



## General Knowledge | International Organisations and Headquarters

# WORLD ORGANISATIONS AND THEIR HEADQUARTERS

**IMPORTANT ORGANISATIONS AT A GLANCE**

- ✔ List of Major World Organisations
- ✔ Their Headquarters
- ✔ Roles and Functions
- ✔ Important for All Exams

### International Organisations and Their Headquarters

International Organisations are associations of sovereign countries formed to promote cooperation, peace, security, economic development, social welfare, and international understanding. They help member nations address global challenges collectively through dialogue, policy-making, financial assistance, and technical support.

#### Important World Organisations and Their Headquarters

Organisation	Headquarters	Established	Main Function
United Nations (UN)	New York, USA	1945	International peace and security
World Health Organization	Geneva, Switzerland	1948	Global health
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization	Paris, France	1945	Education, science and culture
United Nations Children's Fund	New York, USA	1946	Child welfare
Food and Agriculture Organization	Rome, Italy	1945	Food security and agriculture
International Monetary Fund	Washington D.C., USA	1944	Monetary cooperation
World Bank	Washington D.C., USA	1944	Development finance
World Trade Organization	Geneva, Switzerland	1995	International trade



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International Labour Organization	Geneva, Switzerland	1919	Labour rights
International Atomic Energy Agency	Vienna, Austria	1957	Peaceful use of nuclear energy
International Civil Aviation Organization	Montreal, Canada	1944	Civil aviation standards
Universal Postal Union	Bern, Switzerland	1874	International postal services
World Meteorological Organization	Geneva, Switzerland	1950	Weather and climate
United Nations Industrial Development Organization	Vienna, Austria	1966	Industrial development
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	Geneva, Switzerland	1950	Refugee protection

## Major Economic Organisations

Organisation	Headquarters
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development	Paris, France
Asian Development Bank	Manila, Philippines
Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank	Beijing, China
New Development Bank	Shanghai, China
Bank for International Settlements	Basel, Switzerland

## Regional Organisations and Headquarters

Organisation	Headquarters
South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation	Kathmandu, Nepal
Association of Southeast Asian Nations	Jakarta, Indonesia
European Union	Brussels, Belgium
African Union	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Arab League	Cairo, Egypt
Shanghai Cooperation Organisation	Beijing, China

## Financial Organisations

Organisation	Headquarters
International Monetary Fund	Washington D.C., USA
World Bank	Washington D.C., USA
Asian Development Bank	Manila, Philippines
New Development Bank	Shanghai, China
Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank	Beijing, China



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### UN Specialized Agencies

Agency	Headquarters
WHO	Geneva, Switzerland
UNESCO	Paris, France
FAO	Rome, Italy
ILO	Geneva, Switzerland
ICAO	Montreal, Canada
WMO	Geneva, Switzerland
UPU	Bern, Switzerland
UNIDO	Vienna, Austria

### FULL LIST OF ORGANISATIONS

#### List of Organisations and Their Headquarters

Organisation	Headquarters	Established
<b>United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)</b>	New York City, USA	1965
<b>United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)</b>	Nairobi, Kenya	1972
United Nations Population Fund (UNPF)	New York City, USA	1969
United Nations Human Settlement Programme (UN-Habitat)	Nairobi, Kenya	1978
<b>United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)</b>	New York City, USA	1946
World Food Programme (WFP)	Rome, Italy	1961
<b>Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)</b>	Rome, Italy	1945
International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)	Montreal, Canada	1947
International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)	Rome, Italy	1977
<b>International Labour Organization (ILO)</b>	Geneva, Switzerland	1919



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<b>International Monetary Fund (IMF)</b>	Washington, DC, USA	1944
International Maritime Organization (IMO)	London, United Kingdom	1948
International Telecommunication Union (ITU)	Geneva, Switzerland	1865
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)	Paris, France	1945
United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)	Vienna, Austria	1966
World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)	Madrid, Spain	1974
Universal Postal Union (UPU)	Bern, Switzerland	1874
<b>World Health Organization (WHO)</b>	Geneva, Switzerland	1948
World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)	Geneva, Switzerland	1967
World Meteorological Organization (WMO)	Geneva, Switzerland	1950
<b>World Bank</b>	Washington, DC, USA	1944
Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)	Geneva, Switzerland	1994
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	Geneva, Switzerland	1950
United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR)	Geneva, Switzerland	1980
United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)	Geneva, Switzerland	1963
United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)	Copenhagen, Denmark	1973
United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA)	Amman, Jordan	1949



