

## Summit & Protocols for Earth Protection: Overview of the Protocols

**\*Anuj Bishnoi**

\*Research Scholar, Dept of Law, Shri Khushal Das University, Hanumangarh, Rajasthan

**\*\*Dr. Sanjay Dixit**

\*\*Dept of Law, Shri Khushal Das University, Hanumangarh, Rajasthan

### ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

India, in accordance with the Vienna Convention of 1985 and the Montreal Protocol of 1987, to which it became a party in 1992, advocated for the establishment of a global fund during the London negotiations in 1990. The purpose of this fund was to provide assistance to poor nations in meeting their commitments under the aforementioned Convention and Protocol. The numerical value provided by the user is 40. A provisional multilateral fund has been formed within the framework of the Montreal Protocol with the purpose of providing financial support to poor nations in order to cover the supplementary expenses associated with the eradication of ozone-depleting compounds. In a similar vein, the establishment of the Global Environment Facility took place in 1991 with the purpose of expediting the financial support for initiatives in domains that were not yet subject to international accords. The management of the entity in question is conducted via a collaborative effort by the World Bank, the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

### Earth Summit (Rio Conference) 1992

The second significant event in the progression of the evolution of worldwide attention towards the global environment was the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, which took place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from June 3 to June 14, 1992. This conference aimed to address the intertwined challenges of environmental issues and sustainable development. The Conference, sometimes referred to as the Rio Summit, was a remarkable gathering in which 178 countries endeavored to develop strategies aimed at preserving the planet Earth from the detrimental effects of environmental deterioration. In quantitative terms, the aforementioned gathering constituted one of the most sizable assemblies in history. The significance of the Conference lies in its multifaceted contribution to the worldwide endeavors aimed at addressing environmental challenges on an international scale. The Conference culminated in the establishment of a convention pertaining to climate change, accompanied by a widespread acknowledgment of the significance of mitigating the release of greenhouse gases. Additionally, a convention focused on the conservation of biodiversity, including flora and animals, was also ratified. The "Statement of Principles on Forests" refers to a non-binding agreement that aims to promote the protection and sustainable management of forests on a worldwide scale. The "Rio Declaration" is a significant document of 27 principles that address the rights and duties of countries in relation to the environment and development. It is vital to note that these principles are non-binding in nature. In addition to the aforementioned initiatives, a comprehensive document spanning

300 pages, referred to as "Agenda 21," was approved. This text is widely recognised as a seminal "blueprint for sustainable development." The proposed document aims to serve as a comprehensive action plan that addresses several facets of the environment. While lacking legal enforceability, this document has the potential to function as a benchmark for evaluating the subsequent activities undertaken by each respective government in the next years.

### **UNCED**

The United Nations Conference for Environment and Development (UNCED) took place in June 1992 in Rio de Janeiro, the capital of Brazil. Undoubtedly, this conference is widely seen as a significant milestone in the realm of environmental studies on a global scale. The event saw the participation of the most extensive assemblage of nations to date, with a total of 178 countries represented, including 115 heads of government. From a particular perspective, it may be seen that the timeframe in question immediately follows the Copenhagen meeting, which took place from December 6 to 18, 2009. This meeting was attended by representatives from 192 nations, including 150 heads of state.

### **Types of Nations**

The primary division existed between developed and developing nations, sometimes referred to as the North (Developed) and South (Developing) split. The Southern region expressed a desire for further concessions and advantages, asserting that the environmental challenges were mostly a result of acts taken by industrialised nations. The Northern region was unwilling to embrace the perspective of the Southern region.

A new panel under the auspices of the United Nations is being established to evaluate the environmental consequences of various activities. This assessment will be supported by financial aid from the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. Additionally, a Sustainable Development Commission was established to oversee the execution of Agenda 21.

The conference did not succeed in establishing a legally enforceable commitment among the member States of the United Nations Organisation (UNO). However, its most significant outcome was the acknowledgment by the global community that the issue of the environment is paramount in any endeavour aimed at preserving the planet "Earth".

