



Post Graduate Diploma in Environmental Law and Policy
June 2022-2023

Last date of Submission: 10th October, 2022

Total Marks: 50

The word limits and marks allocated to each question are mentioned after the question

Course 2: International Environmental Law and Policy - I

Assignment 2

Note: Each question has an option of either a subjective or analytical question. Please attempt either ONE of the questions.

Question 1:

According to the United Nations Development Programme's (UNDP) technical paper on Environmental Justice, "*Environmental threats, as they intensify, will constitute one of the greatest challenges to human rights in our era and are already contributing to people being left behind in the quest to achieve sustainable peace and development, increasing environmental injustices.*"

On 8th October 2021, the Human Rights Council of the United Nations adopted a resolution recognise "The human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment". Recently a similar resolution was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 26th July, 2022, in which India voted in favour.

In light of the above-mentioned documents, discuss:

- a) How environmental issues and human rights are intrinsically linked. (10 marks)*
- b) Need to recognise right to healthy environment as a human right. (5 marks)*
- c) Suggest ways in which environmental injustices may be tackled. (5 marks)*

Technical Paper: <https://www.undp.org/publications/environmental-justice-securing-our-right-clean-healthy-and-sustainable-environment>

Human Rights Council Resolution:



<https://undocs.org/Home/Mobile?FinalSymbol=a%2Fhrc%2F48%2Fl.23%2Frev.1&Language=E&DeviceType=Desktop&LangRequested=False>

United Nations General Assembly Resolution:

<https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/3982508?ln=en>

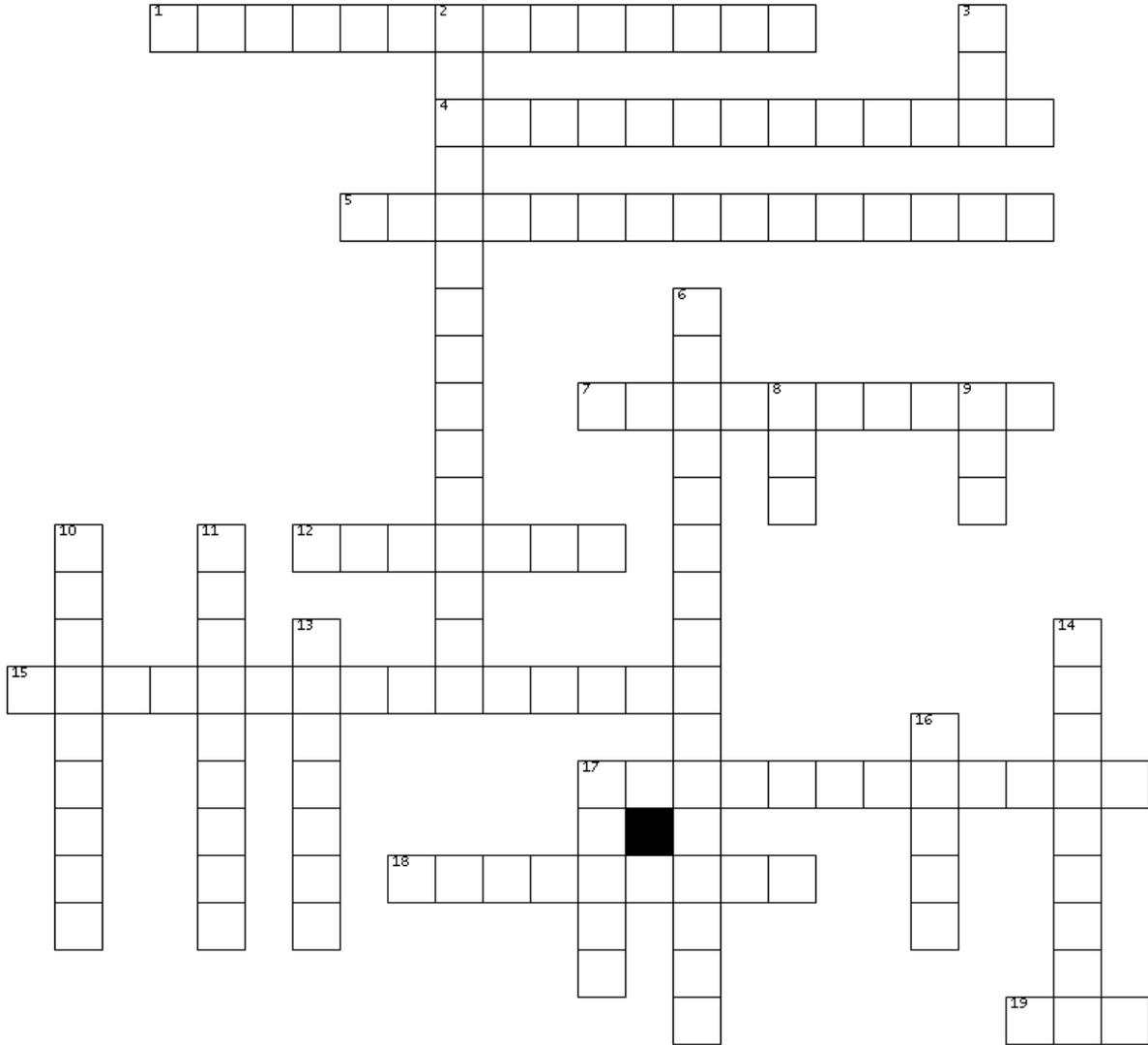
(20 marks, 1500-1800 words)

