

CSB IAS ACADEMY

THE ROAD MAP TO MUSSORRIE...

PRELIMS EDGE – 2025 – 12/11/2024

Kunming Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

Context: The importance of attaining the goals of the Kunming Montreal GBF is becoming all the more apparent following the COP16 of the UNCBD.



About the Global Biodiversity Framework:

- The Kunming Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework was adopted at the 15th Conference of Parties to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD).
- GBF includes **4 goals** and **23 targets** for achievement by 2030.
- It is not legally binding.

Key Targets:

- **30x30 Deal:**
 - Restore **30%** degraded ecosystems globally (on land and sea) by 2030
 - Conserve and manage 30% areas (terrestrial, inland water, and coastal and marine) by 2030
- Stop the extinction of known species, and by 2050 reduce tenfold the extinction risk

- and rate of all species (including unknown).
- Reduce **risk from pesticides** by at least 50% by 2030
- Reduce **nutrients lost** to the environment by at least 50% by 2030
- Reduce **pollution risks** and negative impacts of pollution from all sources by 2030 to levels that are not harmful to biodiversity and ecosystem functions
- Reduce global footprint of consumption by 2030, including through significantly reducing overconsumption and waste generation and halving food waste
- Sustainably manage areas under agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries, and forestry and substantially increase agroecology and other biodiversity-friendly practices
- Tackle climate change through nature-based solutions
- Reduce the **rate of introduction and establishment of invasive alien species** by at least 50% by 2030
- Secure the safe, legal and sustainable use and trade of wild species by 2030
- Green up urban spaces.

UNCBD

- ✓ Convention on Biological Diversity is a **legally binding** treaty to conserve biodiversity that has been in force since 1993 and has been ratified by **196 nations**.
- ✓ It sets out guidelines for countries to protect biodiversity, ensure sustainable use, and promote fair and equitable benefit sharing.
- ✓ The **CBD Secretariat** is based in **Montreal, Canada**.

- ✓ The Parties (Countries) under CBD, meet at regular intervals and these meetings are called Conference of Parties (COP).
- ✓ In 2000, a supplementary agreement to the Convention known as the **Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety** was adopted.
- ✓ The Protocol seeks to protect biological diversity from the potential risks posed by **living modified organisms** resulting from modern biotechnology.
- ✓ The **Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization** (ABS) was adopted in 2010 in Nagoya, Japan at COP10.
- ✓ It not only applies to genetic resources that are covered by the CBD, and to the benefits arising from their utilization but also **covers traditional knowledge** (TK) associated with genetic resources that are covered by the CBD and the benefits arising from its utilization.
- ✓ The COP-10 also adopted a ten-year framework for action by all countries to save biodiversity collectively known as the **Aichi Targets for biodiversity**.
- ✓ India enacted **Biological Diversity Act in 2002** for giving effect to the provisions of the CBD.

Source: Will financial roadblocks continue to hinder conservation efforts? (The Hindu)

World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

Context: The WMO has warned that the period from 2015 to 2024 has become the warmest decade ever recorded.



About World Meteorological Organization:

- It is a **specialized agency of the United Nations** (UN).
- It is the UN system's authoritative voice on the state and behavior of the **Earth's atmosphere**, its interaction with the **oceans**, the **climate it produces**, and the resulting distribution of water resources.
- It originated from the **International Meteorological Organization (IMO)**, which was **founded in 1873**.
- Established in **1950**, WMO became the specialized agency of the UN for **meteorology** (weather and climate), **operational hydrology** and related **geophysical sciences**.
- **Headquarters:** Geneva, Switzerland.
- Currently it has a membership of **191 countries**.

Governance Structure:

- Its supreme body is the **World Meteorological Congress**, which consists of **representatives of all members**.
- It meets **at least every four years** to set general policy and adopt regulations.
- A 36-member **Executive Council** meets annually and implements policy.
- The **Secretariat**, headed by a Secretary-General appointed by the congress for a four-year term, serves as the administrative centre of the organization.