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United Nations System Staff College (UNSSC)	Turin, Italy	2002
United Nations University (UNU)	Tokyo, Japan	1973
UN Women	New York City, USA	2010
<b>International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)</b>	Vienna, Austria	1957
International Organization for Migration (IOM)	Geneva, Switzerland	1951
Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)	The Hague, Netherlands	1997
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	Bonn, Germany	1994 (Signed in 1993)
<b>World Trade Organization (WTO)</b>	Geneva, Switzerland	1995
International Trade Centre (ITC)	Geneva, Switzerland	1964
African Development Bank Group	Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire	1964
<b>African Union (AU)</b>	Addis Abab, Ethiopia	2002
Amnesty International (AI)	London, United Kingdom	1961
Andean Community	Lima, Peru	1969
Arctic Council	Tromso, Norway	1996
Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)	Queenstown, Singapore	1989
Asian Development Bank (ADB)	Mandaluyong, Philippines	1966
Association of Caribbean States (ACS)	Port of Spain, Trinidad, Tobago	1994



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<b>Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)</b>	Jakarta, Indonesia	1967
Bank for International Settlements (BIS)	Basel, Switzerland	1930
Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC)	Istanbul, Turkey	1992
Caribbean Community (CARICOM)	Georgetown, Guyana	1973
Central American Bank for Economic Integration	Tegucigalpa, Honduras	1960
Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)	Lusaka, Zambia	1994
Commonwealth Secretariat	London, United Kingdom	1965
Council of Europe	Strasbourg, France	1949
Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR)	Geneva, Switzerland	1951
Council of the Baltic Sea States (CBSS)	Stockholm, Switzerland	1992
Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)	Federal Capital Territory, Nigeria	1975
European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)	London, United Kingdom	1991
European Central Bank (ECB)	Frankfurt, Germany	1998
European Free Trade Association (EFTA)	Geneva, Switzerland	1960
Association of European Parliamentarians with Africa (AWEPA)	Amsterdam, Netherlands	1984
European Space Agency (ESA)	Paris, France	1975
European Union (EU)	Brussels, Belgium	1993



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Group of Eight (G8)	New York, USA	1975
G-15 Summit	Geneva, Switzerland	1990
Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)	Washington, DC, USA	1959
Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)	Djibouti, Djibouti	1986
<b>International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)</b>	Vienna, Austria	1957
International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)	Montreal, Canada	1947
International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)	Paris, France	1919
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Geneva, Switzerland	1863
International Court of Justice (ICJ)	The Hague, Netherlands	1945
International Development Association (IDA)	Washington, DC, USA	1960
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)	Geneva, Switzerland	1919
International Finance Corporation (IFC)	Washington, DC, USA	1956
<b>International Labour Organization (ILO)</b>	Geneva, Switzerland	1919
International Olympic Committee (IOC)	Lausanne, Switzerland	1894
International Organization for Standardization (ISO)	Geneva, Switzerland	1947
International Peace Bureau (IPB)	Geneva, Switzerland	1891
International Seabed Authority (ISA)	Kingston, Jamaica	1994



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International Service for Human Rights (ISHR)	Geneva, Switzerland	1984
Inter-Parliamentary Union	Geneva, Switzerland	1889
League of Arab States	Cairo, Egypt	1945
Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA)	Washington, DC, USA	1988
The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)	Central Jakarta, Indonesia	1961
Nordic Council of Ministers	Copenhagen, Denmark	1971
North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)	Washington, DC, USA	1949
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)	Paris, France	1961
Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)	Vienna, Austria	1975
Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC)	Kuwait, Middle East	1968
Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC)	Jeddah, Saudi Arabia	1969
Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)	Vienna, Austria	1960
Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC)	Noumea, New Caledonia	1947
South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)	Kathmandu, Nepal	1985
Unión Latina	Paris, France	1954
United Cities & Local Governments (UCLG)	Barcelona, Spain	2004
United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)	Bangkok, Thailand	1947



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United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)	Beirut, Lebanon	1973
<b>United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP)</b>	Nairobi, Kenya	1972
United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	Rome, Italy	1945
United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCHR)	Geneva, Switzerland and New York City, USA	1993
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)	Vienna, Austria	1997
United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW)	Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic	1975
United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	Geneva, Switzerland and New York City, USA	1991
United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)	Amman, Jordan	1949
Western European Union (WEU)	Paris, France	1954
World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA)	Geneva, Switzerland and New York City, USA	1946
World Organization Against Torture (OMCT)	Geneva, Switzerland	1985
World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)	Gland, Switzerland	1961

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