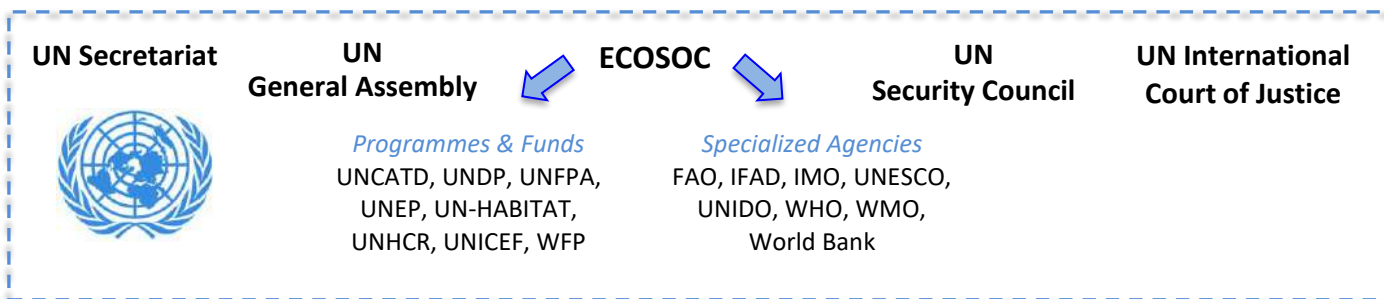


SIMPLIFIED ORGANIZATIONAL UN STRUCTURE - BODIES MOST RELEVANT TO GLOBAL ECOLOGICAL STEWARDSHIP

(NB. For brevity and the subject, this schematic omits many bodies from the full UN organizational structure)



Principal Organs of the UNITED NATIONS

UNGA - The UN's main deliberative body, composed of representatives of all Member States. Much of the UN's work derives from UNGA mandates. Review of the UNGA is under way to enhance its role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency.

UN Security Council – Under the UN Charter, has primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security. A reform of the Security Council, including its membership is under consideration.

ECOSOC - established under the UN Charter, is the principal organ to coordinate the economic, social and related work of the United Nations and its specialized agencies and institutions. With one vote per member, voting is by simple majority.

The International Court of Justice - The principal judicial organ of the United Nations, which settles legal disputes between states and gives advisory opinions to the UN and its specialized agencies. Its Statute is an integral part of the United Nations Charter; located at The Hague in the Netherlands.

The Secretariat - carries out the day-to-day work of the Organization. It services the other principal organs and carries out tasks as varied as the issues dealt with by the UN: administering peacekeeping operations, surveying economic /social trends

Acronym	Commonly Name or [Former Name]
UNCTAD	- United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	- United Nations Development Programme
UNECE	- United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNESCO	- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
UNEP	- United Nations Environment [OR United Nations Environment Programme]
UNFCCC	- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFPA	- United Nations Population Fund [Formerly: United Nations Fund for Population Activities]
UNGA	- United Nations General Assembly
UNHCR	- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	- United Nations Children's Fund [Formerly: United Nations International Chdrn's Emergency Fund]
UNIDO	- United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNODA	- United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs
UN ECOSOC	- Economic and Social Council
UN FAO	- Food & Agriculture Organization
UN-HABITAT	- United Nations Human Settlement Programme
UN IMO	- International Maritime Organization
UN IPCC	- Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
UN OPCW	- Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons
UN WFP	- World Food Programme
UN WHO	- World Health Organization
UN WMO	- World Meteorological Organization
MEA	- Millennium Ecosystem Assessment
MDG	- Millennium Development Goals
SDG	- Sustainable Development Goals
IPBES	- Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services
IUCN	- International Union for Conservation of Nature [Formerly Int'l Union for the Protection of Nature]



