Convention	1989	Hazardous waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce movt of hazardous waste b/w countries • Particularly transfer from developed to less dev
Earth Summit/ United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED)/ Rio Declaration	1992	Environment conservation & Development	<p>It had 27 principles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pledge to reduce current rate of biodiversity loss • Resulted in the following documents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Rio Dec on Env and Development ◦ Agenda 21 ◦ Forest Principles • Three legally binding agreements were opened for signature <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) CBD (ii) UNFCCC (iii) UNCCD

Agenda 21	1992	Sustainable Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> product of Earth Summit, 1992 Non-binding
UNFCCC United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change	1992	Reducing greenhouse gas emissions to combat global warming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental treaty produced at the Earth Summit, 1992. Secretariat: Bonn, Germany Legally non-binding ★ Kyoto Protocol was negotiated under this framework <ul style="list-style-type: none"> COP 25 2019 Katowice, Poland <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 'Chile Madrid Time for Action' Dec to improve pledges to reduce greenhouse gas emission Disagreements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> on Carbon market - allowing buying and selling of carbon emission Definition and composition of Climate Finances
Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)	1992	Three main goals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation of biological diversity (or biodiversity); Sustainable use of its components; Sharing the benefits of genetic resources fairly and equitably 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legally binding USA has signed but not ratified The two protocols to CBD are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, 2000 (b) Nagoya Protocol (Biodiversity Accord), 2010
UNCCD	1994	Convention to Combat Desertification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Headquarter: Bonn, Germany Only convention that came out from direct recommendations of Rio Agenda 21 Legally Binding Canada withdrew
Oslo Protocol	1994	Further Reduction of Sulphur Emission	
★ Kyoto Protocol (COP 3)	1997	to fight global warming by reducing greenhouse gas concentrations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Negotiated under UNFCCC Came into force in 2005 Binding targets to Annex I countries Mechanisms under protocol: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ?(a) Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) (b) Emission Trading (c) Joint Implementation (JI) This protocol applies to follow GHGs (Annex A): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Carbon Dioxide (CO2) (b) Methane (CH4) (c) Nitrous Oxide (NO2) (d) Sulphur Hexafluoride (SF6) (e) Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) (f) Perfluorocarbons (PFCs) The Protocol is based on the principle of shared (Common) but differentiated responsibilities. It places the obligation on developed countries to reduce current emissions on the basis that they are historically responsible for the current levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. Annex I countries: industrialized countries and economies in transition Annex II countries: developed countries which pay for costs of developing countries, Annex II is a subset of Annex I Non-Annex I countries: Developing countries India is Non-Annex party to UNFCC. There are two commitment periods

			(i) 2008 – 2012 (ii) 2013 – 2020 ? Note: The second commitment period was agreed on in 2012, known as the Doha Amendment to the protocol.
Bamako Convention	1998	Prohibit import of hazardous waste into Africa	
Aarhus Protocol	1998	Persistent Organic Pollutants	
Rotterdam Convention	1998	Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade	UN Treaty
Gothenburg Protocol	1999	Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground Level Ozone	
Agreement on Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Birds AEWA	1999		
Cartagena Protocol	2000	Biosafety	Protecting biological diversity from potential risks posed by living modified organisms resulting from modern biotechnology
United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF)	2000		
Stockholm Convention	2001	Eliminate or restrict the production and use of persistent organic pollutants (POPs)	UN Treaty • US is not a party to this treaty • Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety (IFCS) and the International Programme for Chemical Safety (IPCS) prepared a list, known as the Dirty Dozen .
Johannesburg Declaration	2002	Sustainable Development	
Carpathian Convention	2003	Sustainable Development of 7 European countries	
REDD & REDD+	2005	Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries	Negotiated under UNFCCC since 2005. • UN-REDD was launched in 2008. India did not participate in it. • REDD+ (Defined in Bali Action Plan , 2007, CoP13) • REDD+ extends to (a) Sustainable Forest Management (b) Conservation of Forests (c) Enhancement of carbon sinks
Coalition Against Wildlife Trafficking (CAWT)	2005		
Bali Summit	2007	Climate Change	
Nagoya Protocol	2010	Access to genetic resources and a fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their use of the Convention on Biological Diversity	It is a supplementary agreement to the CBD.
Rio+20	2012	Conference on Sustainable Development	• 20 th Anniversary of Rio Earth Summit 1992.
Paris Agreement (COP 21)	2015	Climate Change	It will come into force by 2020. • Not legally binding. Aims • This century, global temperature rises well below 2 degrees Celsius above circa-industrial level.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pursue efforts to limit the temperature upsurge even further to 5 degrees Celsius. <p>Indian NDCs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greenhouse gas emissions per unit of GDP- by 33 to 35 per cent below 2005 levels by the year 2030. By 2030, 40 percent of its energy would be generated from non-fossil fuels Increase its forest cover to create an additional carbon sink equivalent to 2.5 to 3 billion tons of carbon dioxide by 2030. <p>Note: Recently the US has withdrawn from it.</p>
Kigali Amendment	2016	Reduce Ozone Layer Depletion	<p>amends the 1987 Montreal Protocol.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> aims to reduce Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) by roughly 80-85 Percent by 2045 and expected to arrest global avg temp up to 0.5 C by 2100 will be binding on member countries from 2019 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Divided signatories in 3 groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1st group of rich and dev countries will reduce HFCs by 15% of 2012 level by 2036 Emerging economies reduce 20% of 2021 by 2045 start by 2024 Developing economies like IN, PAK, KSA etc reduce 15% of 2024-2026 level by 2047 start by 2028
Minamata Convention	2017	Mercury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ban on new mercury mines, phasing out existing ones Phase out mercury use in products and processes Also addresses interim storage, disposal IN Ratified, excludes use in Ayurvedic, Siddha and Unani medicines