In addition to this, agreements were achieved pertaining to the preservation and responsible use of global biodiversity via the establishment of the Biodiversity Convention. Similarly, an agreement was obtained on climate change with the formation of the Convention on Climate Change.

### **Rio Conference**

Following the Rio Conference, a significant milestone was achieved with the convening of the Kyoto Summit on global warming in 1997. The Kyoto Summit in 1997 was a direct result of the decision made at the Rio conference in 1992 to conduct a mid-term assessment of the advancements achieved in addressing climate change. The purpose of this assessment was to evaluate the progress made so far and establish specific goals for the future. Over 150 nations were involved in the event. During the meeting, a decision was made to decrease the emission of greenhouse gases to the levels recorded in 1990. Additionally, specific objectives were established for 37 industrialised countries, collectively referred to as "Annex 1"

countries. The European Union Members aimed for a goal of 8% in comparison to the United States, whereas Japan aimed for a target of 6%.

The other nations aimed to reduce their emissions by 5% below their 1990 levels, with the objective of achieving these objectives during the timeframe of 2008 to 2012. It was furthermore concurred that objectives for developing and impoverished nations will be ascertained at a subsequent phase. Additionally, it facilitated the implementation of emission trading and the allocation of carbon credits among all nations, functioning as an integral component of the 'clean development mechanism'.

### **Meetings of the SAARC in 1995, 1997, and 2002**

In conjunction with international efforts, regional initiatives have also emerged to enhance and safeguard the environment on a regional scale. A conference of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) took place in New Delhi from May 2nd to May 4th, 1995. The SAARC nations, in accordance with the Delhi Declaration, voiced profound worry over the ongoing deterioration of the environment and the repeated occurrence of catastrophic natural catastrophes. The authors further emphasised the potential hazards and perils associated with neglecting the difficulties presented by these issues. The individual or group in question has conveyed their dedication to executing measures across several levels, including national, bilateral, regional, and global, in order to safeguard and conserve the environment, as well as avoid its deterioration.

The decisions outlined in the Dhaka Declaration of April 1993 were brought to attention. These decisions were made in response to the outcomes of the UN Conference on Environment and Development held in June 1992. The need for ensuring a consistent and sufficient influx of new and additional resources was emphasised once again. This is crucial for the successful implementation of the programmes outlined in Agenda 21. The authors also observed that international efforts in the field of environmental conservation had to be grounded on collaboration and joint endeavours, while also adhering to the idea, as articulated in the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), of shared but distinct responsibilities. It was also observed that the Commission on Sustainable Development, established to oversee the progress of the Rio accords, had convened on three occasions subsequent to their first meeting. The authors expressed optimism that the Commission would effectively assist the essential allocation of resources and technology. The most recent conference of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) member nations took place in Kathmandu, Nepal, spanning from January 4th to January 6th, 2002. The leaders of the respective states or governments reiterated their plea for the prompt and efficient execution of the SAARC environment plan of action, which had been approved by the SAARC environment ministers. These ministers were also instructed to consider the SAARC environment plan and formulate a mutually agreed stance during their upcoming meeting. The authors also expressed contentment over the increasing level of public consciousness regarding the need of environmental preservation within the context of regional collaboration.

### **Conference on Human Settlements, United Nations, 1996**

The United Nations Conference on Human Settlements took place in June 1996 in Turkey, during which the Habitat Agenda of 1996 was adopted. This agenda emphasises the need for national governments to establish legal frameworks that support the creation and execution of public plans and policies aimed at achieving sustainable urban development and rehabilitation, efficient land utilisation, adequate housing, and enhanced management of urban growth. The number 64 is a positive integer. The Habitat Agenda of 1996 establishes a set of goals, which are as follows:

This study aims to examine the integration of urban planning and management in several domains, including housing, transit, job possibilities, environmental conditions, and community amenities.

Ensuring the provision of comprehensive and integrated environmental infrastructure facilities throughout all human settlements, including reliable and sustainable freshwater resources, efficient sanitation and drainage systems, as well as effective waste disposal services.

The promotion of more balanced and sustainable human settlements include the encouragement of productive investments, the development of social infrastructure, and the harnessing and enhancement of the efforts and potential of productive informal and private sectors.

