



Environment & Ecology
International Organisations





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- Earth Summit 1992 is also known as The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED).
- As a follow-up, the **World Summit on Sustainable Development** (**Rio+10**) was held in 2002 in **Johannesburg**, South Africa.
- 190 countries pledged their commitment to achieve by 2010, a significant reduction in the current rate of biodiversity loss at global, regional and local levels.
- In 2012, the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development was also held in Rio, and is also commonly called Rio+20 or Rio Earth Summit 2012.

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#### The Issues Addressed Included

- Checking production of toxic components, such as lead in gasoline, or poisonous waste including radioactive chemicals,
- Alternative sources of energy to replace the use of fossil fuels,
- New reliance on public transportation systems in order to reduce vehicle emissions, congestion in cities,
- The health problems caused by polluted air and smoke, and
- The growing usage and limited supply of water.





#### **Landmark Agreements**

• An important achievement of the summit was an agreement on the Climate Change Convention which in turn led to the **Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement**.



• Another agreement was to "not to carry out any activities on the lands of indigenous peoples that would cause environmental degradation or that would be culturally inappropriate".





### The Earth Summit resulted in the following documents:

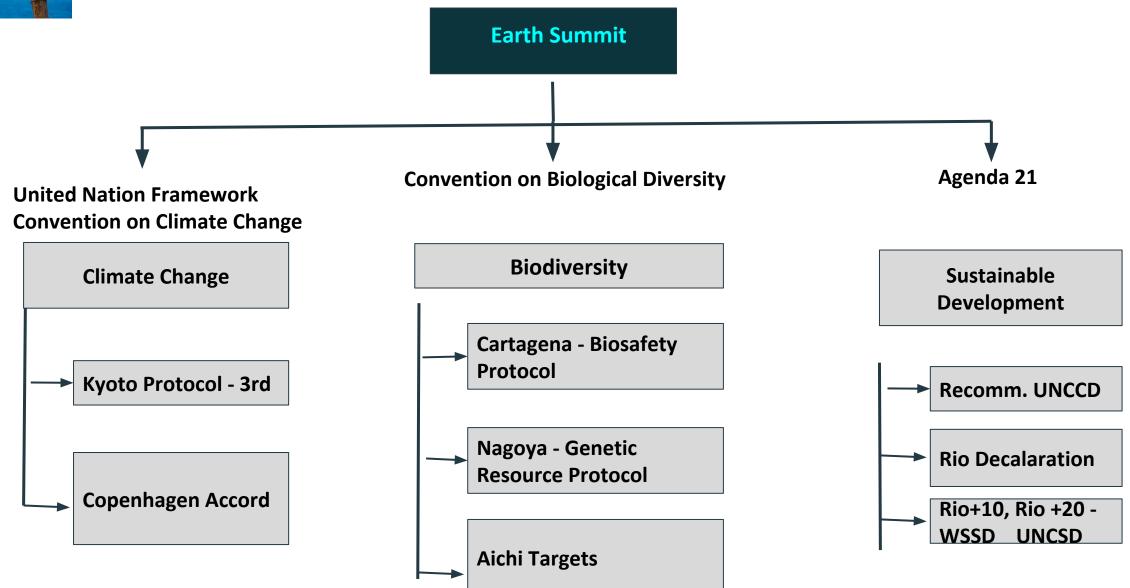
- Rio Declaration on Environment and Development
- Agenda 21
- Forest Principles

Moreover, important legally binding agreements (Rio Convention) were opened for signature:

- Convention on Biological Diversity
- UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
- United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification









### **Latest COP**



COP 24 - Katowice, Poland

- Finalising the implementation of guidelines for the Paris CC Agreement

COP 23 - Bonn, Germany -

COP 22 - Marrakech, Morocco - Discussion on PCA

COP 21 - Paris Climate Agreement



## Rio Declaration on Environment and Development



- The **Rio Declaration on Environment and Development**, often shortened to **Rio Declaration**, was a short document produced at the 1992 United Nations "Conference on Environment and Development" (UNCED), informally known as the Earth Summit.
- The Rio Declaration consisted of 27 principles intended to guide countries in future sustainable development.
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- Precautionary principle and Polluter's pay principle
- It was signed by over 170 countries.





- A non-binding, action plan of the United Nations with regard to sustainable development. It is a product of the Earth Summit (UN Conference on Environment and Development) held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 1992.
- An action agenda for the UN, other multilateral organizations, and individual governments around the world that can be executed at local, national, and global levels.





- The "21" in Agenda 21 refers to an agenda for the 21st century.
- Although, it is also the area code for Greater Rio de Janeiro, plus Teresópolis and Mangaratiba in the countryside.
- It has been affirmed and had a few modifications at subsequent UN conferences.

