

GENERAL AWARENESS – UN AND IMPORTANT WORLD ORGANIZATIONS

Chapter: UN and Other Important World Organizations

Subject:	General Awareness – International Organizations
Total Questions:	70 MCQs
Question Type:	Multiple Choice (Single Correct Answer)
Exam Relevance:	UPSC, SSC CGL/CHSL, IBPS, RRB NTPC, State PSC, NDA, CDS, Defence Exams
Topics Covered:	UN & Principal Organs, UN Agencies, WTO, IMF, World Bank, NATO, BRICS, SCO, G20, QUAD, SAARC, Climate Bodies
Based On:	Static GK + Latest Current Affairs 2024–2026

★ ■ UNITED NATIONS – BASICS & STRUCTURE ★

Q1. The United Nations (UN) was founded in which year and has its headquarters in which city?

- A) 1919 – Geneva, Switzerland
- B) 1945 – New York City, USA
- C) 1950 – Washington D.C., USA
- D) 1945 – London, UK

✓ **Correct Answer: B) 1945 – New York City, USA**

■ *Explanation: The United Nations was formally established on 24 October 1945 (UN Day), replacing the League of Nations (1920–1946). Its headquarters are in New York City, USA (on land donated by the Rockefeller family). The UN currently has 193 Member States — virtually all sovereign nations.*

Q2. The UN Charter was signed in which city and on which date?

- A) New York – 24 October 1945
- B) San Francisco – 26 June 1945
- C) London – 1 January 1942
- D) Geneva – 14 August 1945

✓ **Correct Answer: B) San Francisco – 26 June 1945**

■ *Explanation: The UN Charter was signed on 26 June 1945 at the San Francisco Conference (United Nations Conference on International Organization) by 50 founding nations. It came into force on 24 October 1945 after ratification by the 5 permanent Security Council members, which is celebrated as UN Day.*

Q3. The United Nations has six principal organs. Which of the following is NOT one of them?

- A) General Assembly
- B) International Court of Justice
- C) International Labour Organization (ILO)
- D) Trusteeship Council

✓ **Correct Answer: C) International Labour Organization (ILO)**

■ *Explanation: The six principal organs of the UN are: General Assembly, Security Council, Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), Trusteeship Council, International Court of Justice (ICJ), and the UN Secretariat. The ILO is a specialised agency of the UN, not a principal organ.*

Q4. The UN General Assembly (UNGA) consists of all UN member states. Decisions on important questions require what majority?

- A) Simple majority (50%+1)
- B) Two-thirds majority of members present and voting
- C) Unanimous vote of all members
- D) Three-fourths majority

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Two-thirds majority of members present and voting**

■ *Explanation: Important questions in the UNGA (peace and security, budget, new member admission, etc.) require a two-thirds majority of members present and voting. Procedural questions require a simple majority. Every member state has one vote. The UNGA meets annually from September.*

Q5. The UN Security Council (UNSC) has 5 permanent members (P5) with veto power. Which country replaced the Republic of China (Taiwan) as a permanent member in 1971?

- A) North Korea
- B) People's Republic of China (PRC)
- C) South Korea
- D) Mongolia

✓ **Correct Answer: B) People's Republic of China (PRC)**

■ *Explanation: Through UN General Assembly Resolution 2758 (1971), the People's Republic of China (PRC/mainland China) replaced the Republic of China (Taiwan) as the permanent member of the UNSC. The P5 are: USA, UK, France, Russia, and China. Each P5 member holds veto power over UNSC resolutions.*

Q6. The UN Security Council has 10 non-permanent members elected for 2-year terms. India has been elected as a non-permanent member of the UNSC how many times (as of 2026)?

- A) 5 times
- B) 6 times
- C) 8 times
- D) 10 times

✓ **Correct Answer: C) 8 times**

■ *Explanation: India has been elected as a non-permanent member of the UNSC 8 times (most recently for 2021–22). India is one of the longest-serving non-permanent members. India strongly advocates for permanent membership in a reformed UNSC, as the G4 nation (along with Germany, Japan, Brazil).*

Q7. Who is the current (2026) Secretary-General of the United Nations?

- A) Ban Ki-moon
- B) Kofi Annan
- C) António Guterres
- D) Tedros Adhanom

✓ **Correct Answer: C) António Guterres**

■ *Explanation: António Guterres (former PM of Portugal) has been the UN Secretary-General since 1 January 2017 and was re-elected for a second term starting January 2022 (through 2026). He is the 9th UN Secretary-General. Ban Ki-moon was the 8th; Kofi Annan was the 7th (both Nobel Peace Laureates).*

Q8. The International Court of Justice (ICJ), the principal judicial organ of the UN, is headquartered in which city?

