

6.4.1 The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is an international agreement created to address the problem of global climate change. Countries around the world cooperate through this convention to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and protect the environment.

Definition of UNFCCC

The UNFCCC is an international environmental treaty adopted in 1992 to combat climate change and its harmful effects on people and ecosystems.

Background of the UNFCCC

Climate change became a major global concern because of increasing temperatures, melting ice, droughts, floods, and environmental destruction. During the Earth Summit held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, countries agreed to establish the UNFCCC.

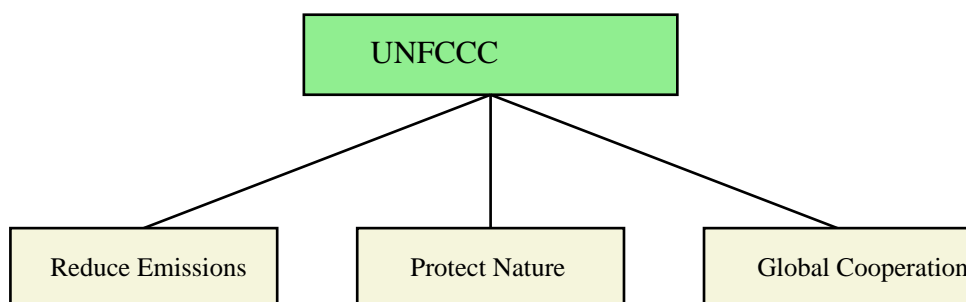
Adopted in 1992. Signed during the Rio Earth Summit. Entered into force in 1994. Almost all countries are members.

Objectives of the UNFCCC

The main goal of the UNFCCC is to stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere.

Reduce global warming. Protect ecosystems from climate damage. Promote sustainable development. Encourage international cooperation. Support vulnerable countries.

Diagram: Global Climate Cooperation



Principles of the UNFCCC

The UNFCCC follows important principles to guide international climate action.

Countries should cooperate to protect the climate. Developed countries should take greater responsibility.

Environmental protection should support development. Scientific research should guide climate action.

Role of Countries in the UNFCCC

Countries participating in the convention have responsibilities to reduce climate change.

Reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Protect forests and biodiversity. Promote renewable energy. Prepare reports on climate action. Educate the public about climate change.

Important Agreements under the UNFCCC

1. Kyoto Protocol

The Kyoto Protocol was created to reduce greenhouse gas emissions mainly in developed countries.

2. Paris Agreement

The Paris Agreement aims to limit the increase in global temperature and encourage countries to reduce pollution.

Benefits of the UNFCCC

The convention provides environmental and social benefits worldwide.

Raises awareness about climate change. Encourages use of clean energy. Supports environmental conservation.

Improves international cooperation. Helps countries adapt to climate change.

Table of Important Climate Agreements

| Agreement | Purpose |
|-----------------|----------------------------|
| UNFCCC | Global climate cooperation |
| Kyoto Protocol | Reduce greenhouse gases |
| Paris Agreement | Limit global warming |

Important Notes

- The UNFCCC was adopted in 1992.
- It focuses on climate change and global warming.

- Countries cooperate to reduce greenhouse gases.
- The Kyoto Protocol and Paris Agreement are linked to the UNFCCC.
- Sustainable development is an important goal.

Summary

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is an important international agreement that helps countries cooperate to reduce climate change. It encourages nations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, protect the environment, and promote sustainable development. Major agreements under the UNFCCC include the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement.

Review Questions and Answers

1. What is the UNFCCC?

It is an international treaty to combat climate change.

2. When was the UNFCCC adopted?

In 1992.

3. What is the main goal of the UNFCCC?

To reduce greenhouse gas concentrations.

4. Mention one agreement under the UNFCCC.

The Kyoto Protocol or Paris Agreement.

5. Why is international cooperation important?

Because climate change affects all countries.

6. Mention one benefit of the UNFCCC.

It encourages environmental protection.

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