

# Regionalizing Environmental Protection in the SAARC Region: The Way Forward

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## 1. Internationalization of Human Rights

- (1) Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948
- (2) International Covenants on Human Rights, 1966
- (3) European Convention on Human Rights, 1953
- (4) Inter American Convention on Human Rights, 1969
- (5) African Charter on Human Rights, 1986

## 2. Internationalization of Environmental Protection

- (1) Stockholm Conference on Human Environment, 1972
- (2) World Charter for Nature, 1982
- (3) Rio Earth Summit, 1992
  - Rio Declaration on Environment and Development
  - Agenda 21
  - Convention on Biological Diversity
  - Convention on Climate Change
  - Forestry Principles adopted
- (4) IUCN Draft Covenant on Environment and Development, 1995
- (5) Earth Charter, 2000
- (6) World Summit on Sustainable Development, 2002
  - Making it Happen
  - WEHAB
- (7) UNEP Global Judges Symposium, 2002
- (8) Rio + 20, 2012

(Judges mainstreamed)

## 3. Proposals for Regional Initiatives in the SAAR Region

- (1) SAARC Treaty on Environment and Development: IUCN Covenant, Earth Charter, launch in 2000, Earth Charter +10
- (2) SAARC Commission/Court on Environment
- (3) SAARC Secretarial/clearing house/data base for region – inter state co-operation
- (4) Male Declaration on Transboundary Air Pollution (1998) - supplement with technical assistance + legally binding agreements - Time bound air pollution reduction agreements

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- (5) SAARC Biodiversity Conservation Agreements
- (6) Climate Change – need to co-ordinate regionally
- (7) SAARC Environmental Bar Association - enabling representation of foreign counsels in environmental cases, particularly involving transboundary disputes with permission of Court