- A) Brussels, Belgium
- B) Geneva, Switzerland
- C) The Hague, Netherlands
- D) Vienna, Austria

✓ **Correct Answer: C) The Hague, Netherlands**

■ *Explanation: The International Court of Justice (ICJ), established in 1945, is headquartered at the Peace Palace in The Hague, Netherlands. It settles disputes between UN member states and gives advisory opinions on legal questions. It has 15 judges elected for 9-year terms by the UNGA and UNSC.*

★ ■ UN SPECIALISED AGENCIES ★

Q9. The World Health Organization (WHO) is the UN's specialized agency for international public health. It is headquartered in:

- A) New York, USA
- B) Vienna, Austria
- C) Geneva, Switzerland
- D) Brussels, Belgium

✓ **Correct Answer: C) Geneva, Switzerland**

■ *Explanation: WHO was established on 7 April 1948 (celebrated as World Health Day), headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland. Its current Director-General is Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus (Ethiopia), re-elected for a second term in 2022. WHO led the global COVID-19 pandemic response.*

Q10. UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) is headquartered in which city?

- A) London, UK
- B) Rome, Italy
- C) Geneva, Switzerland
- D) Paris, France

✓ **Correct Answer: D) Paris, France**

■ *Explanation: UNESCO is headquartered in Paris, France, and was founded on 16 November 1945. It promotes education, science, culture, and communication. UNESCO designates World Heritage Sites, Intangible Cultural Heritage, and Biosphere Reserves. India is a founding member of UNESCO.*

Q11. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), which leads international efforts against hunger, is headquartered in:

- A) Geneva, Switzerland
- B) Rome, Italy
- C) Nairobi, Kenya
- D) Washington D.C., USA

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Rome, Italy**

■ *Explanation: FAO is headquartered in Rome, Italy (at the Palazzo FAO). It was founded on 16 October 1945 — celebrated annually as World Food Day. Other UN food-related agencies in Rome include WFP (World Food Programme) and IFAD (International Fund for Agricultural Development).*

Q12. The International Labour Organization (ILO) promotes workers' rights and decent employment. Where is it headquartered?

- A) Paris, France
- B) Vienna, Austria
- C) Geneva, Switzerland
- D) Brussels, Belgium

✓ **Correct Answer: C) Geneva, Switzerland**

■ *Explanation: The ILO (International Labour Organization), established in 1919 (predating the UN), is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland. It is the only tripartite UN agency where governments, employers, and workers jointly set international labour standards. It won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1969.*

Q13. UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund) works for children's rights and welfare. Its headquarters are in:

- A) Geneva, Switzerland
- B) London, UK
- C) New York, USA
- D) Washington D.C., USA

✓ **Correct Answer: C) New York, USA**

■ *Explanation: UNICEF is headquartered in New York City, USA. Established in 1946 (initially as the UN International Children's Emergency Fund), it works in over 190 countries providing humanitarian and development aid to children. It won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1965.*

Q14. The International Monetary Fund (IMF), which promotes global monetary cooperation, is headquartered in:

- A) London, UK
- B) Geneva, Switzerland
- C) Brussels, Belgium
- D) Washington D.C., USA

✓ **Correct Answer: D) Washington D.C., USA**

■ *Explanation: The IMF is headquartered in Washington D.C., USA. Founded in 1944 at the Bretton Woods Conference, it currently has 190 member countries. It monitors global economies, provides financial assistance, and offers policy advice. India's quota in the IMF reflects its growing economic weight. The current MD is Kristalina Georgieva (Bulgaria).*

Q15. The World Bank Group, which provides loans and grants for development, is also headquartered in which city?

- A) New York, USA
- B) Washington D.C., USA
- C) Geneva, Switzerland
- D) London, UK

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Washington D.C., USA**

■ *Explanation: The World Bank Group is headquartered in Washington D.C., USA, established at the 1944 Bretton Woods Conference. It consists of five institutions: IBRD, IDA, IFC, MIGA, and ICSID. Traditionally, its President is an American (by convention). The current President is Ajay Banga (India-born American), appointed in 2023.*

Q16. Ajay Banga, an Indian-American executive, became the President of the World Bank in 2023. He was previously the CEO of which company?