Placing emphasis on human settlement plans and policies is crucial in mitigating urban pollution, particularly stemming from issues such as insufficient water supply, inadequate sanitation and drainage systems, and substandard industrial practises.

### **The Kyoto Protocol (1965–97)**

The Kyoto Protocol, a treaty established in 1997 under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, was ratified in the same year. The Protocol also called for the developed nation parties to collectively or individually reduce their greenhouse gas emissions by at least 5 percent relative to 1990 levels within the given period. During the period spanning from 2008 to 2012. The number is 67. Individuals must prioritise fulfilling their commitments in a way that minimises adverse impacts on poor nations, as specified in the Climate Change Convention. Each country was allocated specific emission objectives to be attained by domestic efforts, facilitated by diverse international collaborative methods such as the clean development mechanism. Process of engaging several parties in a consultative manner. Seventy The notion of emission trading. The number is. What further measures should be included into the domestic policies of developed nation parties?

### **The Millennium Declaration of the United Nations, 2000**

The United Nations Millennium Declaration, approved during the Millennium Summit in New York from September 6-8, 2000, was a groundbreaking international 'soft' law instrument of the new century. The summit was the greatest meeting of global leaders to that point, with delegates from 191 countries.<sup>72</sup> The Declaration recognised that some core principles like respect for nature are crucial to international relations in the 21st century. The Declaration elaborated on the meaning of the core value of "respect for nature" by stating that all living species and natural resources must be managed with care in accordance with the

principles of sustainable development if we are to ensure that future generations have access to the incalculable benefits that nature has bestowed upon us, and that the current unsustainable pattern of production and consumption must be altered in the interest of our collective well-being.

The international community's unwavering commitment to the shared goals articulated in the Declaration is enshrined in its signature document. The international community asked the UN General Assembly to review the implementation of the Declaration's provisions on a regular basis, and the Declaration mandated that the Secretary General issue periodic reports for the General Assembly's consideration and as a basis for further action.

At its Fifty-Fifth session, the United Nations General Assembly on 8th September, 2000 approved the United Nations Millennium Declaration in which concern was voiced by the international body for a range of concerns which impact the entire globe. The international community has acknowledged that it has a shared obligation to defend universal values including human dignity, equality, and fair treatment for everyone. The Declaration reaffirmed to realise the universal aspirations for peace, cooperation, and development, beginning with peace, security, and disarmament, and moving forward to development, the eradication of poverty, and the protection of the common environment. In addition to reaffirming faith in the United Nations Organisation and its Charter as indispensable foundations for a more peaceful, prosperous, and just world, the Declaration, which is broken down into eight sections, also lays out certain fundamental values that are essential to international relations in the twenty-first century. In keeping with the principles of sustainable development, "respect for nature" is one such core value. This is the only way to ensure that future generations enjoy the incalculable benefits that nature has bestowed upon us. In the sake of our future and that of our successors, we must alter our existing unsustainable habits of production and consumption.

The United Nations' efforts have been sharply concentrated in recent years thanks to the Millennium Development objectives, which consist of eight objectives, eighteen targets, and more than forty indicators. The Secretary-General's Millennium Roadmap, which includes the Millennium Development Goals, has been endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly.

### **The 2002 Delhi Summit on Sustainable Development (DSDS)**

The Tata Energy Research Institute (TERI), a research-oriented non-governmental organisation based in New Delhi, organised a summit on Sustainable Development in Delhi, India from 8 to 11 February 2002. The purpose of the summit was to discuss, examine, and elaborate on the dynamics of the concept of Sustainable Development. The goal was to make recommendations for consideration at the upcoming World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg, South Africa later that year. The number is 73. The Delhi Summit was a regional meeting conducted as a precursor to the major World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg. The primary objective of the Delhi Summit was to prioritise poverty reduction as the central issue in order to attain sustainable development. It has been recognised that the approach taken by governments and international institutions, which prioritises economic growth, does not always lead to