Important reports published by WMO:

- State of the Global Climate
- Greenhouse Gas Bulletin
- State of Global Water Resources
- Hydromet Gap Report
- State of Climate Services

Source: UN raises alarm as climate talks begin (The Hindu)

International Criminal Court

Context: The ICC's governing body is about to launch an external probe into its chief prosecutor Karim Khan over alleged sexual misconduct.

About ICC:

- It is a **permanent judicial body** established by the **Rome Statute (1998)** to investigate, prosecute, and try individuals accused of
 - genocide,
 - war crimes,
 - crimes against humanity, and
 - the crime of aggression,
 and to impose prison sentences upon individuals who are found guilty of such crimes.
- **Background:** The court's founding treaty, the Rome Statute, was adopted in July 1998, and the court began work in 2003.
- **HQ:** Hague, Netherlands.
- **Members:** 124 nations are States Parties to the Rome Statute and recognize the ICC's authority. The notable exceptions being the **US, China, Russia, Israel and India**.
- **Funding:** The Court is funded by contributions from the States Parties and by voluntary contributions from governments, international organizations, individuals, corporations and other entities.

ISRAEL'S WAR ON GAZA

Differences between the ICJ and the ICC

The International Court of Justice (ICJ) and the International Criminal Court (ICC) are two courts with different functions within the international legal system.

	ICJ International Court of Justice	ICC International Criminal Court
Established	1945	2002
UN-relationship	Highest court of the UN	Not part of the UN
Location	The Hague, the Netherlands	The Hague, the Netherlands
Jurisdiction	UN member-states	Individuals
Types of cases	Legal disputes between states and requests for advisory opinions on legal questions	Prosecutes individuals for the most serious crimes as per the Rome Statute
Appeals	No	Yes
Enforcement power	None - relies on the UN Security Council to uphold judgements, with permanent members having veto power	None - relies on cooperation from member states to enforce its decisions

Source: International Court of Justice, International Criminal Court | January 10, 2024

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Composition:

- **Judges:** The Court has **eighteen judges**, each from a different member country, elected to **nonrenewable nine-year terms**.
- **The Presidency:** Consists of three judges (the President and two Vice-Presidents) elected from among the judges.
- It represents the Court to the outside world and helps with the organization of the work of the judges.
- **Judicial Divisions:** 18 judges in 3 divisions, the **Pre-Trial Division, the Trial Division, and the Appeals Division**.
- **Office of the Prosecutor (OTP):** OTP is responsible for receiving referrals and any substantiated information on crimes within the jurisdiction of the Court.
- OTP examines these referrals and information, conducts investigations, and conducts prosecutions before the Court.
- **Registry:** The core function of the Registry is to provide administrative and operational support to the Chambers and the OTP.

Jurisdiction of ICC:

- Unlike the International Court of Justice, which hears disputes between states, the ICC handles **prosecutions of individuals**.
- The ICC is only competent to hear a case if:

- The country where the offence was committed is a party to the Rome Statute; or
- The perpetrator's country of origin is a party to the Rome Statute.
- The ICC may only exercise its jurisdiction if the national court is unable or unwilling to do so.
- The ICC only has jurisdiction over offences committed after the Statute's entry into force on 1 July 2002.

Relation with United Nations (UN):

- While not a United Nations (UN) organization, the Court has a cooperation agreement with the UN.
- When a situation is not within the Court's jurisdiction, the UN Security Council can refer the situation to the ICC, granting it jurisdiction.

Source: ICC to probe alleged misconduct by war crimes prosecutor Khan (The Hindu)

Gulf Cooperation Council

Context: Certain Gulf Cooperation Council countries are taking action aimed at increasing local employment which can possibly lead to job loss for Indian migrants.



About Gulf Cooperation Council:

- The GCC was established in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, in **May 1981**.
- It is a political and economic alliance of **six Middle Eastern countries**.
- **Members:** Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain, and Oman.