- A) Goldman Sachs
- B) Mastercard
- C) Citibank
- D) JPMorgan Chase

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Mastercard**

■ *Explanation: Ajay Banga served as CEO and Executive Chairman of Mastercard before being nominated by US President Joe Biden and confirmed as President of the World Bank Group in May 2023. He is the first person of Indian origin to head the World Bank. His focus has been on climate change, poverty alleviation, and private sector mobilisation.*

Q17. UNDP (United Nations Development Programme) publishes the Human Development Index (HDI) annually. Its headquarters are in:

- A) Geneva, Switzerland
- B) Brussels, Belgium
- C) New York, USA
- D) Vienna, Austria

✓ **Correct Answer: C) New York, USA**

■ *Explanation: UNDP is headquartered in New York, USA. It publishes the annual Human Development Report (HDR) including the Human Development Index (HDI), which ranks countries by life expectancy, education, and income. India typically ranks in the medium HDI category (around 134th out of 193 as of 2024 HDR).*

★ ■ UN PROGRAMMES, FUNDS & SDGs ★

Q18. UNHCR (UN Refugee Agency) protects and assists refugees worldwide. Its headquarters are in:

- A) Vienna, Austria
- B) Geneva, Switzerland
- C) Brussels, Belgium
- D) New York, USA

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Geneva, Switzerland**

■ *Explanation: UNHCR (UN High Commissioner for Refugees) is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland. Established in 1950, it protects and supports refugees, asylum seekers, and stateless people. It has won the Nobel Peace Prize twice (1954 and 1981). The current High Commissioner is Filippo Grandi (Italy).*

Q19. UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme), the leading global environmental authority, is headquartered in which African city?

- A) Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- B) Cairo, Egypt
- C) Nairobi, Kenya
- D) Johannesburg, South Africa

✓ **Correct Answer: C) Nairobi, Kenya**

■ *Explanation: UNEP is headquartered in Nairobi, Kenya — making it the only principal UN body headquartered in a developing country (along with UN-Habitat, also in Nairobi). UNEP was established in 1972 following the Stockholm Conference. It coordinates global environmental action and publishes the Global Environment Outlook.*

Q20. The UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) — also called the 2030 Agenda — consist of how many goals adopted in 2015?

- A) 8 goals (MDGs)
- B) 15 goals
- C) 17 goals
- D) 20 goals

✓ **Correct Answer: C) 17 goals**

■ *Explanation: The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were adopted at the UN Sustainable Development Summit in September 2015, replacing the 8 Millennium Development Goals (MDGs, 2000–2015). The SDGs are a universal agenda covering poverty, health, education, gender equality, climate action, and more, with 169 targets to be achieved by 2030.*

Q21. The World Trade Organization (WTO) replaced GATT in 1995. It is headquartered in which city?

- A) Brussels, Belgium
- B) Geneva, Switzerland
- C) Vienna, Austria
- D) New York, USA

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Geneva, Switzerland**

■ *Explanation: The WTO was established on 1 January 1995 under the Marrakesh Agreement (signed in Morocco), replacing GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, est. 1948). It is headquartered at Centre William Rappard, Geneva, Switzerland. The current DG is Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala (Nigeria), the first African and first woman to head the WTO.*

★ ■ **WTO, IMF & WORLD BANK** ★

Q22. The Special Drawing Right (SDR) is an international reserve asset created by the IMF. It is based on a basket of which currencies?

- A) USD, Euro, Yen, GBP, and Chinese Renminbi (CNY)
- B) USD, Euro, GBP, and Yen only
- C) G7 currencies only
- D) USD, Euro, and CNY only

✓ **Correct Answer: A) USD, Euro, Yen, GBP, and Chinese Renminbi (CNY)**

■ *Explanation: The SDR (Special Drawing Right) basket currently includes 5 currencies: US Dollar (USD), Euro (EUR), Chinese Renminbi (CNY), Japanese Yen (JPY), and British Pound Sterling (GBP). China's Yuan was added to the SDR basket in 2016, reflecting China's growing role in global trade.*

Q23. The 'Doha Development Round' of WTO trade negotiations began in which year and city?

- A) 2001, Doha, Qatar
- B) 1994, Marrakesh, Morocco
- C) 1999, Seattle, USA
- D) 2003, Cancun, Mexico

✓ **Correct Answer: A) 2001, Doha, Qatar**

■ *Explanation: The Doha Development Round (or Doha Development Agenda) was launched at the 4th WTO Ministerial Conference in Doha, Qatar in November 2001. It aimed to lower trade barriers and revise trade rules with a focus on developing countries. The round has not been fully concluded and remains one of the longest stalled trade negotiations.*

Q24. NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) was founded in 1949. Its headquarters are in which city?

- A) Washington D.C., USA
- B) London, UK
- C) Brussels, Belgium
- D) Paris, France

✓ **Correct Answer: C) Brussels, Belgium**

■ *Explanation: NATO was founded on 4 April 1949 (Washington Treaty) and is headquartered in Brussels, Belgium (moved from Paris in 1967 when France left NATO's integrated military command). NATO currently has 32 member countries following Sweden's accession in March 2024. The Secretary General (2024–present) is Mark Rutte (Netherlands).*

Q25. Sweden joined NATO in March 2024, becoming its 32nd member. Which country joined NATO just before Sweden, making it the 31st member?