sustainable development. The main focus of sustainable development is to reduce poverty by meeting the basic needs of the poorest individuals, which has remained the primary challenge in developing countries. Furthermore, it was recognised that any attempts to save the environment or advance sustainable development would be counterproductive until the fundamental need of the most impoverished individuals were satisfied. This is particularly relevant in the context of globalisation. It was emphasised that this knowledge was central to the notion of sustainable living, serving as both a goal in itself and a method for eliminating poverty by recognising the fundamental needs of the impoverished. Mr. Atal Behari Vajpayee, the Prime Minister of India, expressed the same idea in his opening speech. He emphasised the importance of ensuring that sustainable development and globalisation benefit the poor. He stressed that we cannot delay any further in fulfilling the aspirations of the impoverished to have a better life. This endeavour has paramount importance in the realm of sustainable development.

### **Delhi Summit**

The Delhi Summit highlighted the need of all governments adopting the notion of good governance, which includes accountability, stakeholder participation, and transparency, inside their own countries. This principle is considered the fourth pillar of sustainable development. 74 The Delhi Summit produced a set of recommendations, which include:

1. Give business and industry the respect it deserves for the vital role it plays in achieving sustainable development.
2. Support a kind of government that is open, honest, and inclusive.
3. Find a way to get firm promises for further aid from the government.
4. Trade liberalisation and easier workforce mobility are essential steps towards full globalisation.
5. In order for the advantages of technology to reach everyone, it is important to promote its development with a focus on social responsibility.
6. Establish a system of free and compulsory education that prepares all students for success in the modern world.

Instead of concentrating exclusively on your own advancement, you should direct collective effort towards making the world a better place so that one day everyone might live together in harmony and prosperity.

In order to encourage local community engagement in natural resource management, a complete plan should be implemented. This strategy should take into consideration the intricate interactions that exist between people (especially the poor) and the natural environment in which they live, and it should clearly outline the responsibilities that various stakeholders will play.

### **The Sustainable Development Summit of the World**

The Johannesburg Summit on Sustainable Development was held in Johannesburg (South Africa) from the 27th of August to the 4th of September in 2002. It was convened under the auspices of the Commission on Sustainable Development to assess the state of sustainable development since the Rio Conference and to make recommendations for moving forward with the Rio Principles and Agenda 21.75 The international community has reaffirmed its

support for the Rio Principles and Agenda 21,76 and has pledged to take concrete actions and measures at all levels to improve international cooperation. Particular attention will be paid to Principle 7 of the Rio Declaration, which outlines the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities. In addition, the international community has pledged to take concrete actions and measures to address climate change. The job of pushing for the simultaneous advancement of sustainable development's three pillars, namely economic growth, social progress, and environmental protection, was given to members of the international community. The eradication of poverty, the modification of unsustainable patterns of production and consumption, and the conservation and management of natural resource foundations for economic and social progress were some of the overarching objectives and essential criteria for sustainable development that were declared.

The international community, seeing the need for good governance both inside each nation and at the worldwide level, demanded that this be implemented at the national level. The principles that underpin sustainable development include policies that are beneficial to society, the economy, and the environment as a whole; democratic institutions that are responsive to the demands of the people; the rule of law; anti-corruption measures; gender equality; and an atmosphere that encourages investment. These principles are the foundations of sustainable development.

In the document that outlined the plan of action, it was stated that in order to achieve sustainable development, one of the required requirements is peace. Other necessary elements include security, stability, and respect for human rights and individual freedoms, particularly the right to development and tolerance for cultural variety. The paper outlining the plan of implementation called for action to be done at all levels in order to halve, by the year 2015, the proportion of the world's population that lives on less than \$1 per day, the percentage of people suffering from hunger, and the percentage of people who do not have access to safe drinking water. These percentages were to be reduced in relation to the number of people who lacked access to clean drinking water. This was done in acknowledgement of the fact that the elimination of poverty is the most significant worldwide problem that the world is now experiencing and an essential necessity for the creation of a sustainable society. It also advocated for the establishment of a World Solidarity Fund, which would be used in line with the processes that would be established by the General Assembly, with the goals of combating global poverty and advancing social and human development in the countries of the world that are considered to be the poorest. In addition to this, it provided recommendations for actions that should be taken to guarantee that women, on an equal footing with men, have full access to and participation in the decision-making process at all levels. In the report that recommended the plan of implementation, one of the recommendations advised boosting the influence of industrial development on decreasing poverty and improving the management of natural resources.