Objective:

- The purpose of the GCC is to achieve unity among its members based on their common objectives and their similar political and cultural identities, which are rooted in Arab and Islamic cultures.
- The **Presidency** of the council rotates annually.

Organizational structure:

- **Supreme Council:** It is the highest authority of the organization.
 - It is composed of the **heads of the Member-States**.
 - Its presidency rotates periodically among the Member States in alphabetical order.
- **The Ministerial Council:** It is composed of the **Foreign Ministers** of all the Member States or other ministers deputizing for them.
 - It meets **every three months** to implement the decisions of the Supreme Council and to propose new policy.

The Secretariat General: It is the administrative arm of the alliance, which monitors policy implementation and arranges meetings.

Source: Saudi, Kuwait may fill locals in skilled jobs handled by migrants (The Hindu)

Terms in News

Internationally Transferred Mitigation Outcomes

- **Internationally transferred mitigation outcomes (ITMOs)** are a mechanism **under the Paris Agreement** that allow countries to **transfer emission reduction performance to other countries**.
- Under ITMO, the aim is to establish **bilateral or mini-multilateral markets** — similar to the **EU Emissions Trading System**.
- It is also about securing overall mitigation in global emissions.
- Internationally transferred mitigation outcomes (ITMOs) use a **carbon dioxide equivalent [CO₂e]** metric for a new set of market provisions or other greenhouse gas (GHG) mitigation outcomes that are defined under **Article 6 of the Paris Agreement**.
- Under Article 6.2, ITMOs differ from previous offset schemes, as **they count toward countries' Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)**, support **overall mitigation in global emissions** (for Article 6.4) and involve more **substantial government participation** than under the Clean Development Mechanism of the Kyoto Protocol.

Voluntary Carbon Markets Integrity Initiative

- The Voluntary Carbon Markets Integrity Initiative (VCMI) is an **international non-profit organization**.
- It works with a mission to **enable high-integrity voluntary carbon markets (VCMs)** that deliver real and additional benefits to the atmosphere, help protect nature, and accelerate the transition to

ambitious, economy-wide climate policies and regulation.

- The organization is fully aligned with the goals of the Paris Agreement and is committed to a world on track to 1.5 degrees and net zero emissions by mid-century, achieved through a just transition that enhances equality and sustainable development for all.
- VCMI was announced by COP26 President-Designate Alok Sharma on 31 March 2021, and has received funding from the Children's Investment Fund Foundation, Ballmer Group, the Bezos Earth Fund, Google LLC, the Packard Foundation and the UK Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS).

Practice Questions

Q1. With reference to the Kunming Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, consider the following statements:

1. Under this framework, countries agreed to protect 30% of land and water considered important for biodiversity by 2030.
2. The framework has been made legally binding on the member countries due to failure of Aichi targets.
3. It aims to reduce risk from pesticides by at least 50% by 2030.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Q2. How many of the following are reports published by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO)?

1. Greenhouse Gas Bulletin
2. State of Global Climate
3. Emissions Gap Report
4. Climate Action Tracker

Choose the correct answer:

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Q3. With reference to the International Criminal Court, consider the following statements:

1. The International Criminal Court can issue arrest warrants against individuals.
2. It is known as the World Court.
3. All UN members are members of the ICC.

How many of the given statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Q4. Which of the following countries are members of the Gulf Cooperation Council?

1. Saudi Arabia
2. Iraq
3. Yemen
4. Oman

Choose the correct answer:

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 1 and 2 only
- (c) 1 and 4 only
- (d) 1, 3 and 4

Q5. With reference to Internationally Transferred Mitigation Outcomes, consider the following statements:

1. They were part of the emissions reduction framework under the Kyoto Protocol.
2. It aims to establish bilateral or mini-multilateral markets for transfer of mitigation outcomes internationally.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answers:

1. (b)
2. (b)
3. (a)
4. (c)
5. (b)