- A) Finland
- B) Ukraine
- C) Georgia
- D) Bosnia and Herzegovina

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Finland**

■ *Explanation: Finland joined NATO as its 31st member on 4 April 2023 (NATO's 74th anniversary), breaking its long-standing neutrality following Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February 2022. Sweden joined as the 32nd member in March 2024. Both Nordic nations had maintained neutrality throughout the Cold War.*

★ ■■ NATO & MILITARY ALLIANCES ★

Q26. NATO's Article 5 is the cornerstone of the alliance. It states that an attack on one member is:

- A) A declaration of war by NATO on the attacker
- B) Considered an attack on all members, triggering collective defence
- C) Referred to the UN Security Council for resolution
- D) Grounds for economic sanctions by all members

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Considered an attack on all members, triggering collective defence**

■ *Explanation: Article 5 of the NATO Treaty (collective defence clause) states that an attack on one NATO member is considered an attack on all. It has been invoked only once — after the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the USA in 2001. Article 5 is the foundation of NATO's deterrence strategy.*

Q27. ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) was founded in 1967. Its Secretariat is located in which city?

- A) Singapore
- B) Bangkok, Thailand
- C) Jakarta, Indonesia
- D) Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

✓ **Correct Answer: C) Jakarta, Indonesia**

■ *Explanation: ASEAN was established on 8 August 1967 in Bangkok (Bangkok Declaration) by the original 5 members: Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand. The ASEAN Secretariat is in Jakarta, Indonesia. ASEAN currently has 10 members (+ Timor-Leste admitted as 11th member in 2024).*

Q28. The G20 (Group of Twenty) is a premier international forum for economic cooperation. India hosted the G20 Summit in 2023 in which city, and what was the theme?

- A) New Delhi – 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam: One Earth, One Family, One Future'
- B) Mumbai – 'One World, One Future'
- C) Bengaluru – 'Global South, Global Voice'
- D) Jaipur – 'Atma Nirbhar Bharat'

✓ **Correct Answer: A) New Delhi – 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam: One Earth, One Family, One Future'**

■ *Explanation: India hosted the G20 Leaders' Summit on 9–10 September 2023 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. The theme was 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam: One Earth, One Family, One Future' (from the Maha Upanishad). The African Union (AU) was admitted as the 55th member of G20 during India's G20 Presidency.*

★ ■ REGIONAL & ECONOMIC ORGANIZATIONS ★

Q29. The BRICS grouping was originally BRIC (Brazil, Russia, India, China). When was South Africa added, completing the 'S' in BRICS?

- A) 2008
- B) 2009
- C) 2010
- D) 2011

✓ **Correct Answer: C) 2010**

■ *Explanation: South Africa was invited to join BRIC in December 2010, making it BRICS. The first BRIC summit was held in Yekaterinburg, Russia in 2009. At the 15th BRICS Summit (Johannesburg, 2023), 6 new members were invited: Saudi Arabia, UAE, Ethiopia, Egypt, Iran, and Argentina (though Argentina later withdrew).*

Q30. Which countries joined BRICS as new members on 1 January 2024 (the first expansion of BRICS in over a decade)?

- A) Saudi Arabia, UAE, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran
- B) Saudi Arabia, UAE, Turkey, Indonesia, Nigeria
- C) Iran, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Algeria, Cuba
- D) Egypt, Argentina, Bangladesh, Vietnam, Mexico

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Saudi Arabia, UAE, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran**

■ *Explanation: Five new countries formally joined BRICS on 1 January 2024: Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates (UAE), Egypt, Ethiopia, and Iran. Argentina, which was also invited at the Johannesburg Summit, declined to join under new President Javier Milei. Saudi Arabia's membership remains under consideration.*

Q31. The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) was founded in 2001. India and Pakistan became full members of SCO in which year?

- A) 2015
- B) 2016
- C) 2017
- D) 2019

✓ **Correct Answer: C) 2017**

■ *Explanation: India and Pakistan were admitted as full members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) at the Astana Summit in Kazakhstan in June 2017. SCO was founded on 15 June 2001 in Shanghai. Its current members include China, Russia, India, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Iran, and Belarus.*

Q32. SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation) was established in 1985. Its Secretariat is in which city?

- A) New Delhi, India
- B) Islamabad, Pakistan
- C) Kathmandu, Nepal
- D) Dhaka, Bangladesh

✓ **Correct Answer: C) Kathmandu, Nepal**

■ *Explanation: SAARC was established on 8 December 1985 in Dhaka, Bangladesh, with 7 founding members (India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Maldives). Afghanistan joined in 2007 as the 8th member. The SAARC Secretariat is in Kathmandu, Nepal. SAARC summits have been suspended since 2016 due to India-Pakistan tensions.*

Q33. The African Union (AU) was admitted as a full member of the G20 during India's G20 Presidency in 2023. The AU has how many member states?