The UNITED NATIONS – EARLY SIGNIFICANT EVENTS INFLUENCING ITS GLOBAL ECOLOGICAL STEWARDSHIP A SKETCHED TIMELINE FROM THE FOUNDATION OF THE UN TOWARDS THE RIO EARTH SUMMIT, 1946 to 1992

- 1946** Creation of United Nations Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- 1948** Creation of the International Union for the Protection of Nature (IUPN) –Later be IUCN
- 1949** [United Nations Scientific Conference on the Conservation & Use of Resources](#)
- 1950/1** US House of Rep. Committee Delaney report into use of Chemicals in Food
- 1956** [United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea \(UNCLOS\)](#)
Physicist Gilbert Plass science paper on role CO₂ in global warming, predicts:
a doubling of CO₂ would cause the planet to warm by 3.6°C
- 1957/8** International Geophysical Year
Advent of space age as USSR launches *Sputnik (1957)*, *the US Explorer (1958)*
Roger Reville & Hans Seus key paper ~ human gas emissions might cause global warming
Reville testifies to US Congress about rising CO₂ & ‘Spaceship Earth’
- 1960** [UNCLOS II](#)
- 1962** *Our Synthetic Environment*, Murray Bookchin & *Silent spring*, Rachel Carson
- 1963** Nuclear Test Ban Treaty agreed between US & USSR
- 1964** IUCN establishes red list for endangered species
- 1965** US President’s Science Advisory Com. report, ***Restoring the Quality of Our Environment***, warns of the harmful effects of fossil fuel emissions
- 1967** Environmental Defense Fund (Env. Advocacy charity) founded in US
- 1967** Torrey Canyon major oil spill, off SW UK
- 1968** [Intergovernmental Conference for Rational Use & Conservation of the Biosphere](#) takes place in Paris, organized by UNESCO with IUCN
The creation of **The Club of Rome** by Aurelio Pecci, an Italian industrialist & philanthropist.
Sweden proposes idea of a UN conference focused on human interactions with the environment
Minamata (Coastal Japanese city) chronic mercury poisoning: Japanese government recognizes scale of pollution from 1950s; it kills over 1700 – eventually leads to UN Minamata Convention.
Ecologist Garret Hardin publishes ***Tragedy of the Commons***
Apollo 8 crew capture ‘Earthrise’ – the iconic image of the biosphere rising above the dead moon
- 1969** Santa Barbara, California, major oil spill from well blow-out
Friends of the Earth founded, initially as anti-nuclear activist group
NATO officially recognizes the scale of natural environmental challenges
Greenpeace founded, established as foundation by 1972
Paul Ehrlich’s book ***The Population Bomb***, published
- 1970** First Earth Day established demonstrated by 20 million Americans
US Environmental Protection Agency established
UNESCO’s Man in the Biosphere (MAB) Programme established
- 1971** Ecologist Barry Commoner’s ***The Closing Circle: Confronting the Environmental Crisis*** published
- 1971** ***Only One Earth- Care & Maintenance of a Small Planet***, by Ward & Dubos
- 1972** ***The Limits to Growth***, by The Club of Rome
- 1972** [UN Conference on the Human Environment](#), Stockholm in June, established 27 key principles
- 1972** Governments of **European Economic Community** recognize importance of environmental policy
- 1975** UN established the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation (UNHHSF)
- 1976** UN Conference on Human Settlements, Vancouver
- 1980** ***The World Conservation Strategy***, published by IUCN
- 1987** ***Our Common Future*** [aka. Brundtland Report], by World Commission on Environment & Development
- 1988** NASA Scientist James Hansen testifies before US Congress on severity of Climate Change
- 1991** ***Caring for the Earth: A Strategy for Sustainable Living***, by IUCN, UNEP & WWF
- 1992** ***Beyond the Limits***, by Meadows, Meadows & Randers
- 1992** [UN Earth Summit](#), Rio di Janiero
- 1992** At Rio three key conventions are signed up to on: Climate (UNFCCC), Biodiversity & Desertification