

Global Environmental Diplomacy: Key Treaties, Climate Finance, and Cross-B

Environmental Diplomacy · Practice Test · 10 Questions

1. The 2024 UN Biodiversity Conference (COP16) was extended and reconvened in Rome in February 2025. What was a key financial agreement reached during this extended session to support developing countries in implementing conservation targets?

- A) A roadmap was agreed to provide developing countries with US\$150 billion annually by 2030.
- B) A roadmap was agreed to provide developing countries with US\$200 billion annually by 2030.
- C) A commitment was made to raise US\$20 billion annually by 2025, increasing to US\$30 billion by 2030.
- D) An agreement was reached to establish a fund of US\$50 billion for immediate biodiversity conservation efforts.

2. What significant international legal development occurred on July 23, 2025, regarding states' obligations in relation to climate change?

- A) The International Court of Justice (ICJ) issued an advisory opinion stating that the Paris Agreement's target is 2°C, not 1.5°C.
- B) The International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) ruled that only non-binding recommendations could be made regarding emissions.
- C) The International Court of Justice (ICJ) issued an advisory opinion affirming states' legal obligations to protect the environment from greenhouse gas emissions and cooperate to limit warming to 1.5°C.
- D) The European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) declared that individual citizens could directly sue corporations for historical emissions.

3. The negotiation for a legally binding global instrument to end plastic pollution encountered challenges. Which of the following statements accurately reflects a key issue and the status of these negotiations by mid-2025?

- A) The negotiations concluded successfully in December 2024, with all nations agreeing to production caps.
- B) The Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC-5.2) in Geneva, August 2025, failed to reach a final agreement due to ongoing stalemates over plastic production caps and chemical regulations.
- C) A provisional agreement was reached in Busan in December 2024, focusing solely on waste management strategies.
- D) The United States withdrew from all negotiations in early 2025, citing domestic economic concerns.

4. Which multilateral climate fund's project portfolio analysis between 2010 and 2020 revealed a disconnect from the scientifically established recognition of transboundary climate risks, primarily focusing on local-scale adaptation?

- A) The Green Climate Fund (GCF)
- B) The Adaptation Fund (AF)
- C) The Climate Investment Funds (CIFs)
- D) All analyzed funds showed a similar focus on local-scale adaptation.

5. The EU's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) officially entered its 'definite period' on January 1, 2026. What does this entail for importers of affected goods?

- A) Importers are required to report embedded emissions but will not need to pay for them until 2028.
- B) Importers will be obligated to purchase and surrender certificates corresponding to the carbon emissions embedded in imported goods.
- C) The CBAM will only apply to goods imported from non-EU countries that do not have their own carbon pricing mechanisms.
- D) Importers will face increased tariffs only if they exceed a newly established global emissions threshold for their products.

6. The Arctic Council, marking its 30th anniversary in 2026, has been a cornerstone of regional cooperation. What is identified as its greatest achievement over the past three decades?

- A) Establishing a unified Arctic environmental protection agency.
- B) Building durable, trust-based collaboration among Arctic States, Indigenous Permanent Participants, and scientific experts.
- C) Implementing a comprehensive ban on all industrial activities within the Arctic Circle.
- D) Successfully reversing all documented effects of climate change within the Arctic region.

7. COP29, held in Baku in November 2024, established a new global target for climate finance. What is this target, known as the New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG)?

- A) Developed countries committed to mobilizing at least US\$100 billion annually by 2030, replacing the previous goal.
- B) Developed countries committed to leading the mobilization of at least US\$300 billion annually by 2035, replacing the previous US\$100 billion goal.
- C) All nations collectively agreed to contribute US\$1 trillion annually by 2040 to a global climate adaptation fund.
- D) The agreement focused on private sector investment, aiming for US\$500 billion annually by 2030.

8. The BBNJ Agreement, concerning the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction, reached a critical milestone in September 2025. What was this milestone?

- A) It was adopted by the UN General Assembly for the first time.
- B) It achieved 60 ratifications, triggering its entry into force on January 17, 2026.
- C) The first Conference of the Parties (COP) meeting was successfully convened.
- D) It established legally binding quotas for fishing in the high seas.

9. The Nordic Climate Adaptation Programme (NCAP) opened its 2026 call for project funding. What is a key focus of this initiative, which is part of the Programme for Nordic Co-operation on the Environment and Climate 2025-2027?

- A) Promoting archaeological research in the Nordic region.
- B) Strengthening collaboration, knowledge exchange, and innovation for climate adaptation across Nordic countries.
- C) Funding space exploration initiatives within the Nordic countries.
- D) Developing new modes of transportation between Nordic nations.

10. In 2024, climate litigation continued to evolve globally. Which of the following is an accurate observation about climate litigation trends from the 'Global Trends in Climate Change Litigation: 2025 Snapshot' report?

- A) The United States had fewer cases than Australia, the UK, and Brazil combined.
- B) Climate washing cases targeting the use of carbon credits saw a significant decrease.
- C) While the pace of new filings slowed globally in 2024 (apart from the US), approximately 20% of climate cases targeted companies or their directors and officers.
- D) Cases primarily focused on challenging environmental regulations, with minimal focus on corporate actions.