- A) 47
- B) 50
- C) 55
- D) 58

✓ **Correct Answer: C) 55**

■ *Explanation: The African Union (AU) has 55 member states — all African nations. Founded in 2001 (succeeding the Organisation of African Unity), its headquarters are in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The AU's admission to G20 was a historic moment giving Africa a permanent seat at the table of the world's largest economies.*

Q34. Interpol (International Criminal Police Organization) is headquartered in which city?

- A) Brussels, Belgium
- B) The Hague, Netherlands
- C) Lyon, France
- D) Vienna, Austria

✓ **Correct Answer: C) Lyon, France**

■ *Explanation: Interpol is headquartered in Lyon, France. Founded in 1923, it is the world's largest international police organization with 196 member countries. Interpol issues colour-coded notices for international law enforcement cooperation; the Red Notice is the most serious, requesting member countries to locate and arrest a fugitive.*

Q35. The International Criminal Court (ICC), which tries individuals for war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide, is headquartered in:

- A) Geneva, Switzerland
- B) Brussels, Belgium
- C) The Hague, Netherlands
- D) Vienna, Austria

✓ **Correct Answer: C) The Hague, Netherlands**

■ *Explanation: The ICC is headquartered in The Hague, Netherlands, and was established by the Rome Statute in 2002. It is distinct from the ICJ (which settles disputes between states). As of 2025, 124 countries have ratified the Rome Statute. The USA, Russia, China, and India are not ICC members.*

Q36. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), which promotes peaceful use of nuclear energy, is headquartered in:

- A) Geneva, Switzerland
- B) Vienna, Austria
- C) Brussels, Belgium
- D) Washington D.C., USA

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Vienna, Austria**

■ *Explanation: The IAEA is headquartered in Vienna, Austria, established in 1957. It serves as the world's nuclear watchdog — inspecting nuclear facilities to prevent weapons proliferation. The IAEA Director General (since 2019) is Rafael Mariano Grossi (Argentina). IAEA and its former DG Mohamed ElBaradei received the Nobel Peace Prize in 2005.*

★ ■■ INTERPOL, ICC & INTERNATIONAL LAW ★

Q37. The Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) bans all nuclear explosions. India's position on the CTBT is:

- A) India is a signatory and has ratified the CTBT
- B) India signed but has not ratified the CTBT
- C) India has neither signed nor ratified the CTBT
- D) India ratified the CTBT in 2005 after the India-US nuclear deal

✓ **Correct Answer: C) India has neither signed nor ratified the CTBT**

■ *Explanation: India has neither signed nor ratified the CTBT. India rejected the CTBT when it was opened for signature in 1996, arguing it was discriminatory (allowed nuclear-weapon states to maintain existing arsenals while banning tests by others). The CTBT requires ratification by 44 specific states (including India) to enter into force — it has not yet entered into force.*

Q38. Pakistan was elected as a non-permanent member of the UNSC for which term in 2024?

- A) 2023–2024
- B) 2024–2025
- C) 2025–2026
- D) 2026–2027

✓ **Correct Answer: C) 2025–2026**

■ *Explanation: Pakistan was elected as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council for the 2025–2026 term. It received the endorsement of the Asia-Pacific group at the UNGA. India last served as UNSC non-permanent member for 2021–2022.*

Q39. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) COP29 was held in 2024 in which country?

- A) Brazil
- B) UAE
- C) Azerbaijan (Baku)
- D) India

✓ **Correct Answer: C) Azerbaijan (Baku)**

■ *Explanation: COP29 (29th Conference of Parties to the UNFCCC) was held in Baku, Azerbaijan in November 2024. A key outcome was the New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) on climate finance — developed countries committed to mobilising \$300 billion per year by 2035 for developing nations' climate action. COP30 will be held in Belém, Brazil in 2025.*

Q40. The United Nations Convention against Cybercrime was adopted in 2024/2025. Where was its signing ceremony held?

- A) New York, USA
- B) Geneva, Switzerland
- C) Hanoi, Vietnam
- D) Vienna, Austria

✓ **Correct Answer: C) Hanoi, Vietnam**

■ *Explanation: The UN Convention against Cybercrime (adopted December 2024 at UNGA) had its signing ceremony in Hanoi, Vietnam in October 2025. It is the world's first global legally binding framework to prevent, investigate, and prosecute cybercrimes, including ransomware, financial fraud, and non-consensual sharing of intimate images.*

Q41. Shaikha Nasser Al Nowais became the first woman to lead which UN-specialised agency as Secretary-General in January 2026?