## Discussions & Results

It is necessary to secure the sustainable development of the seas because the oceans are an essential component of the ecology of the globe, play a critical part in assuring the safety of

food supplies across the world, and contribute to the expansion and prosperity of many national economies, particularly those of countries that are still in the process of developing. Because of this, it is imperative that concerted efforts be made on all fronts to convince nations to ratify or accede to, and implement, the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, which defines the overall legal framework for operations in the world's oceans. This convention was created in order to protect the marine environment and ensure that all maritime endeavours are conducted in accordance with international law.<sup>88</sup>As a result of the fact that Chapter 17 of Agenda 21 outlines a plan of action to safeguard the long-term health of the world's oceans, coastlines, and seas, it is imperative that this plan be actively promoted and put into effect.

Since climate change and its effects are of concern to all people, and since the Climate Change Convention is the primary tool for combating climate change, the international community has reaffirmed its dedication to the ultimate goal of the Convention, which is to stabilise atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases at a level that would prevent dangerous atmospheric interference with the entire climate system. This goal is to prevent dangerous atmospheric interference with the entire climate system. The states who have not yet ratified the Kyoto Protocol were strongly urged to do so in a timely manner and with as little resistance as possible.

The Document encouraged the international community to improve the international framework for sustainable development in order to fully implement Agenda 21, which is the follow-up to the conclusions of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, and to confront the increasing problems related to sustainable development.

### **COPENHAGEN AGREEMENT AND CONFERENCE**

In recent years, the problem of greenhouse gas emission has been at the forefront of the global community's attention and concern. These emissions have resulted in global warming and, ineluctably, climate change, both of which have contributed to the occurrence of extreme weather conditions. As of the 31st of December in 2012, this offer is no longer active. In response to this conspectus, the international community has ramped up its collective efforts to avert global warming by reducing emissions of greenhouse gases at the national level. At the first conference of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, which took place in 2005 in Montreal (Canada), a subsidiary body known as the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Kyoto Protocol (AWGKP) was established. This body was given the mandate to negotiate and decide on further commitments on the part of industrialised nations after the end of 2012, which is when the Kyoto Protocol is scheduled to cease its operations. After this meeting, there was another one held. The Bali Action Plan was developed in the course of a meeting that took place in Bali, Indonesia, in the year 2007.

### **Results**

As a result of the enormity of the problem posed by global warming, the leaders of the world have come to an agreement to work towards the publishing of a legally enforceable worldwide covenant. This covenant will contain necessary legal criteria for putting into action the aspects of the Bali Action Plan that have been outlined above. However, the Copenhagen Conference was not successful in accomplishing its aims and instead resulted in



the development of a legally non-binding contract that was given the name "the Copenhagen Accord." Neither industrialised countries nor developing nations are obligated to adhere to the terms of the agreement.

The Kyoto Protocol is an addition to the United States Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), but various groupings of states attending the Copenhagen Conference had differing views about what the Protocol's scope should be. While developed countries have called for the talks to continue within the framework of the Kyoto Protocol, developed nations have recommended that the Kyoto Protocol be replaced with either a new Protocol or fresh discussions for the adoption of a new legal treaty. Developing nations have argued that the negotiations should continue within the framework of Kyoto. The United States of America, which is not a signatory to the Kyoto Protocol, together with Brazil, South Africa, India, and China were able to rescue the negotiations by mediating a compromise that eventually became known as the "Copenhagen Accord" when it seemed that the discussions were about to collapse.

The "Copenhagen Accord" mandates that the increase in the average global temperature should not exceed 2°C. In order to meet this objective, there must be a significant cutback in the amount of greenhouse gases emitted all over the globe. Additionally, the Accord establishes the long-term global goal of reducing warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels. As a result, the Accord seeks to combat climate change in accordance with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capacities. The ultimate objective of the Accord is to stabilize concentrations of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system.

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