OR

Question 1:

Fill in the crossword after reading the *above-mentioned documents in the first alternative* for question 1. (Links above)

(Note: Where the answer involves two or three words, there is no space between the words. For example: If the answer is Sustainable Development, it would fit in the crossword as SustainableDevelopment)



ACROSS

- 1. Term for moving towards low carbon emissions technology while also protecting human rights (2 words)
- 4. Along with 6 Down and 11 Down - Triple Planetary Crisis (two words)
- 5. Land degradation in dry areas leading to unproductivity due to human activity - Recognized as one of the major threats to intergenerational human rights
- 7. Environment Centered Approach
- 12. This sector has been proposed to be strengthened under the "Strengthening people-centred and effective institutions to deliver environmental justice" approach to environmental justice as suggested by UNDP



15. Establishing enabling _____: one of the approach's to environmental justice suggested by UNDP (2 words, plural)
17. Age (like bronze age) in which humans have had a significant impact on the planet
18. Concept propounded by A.V. Dicey (3 words)
19. A country's self-determined goas under Paris Agreement (Abbreviation)

DOWN

2. One of the suggested UNDP approach to environmental justice. Also outlined in Principle 10 of Rio Declaration (3 words)
3. Set of interlinked global goals set by UNGA in 2015 (Abbreviation)
6. Along with 4 Across and 11 Down- Triple Planetary Crisis (two words)
8. Criteria of screening investments in order to ensure that corporates act responsibly. It is growing in popularity. Has been suggested to be standardised by UNDP. (Abbreviation)
9. Forced to leave their home but remain within country borders (Abbreviation)
10. Naturally Replenished
11. Along with 4 Across and 6 Down - Triple Planetary Crisis
13. Foundation that filed the landmark case on climate action before the Dutch Supreme Court.
14. Authored "Our Common Future"
16. Group that has been recognised to be more severely affected by climate change
17. This sector accounts for majority of GHG emissions globally along with the energy sector (Abbreviation)

(20 marks)

Question 2:

It is established that armed conflict results in severe damage to the environment and human health. In light of the Russia-Ukraine war, write a short essay on the following:

- a) Potential long-term impacts on the environment due to the Russia-Ukraine war.
- b) Need for international recognition of ecocide. (In your opinion, does Russia's actions violate International Humanitarian Law?)