- A) WHO (World Health Organization)
- B) UN Tourism (formerly UNWTO)
- C) UNESCO
- D) FAO

✓ **Correct Answer: B) UN Tourism (formerly UNWTO)**

■ *Explanation: Shaikha Nasser Al Nowais (UAE) was appointed Secretary-General of UN Tourism (formerly the United Nations World Tourism Organization/UNWTO) in January 2026, becoming the first woman to lead the organisation in its 50-year history. UN Tourism promotes responsible, sustainable, and universally accessible tourism.*

★ ■ **CURRENT AFFAIRS – WORLD ORGANIZATIONS 2024–26** ★

Q42. The 'Pact for the Future' was adopted at the UN Summit of the Future in September 2024 in New York. Its primary aim is to:

- A) Establish a new UN Security Council with 10 permanent members
- B) Reform global governance for future generations and revitalise multilateralism
- C) Create a global minimum tax of 25% on corporations
- D) Ban all nuclear weapons by 2035

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Reform global governance for future generations and revitalise multilateralism**

■ *Explanation: The 'Pact for the Future' was adopted unanimously at the UN Summit of the Future (22–23 September 2024) in New York. It contains 56 actions to revitalise multilateralism, reform global institutions (including the UNSC), address emerging technologies like AI, achieve the SDGs, and ensure intergenerational equity.*

Q43. The Paris Agreement on climate change (2015) aims to limit global temperature rise to well below how many degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels?

- A) 1°C
- B) 1.5°C (with efforts towards 1.5°C)
- C) 2°C (with efforts to limit to 1.5°C)
- D) 3°C

✓ **Correct Answer: C) 2°C (with efforts to limit to 1.5°C)**

■ *Explanation: The Paris Agreement (adopted at COP21, December 2015; entered force November 2016) aims to hold global average temperature increase to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the increase to 1.5°C. Nearly all nations (195+) have signed and ratified it. NDCs (Nationally Determined Contributions) are the key mechanism.*

Q44. The Montreal Protocol (1987) successfully phased out substances that deplete the ozone layer. The primary ozone-depleting substances targeted were:

- A) Carbon dioxide and methane
- B) Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) and Halons
- C) Sulphur dioxide and nitrogen oxides
- D) Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) and black carbon

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) and Halons**

■ *Explanation: The Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (1987) is often called the world's most successful environmental treaty. It phased out the production and use of CFCs (chlorofluorocarbons), HCFCs, halons, and other ozone-depleting substances. The Kigali Amendment (2016) extended it to cover HFCs (potent greenhouse gases).*

Q45. CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species) regulates international wildlife trade. The number of species protected under CITES is approximately:

- A) 5,000 species
- B) 15,000 species
- C) 38,000 species
- D) 1 lakh species

✓ **Correct Answer: C) 38,000 species**

■ *Explanation: CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, signed 1963, entered force 1975) protects approximately 38,000 species under three appendices (Appendix I: most endangered; Appendix II: not necessarily threatened but trade must be controlled; Appendix III: protected in at least one country). CITES Secretariat is in Geneva.*

Q46. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is headquartered in which city and was established in which year?

- A) Tokyo, Japan – 1966
- B) Manila, Philippines – 1966
- C) Singapore – 1967
- D) Beijing, China – 2015

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Manila, Philippines – 1966**

■ *Explanation: The Asian Development Bank (ADB) was established in 1966 and is headquartered in Mandaluyong City (Metro Manila), Philippines. ADB promotes social and economic development in Asia-Pacific. It has 68 members. Japan has historically been the largest shareholder and contributor, and the ADB President has always been Japanese.*

Q47. The New Development Bank (NDB), also called the BRICS Bank, is headquartered in which city?

- A) Beijing, China
- B) New Delhi, India
- C) Shanghai, China
- D) Johannesburg, South Africa

✓ **Correct Answer: C) Shanghai, China**

■ *Explanation: The New Development Bank (NDB), established by BRICS nations in 2014 (agreement signed at 6th BRICS Summit in Fortaleza, Brazil), is headquartered in Shanghai, China. Its first President was K.V. Kamath (India). NDB has since expanded to include the UAE, Bangladesh, Egypt, and other countries. India's Dilma Rouseff (former Brazil President) leads it currently.*

★ ■ ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE ORGANIZATIONS ★

Q48. The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), a multilateral development bank proposed by China, is headquartered in:

- A) Shanghai, China
- B) Shenzhen, China
- C) Beijing, China
- D) Hong Kong, China

✓ **Correct Answer: C) Beijing, China**

■ *Explanation: The AIIB (Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank) is headquartered in Beijing, China. It was proposed by China in 2013 and formally established in 2015, beginning operations in January 2016. It has 109 approved members (as of 2024). Despite initial US opposition, most US allies joined. India is the second-largest shareholder after China.*