#### **Structure and Contents**

Agenda 21 is a 350-page document divided into 40 chapters that have been grouped into 4 sections:

• Section I: Social and Economic Dimensions is directed toward combating poverty, especially in developing countries, changing consumption patterns, promoting health, achieving a more sustainable population, and sustainable settlement in decision making.





- **Section II**: Conservation and Management of Resources for Development includes atmospheric protection, combating deforestation, protecting fragile environments, conservation of biological diversity (biodiversity), control of pollution and the management of biotechnology, and radioactive wastes.
- **Section III:** Strengthening the Role of Major Groups includes the roles of children and youth, women, NGOs, local authorities, business and industry, and workers; and strengthening the role of indigenous peoples, their communities, and farmers.
- **Section IV:** <u>Means of Implementation</u> includes science, technology transfer, education, international institutions and financial mechanisms.



### **Implementation**

- The Commission on Sustainable Development acts as a high-level forum on sustainable development and has acted as preparatory committee for summits and sessions on the implementation of Agenda 21.
- The UN Division for Sustainable Development acts as the secretariat to the Commission and works "within the context of" Agenda 21.
- Implementation by member states remains voluntary, and its adoption has varied.



## Forest Principles



- The **Forest Principles** (also *Rio Forest Principles*) is the informal name given to the *Non-Legally Binding*Authoritative Statement of Principles for a Global Consensus on the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of All Types of Forests (1992), a document produced at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED).
- It is a non-legally binding document that makes several recommendations for conservation and sustainable development forestry.
- At the Earth Summit, the negotiation of the document was complicated by demands by developing nations in the Group of 77 for increased foreign aid in order to pay for the setting aside of forest reserves.
- Developed nations resisted those demands, and the final document was a compromise.



### UNCED - RIO - 1992



- Important legally binding agreements (Rio Convention) were opened for signature:
- 1. Convention on Biological Diversity
- 2. United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
- 3. Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)



## Result of UNCED - 1992 - CBD



#### **Convention on Biological Diversity**

- Biodiversity knows no political boundaries and its conservation is therefore a collective responsibility of all nations.
- Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) is a step towards conserving biological diversity or biodiversity with the involvement of the entire world.
- The historic Convention on Biological Diversity (Biodiversity Convention a multilateral treaty) was opened for signature at the **Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro** in 1992 and entered into in 1993.



## Result of UNCED - 1992 - CBD



• The convention called upon all nations to take appropriate measures for conservation of biodiversity and sustainable utilisation of its benefits.

### The Convention has three main goals:

- 1. Conservation of biological diversity (or biodiversity)
- 2. Sustainable use of its components
- 3. Fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from genetic resources.



### Result of UNCED - 1992 - CBD



- It is often seen as the key document regarding sustainable development.
- The Convention is **legally binding**; countries that join it ('Parties') are obliged to implement its provisions.
- 195 UN states and the European Union are parties to the convention.
- All UN member states—with the exception of the United States—have ratified the treaty.
- At the 2010 10th Conference of Parties (COP) to the Convention on Biological Diversity in October in Nagoya, Japan, the **Nagoya Protocol** was adopted.



## **CBD** - Protocols



### Cartagena Protocol

- CBD covers the rapidly expanding field of biotechnology through its Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.
- It addresses technology development and transfer, benefit-sharing and biosafety issues.
- The Biosafety Protocol seeks to protect biological diversity from the potential risks posed by living modified organisms resulting from modern biotechnology.



## **CBD** - Protocols



### Nagoya Protocol

- The Nagoya Protocol is a 2010 supplementary agreement to the 1992 Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).
- The Nagoya Protocol is about "Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization", one of the three objectives of the CBD.
- It is the second Protocol to the CBD; the first is the 2000 Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.



## International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

- Popularly known as the International Seed Treaty.
- International agreement in harmony with the Convention on Biological Diversity.
- Aims at guaranteeing food security through the conservation, exchange and sustainable use of the world's plant genetic resources for food and agriculture (PGRFA), as well as the fair and equitable benefit sharing arising from its use.



## United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)



- UNCCD is a Convention to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought through national action programs (NAP).
- NAP incorporate long-term strategies supported by international cooperation and partnership arrangements.
- The Convention stemmed from a direct recommendation of the Rio Conference's Agenda 21, was adopted in Paris, France in 1994 and entered into force in 1996.
- It is the only internationally **legally binding** framework set up to address the problem of desertification.



# Important International Environment Organization



- 1. International Union for Conservation of Nature
- **2.** World Wildlife Fund
- **3.** United Nations Environment Programme
- **4.** International Panel on Climate Change
- **5.** International Renewable Energy Agency
- **6.** World Nature Organisation (WNO)
- **7.** Global Environment Facility
- **8.** The Economy of Ecosystem and Biodiversity (TEEB)
- **9.** World Meteorological organisation (WMO)
- 10. People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA)
- **11.** GreenPeace