(5 marks each, 500-800 words)

OR

Question 2: Answer each of the following questions: (10 marks)

- List down 3 long term impacts of the Russia-Ukraine war on the environment with examples. (3 marks) (50-75 words each)
- At which conference was the term Ecocide first recorded? (1 mark)
- Identify the odd one out for each below and *give reasons*: (Half mark each, Total 1 mark)
 - Genocide, Crimes Against Humanity, Ecocide, War Crimes.
 - Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan.
- Match the following on the basis of Ecocide definition provided by the Independent Expert Panel for the Legal Definition of Ecocide under “Stop Ecocide Foundation”: (4 marks)

Box A	Box B
(i) Severe	(a) Transboundary
(ii) Wanton	(b) Irremediable
(iii) Long-term	(c) Serious harm
(iv) Widespread	(d) Wilful and Irresponsible neglect

- How and why has the Independent Panel suggested deviation from *mens rea* as provided under Rome Statute for other crimes? (1 mark) (50-75 words)

Question 3:

The Indian Antarctic Bill, 2022 was passed by the Parliament on 1st August, 2022. It seeks to give effect to the Antarctic Treaty, the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources, and the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty.

Critically analyse the provisions of the Bill in light of the three conventions it seeks to give effect to.



(10 marks, 800-1000 words)