Q49. The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) is an inter-governmental body that sets standards to combat money laundering and terrorist financing. A country placed on the FATF 'Black List' means it is:

- A) Under increased monitoring for financial crimes
- B) Subject to enhanced due diligence measures globally (High-Risk Jurisdictions subject to a Call for Action)
- C) Banned from international trade
- D) Under UNSC sanctions

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Subject to enhanced due diligence measures globally (High-Risk Jurisdictions subject to a Call for Action)**

■ *Explanation: FATF's 'Black List' (officially 'High-Risk Jurisdictions subject to a Call for Action') includes countries with severe deficiencies in anti-money laundering systems — triggering enhanced due diligence and counter-measures globally. The 'Grey List' ('Jurisdictions under Increased Monitoring') requires monitoring but no counter-measures. Pakistan was on the Grey List from 2018–2022.*

Q50. India is a founding member of which of the following international organizations?

- A) WTO
- B) ASEAN
- C) UNESCO and the United Nations
- D) BRICS

✓ **Correct Answer: C) UNESCO and the United Nations**

■ *Explanation: India is a founding member of both the United Nations (1945) and UNESCO (1945). India was also a founding member of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM, 1961) and the International Solar Alliance (ISA, 2016). India is NOT a founding member of WTO (which replaced GATT in 1995, though India was a GATT member).*

★ ■ FINANCIAL & DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS ★

Q51. India joined the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) in which year, strengthening its non-proliferation credentials?

- A) 2008
- B) 2012
- C) 2016
- D) 2019

✓ **Correct Answer: C) 2016**

■ *Explanation: India joined the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) on 27 June 2016, becoming its 35th member. MTCR is an informal political understanding among supplier nations to limit the proliferation of missiles and related technology. India also joined the Wassenaar Arrangement and the Australia Group in 2017–18.*

Q52. India is not a member of which of the following major international groupings?

- A) G20
- B) SCO (Shanghai Cooperation Organisation)
- C) APEC (Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation)
- D) Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)

✓ **Correct Answer: C) APEC (Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation)**

■ *Explanation: India is NOT a member of APEC (Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation), though it has observer status aspirations. APEC has 21 member economies. India is a member of G20, SCO (since 2017), NAM, Commonwealth of Nations, SAARC, BRICS, and many other international bodies.*

Q53. The Quad (Quadrilateral Security Dialogue) is a strategic security dialogue among which four countries?

- A) USA, UK, Canada, Australia
- B) USA, India, Japan, Australia
- C) USA, India, Japan, South Korea
- D) USA, India, France, Australia

✓ **Correct Answer: B) USA, India, Japan, Australia**

■ *Explanation: The Quad (Quadrilateral Security Dialogue) comprises the USA, India, Japan, and Australia. First formed in 2007, it was revived in 2017 and elevated to the summit level in 2021. The Quad focuses on a free, open, and prosperous Indo-Pacific — covering maritime security, technology, climate, health, and supply chain resilience.*

Q54. The G7 (Group of Seven) comprises the world's most advanced economies. Which country was suspended from G8, reducing it back to G7?

- A) China
- B) Russia
- C) Brazil
- D) India

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Russia**

■ *Explanation: Russia was suspended from the G8 (Group of Eight) in March 2014 following its annexation of Crimea from Ukraine, reducing the group back to G7. The G7 comprises: USA, UK, France, Germany, Italy, Canada, and Japan, plus the EU as a guest. The G7 Summit in 2025 was held in Kananaskis, Canada.*

Q55. The Commonwealth of Nations, of which India is a member, is a political association of countries mainly former territories of which empire?

- A) French Empire
- B) British Empire
- C) Portuguese Empire
- D) Dutch Empire

✓ **Correct Answer: B) British Empire**

■ *Explanation: The Commonwealth of Nations (formerly British Commonwealth) is a voluntary association of 56 countries, most of which are former territories of the British Empire. The symbolic head of the Commonwealth is the British Monarch (currently King Charles III). India joined the Commonwealth in 1949 as a republic — setting a precedent for non-Dominion republics to remain in the Commonwealth.*

★ ■■ INDIA IN WORLD ORGANIZATIONS ★

Q56. The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) was founded in 1961 in which city?

- A) New Delhi, India
- B) Cairo, Egypt
- C) Belgrade, Yugoslavia (Serbia)
- D) Bandung, Indonesia

✓ **Correct Answer: C) Belgrade, Yugoslavia (Serbia)**

■ *Explanation: The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) was formally founded at the 1st NAM Summit in Belgrade, Yugoslavia (now Serbia) in September 1961. The founding fathers were Jawaharlal Nehru (India), Josip Broz Tito (Yugoslavia), Gamal Abdel Nasser (Egypt), Sukarno (Indonesia), and Kwame Nkrumah (Ghana). The Bandung Conference (1955) laid the groundwork for NAM.*

Q57. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) was adopted by the UN General Assembly on which date in 1948?

- A) 26 June 1945
- B) 10 December 1948
- C) 24 October 1950
- D) 1 January 1949

✓ **Correct Answer: B) 10 December 1948**

■ *Explanation: The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) was adopted by the UN General Assembly on 10 December 1948 in Paris — celebrated annually as Human Rights Day. It consists of 30 articles and was drafted by a committee chaired by Eleanor Roosevelt (USA). It is not legally binding but is the foundation for international human rights law.*

Q58. The UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC), which oversees human rights globally, is based in which city?

- A) New York, USA
- B) Vienna, Austria
- C) Geneva, Switzerland
- D) Brussels, Belgium

✓ **Correct Answer: C) Geneva, Switzerland**

■ *Explanation: The UNHRC (UN Human Rights Council) is based in Geneva, Switzerland. Established in 2006 (replacing the UN Commission on Human Rights), it has 47 member states elected for 3-year terms by the UNGA. India has been elected to the UNHRC multiple times. It conducts Universal Periodic Reviews (UPR) of all UN members' human rights records.*

Q59. Which UN body administers the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), which aims to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons?

- A) IAEA
- B) UNSC
- C) The NPT is its own treaty body, facilitated by the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA)
- D) ICC

✓ **Correct Answer: C) The NPT is its own treaty body, facilitated by the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA)**

■ *Explanation: The NPT (Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, 1970) has its own Review Conference structure, facilitated by the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA). The IAEA implements safeguards under the NPT. India, Pakistan, and Israel have not signed the NPT. North Korea withdrew in 2003. The treaty divides the world into nuclear-weapon states (5) and non-nuclear-weapon states.*

Q60. In which year was India elected as the Chair of the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC), making it a landmark election in India's multilateral diplomacy?

- A) 2018
- B) 2020
- C) 2021
- D) 2023

✓ **Correct Answer: C) 2021**

■ *Explanation: India was elected as the President (Chair) of the 47-member UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC) for 2021–2022, with Nazhat Shameem Khan (Fiji) initially presiding and India's Ambassador subsequently. India has consistently participated in multilateral human rights forums while defending its sovereign positions.*

Q61. The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) is headquartered in which city and was co-founded with India's active participation?

- A) Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
- B) Abu Dhabi, UAE
- C) Dubai, UAE
- D) Doha, Qatar

✓ **Correct Answer: B) Abu Dhabi, UAE**

■ *Explanation: IRENA (International Renewable Energy Agency) is headquartered in Abu Dhabi, UAE, established in 2009 (entered force 2010). It is the leading intergovernmental organisation for renewable energy transformation. India is one of its founding members. IRENA's headquarters in Masdar City, Abu Dhabi is itself a model renewable energy city.*

★ ■■ HUMAN RIGHTS & SPECIALISED BODIES ★

Q62. The International Solar Alliance (ISA), proposed by India and France at COP21, has its headquarters in which Indian city?

- A) New Delhi
- B) Mumbai
- C) Gurugram (Haryana)
- D) Bengaluru

✓ **Correct Answer: C) Gurugram (Haryana)**

■ *Explanation: The International Solar Alliance (ISA) was jointly launched by PM Narendra Modi and French President François Hollande at COP21 in Paris on 30 November 2015. Its headquarters are at the National Institute of Solar Energy campus in Gurugram (Gurgaon), Haryana. ISA targets mobilising \$1 trillion for solar energy by 2030 across 120+ member countries.*

Q63. Operation Brahma launched by India in 2025 was in support of which country's earthquake victims, showcasing India's role as a 'First Responder' in the region?

- A) Nepal
- B) Bangladesh
- C) Myanmar
- D) Sri Lanka

✓ **Correct Answer: C) Myanmar**

■ *Explanation: India launched Operation Brahma in March 2025 to provide emergency humanitarian relief to earthquake victims in Myanmar (following a 7.7 magnitude earthquake). India sent food, water, medicines, NDRF teams, and military aircraft under the Neighbourhood First and SAGAR (Security and Growth for All in the Region) policies, reinforcing its role as first responder in the region.*

Q64. India-UN relation: The Vishwamitra program recently launched connects Indian diaspora professionals with the UN system. It is administered by which Indian ministry?

- A) Ministry of External Affairs
- B) Ministry of Finance
- C) Ministry of Home Affairs
- D) Ministry of Commerce

✓ **Correct Answer: A) Ministry of External Affairs**

■ *Explanation: The Vishwamitra Programme was launched by India's Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) to facilitate placement of Indian diaspora and Indian professionals in the United Nations system and other multilateral organisations, enhancing India's representation and influence in global governance bodies.*

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