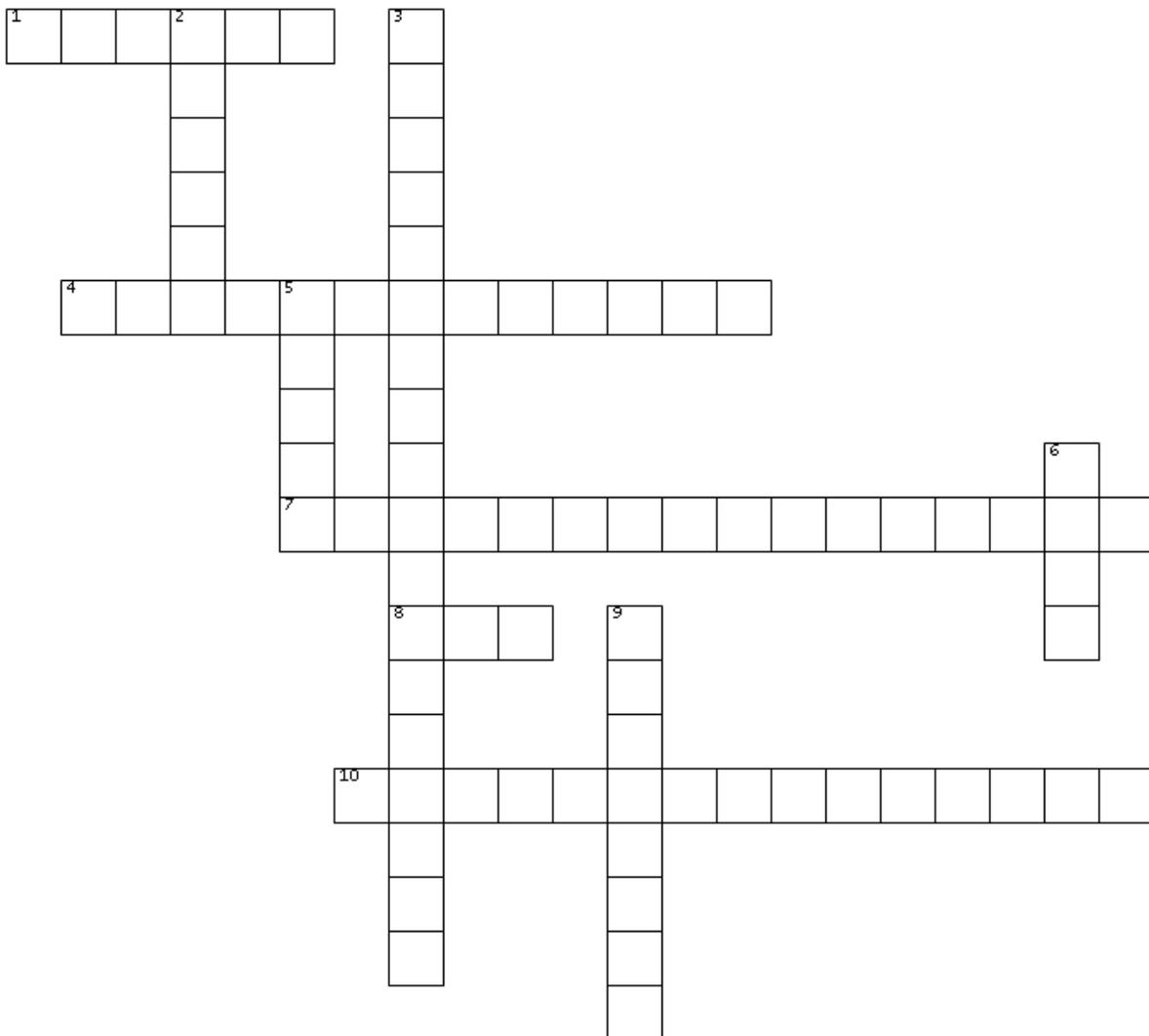
OR

Question 3:

Solve the below crossword on the basis of the Indian Antarctic Bill, 2022 and the Conventions it seeks to implement.

(Note: Where the answer involves two or three words, there is no space between the words. For example: If the answer is Sustainable Development, it would fit in the crossword as SustainableDevelopment)

(10 marks)



ACROSS

1. International Convention with objective of preventing pollution by ships (Abbreviation)



4. Name of fund established under the Bill for welfare of Antarctic research work and protection of Antarctic environment. (Two words)
7. One of the six prohibited activities under the Bill. (Two words)
8. Tool to assess environmental damage that may caused by an activity. It is required to be conducted prior to proposal of an activity under the Bill. (Abbreviation)
10. Section 22 of the Bill is based upon the Annex to Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty which deals with prevention of _____ (2 words)

DOWN

2. Required to be obtained under the Bill to conduct most activities.
3. One of the pre-requisites to be allowed to conduct drilling and excavation of mineral resources under the Bill. (Two words)
5. Synonym for non-native species which are prohibited from introduction into Antarctica.
6. Specially Protected Seal under Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty.
9. The Antarctic Treaty permits every contracting party to designate an _____ to conduct inspections.

(10 marks)

Question 4:

The Paris Agreement CoP 26 culminated into what is known as the Glasgow Climate Pact. Critically analyse the outcome and India's role in CoP 26.

Glasgow Climate Pact:

https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cma2021_10_add1_adv.pdf

(10 marks, 800-1000 words)

OR

Question 4:

Answer the following questions on the basis of the Paris Agreement CoP 26 and Glasgow Climate Pact: https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/cma2021_10_add1_adv.pdf

- A. Match the Following on the basis of Glasgow Climate Pact. Hint: Box B contains the called upon/urged action under the Glasgow Climate Pact for that in Box A. **(4 marks)**



Box A	Box B
(i) Adaptation	(a) Scale-up (At least double)
(ii) Unabated Coal Power	(b) Provide enhanced and additional support for activities addressing the issue in Box A.
(iii) Loss and Damage	(c) Integrate into local, regional and national planning
(iv) Climate Finance	(d) Phase down

B. Developing countries providing climate finance to developing and least developed countries in recognition of their historical emissions.

- This forms the basis of the international environmental law principle known as _____ . **(1 mark)**
- Which convention originally discussed the above principle? **(1 mark)**
- What amount was previously pledged per year that the developed nations failed to mobilize? **(1 mark)**

C. For each of the following, write down whether India committed to the decision (Yes/No) **(1 mark each, Total 3 marks)**

- To cut their methane emissions by at least 30 percent by 2030.
- One Sun, One World, One Grid.
- End deforestation by 2030.