

International Efforts on Mitigating Pollution

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ABSTRACT

The need for coordinated action and a shared awareness of the global environmental catastrophe have propelled international efforts to reduce pollution in recent decades. Air, water, soil, and plastic waste pollution all have a significant effect on ecosystems, human health, and the climate of the globe. In order to combat pollution and advance sustainable development, a number of international conventions and agreements have been developed.

The groundwork for international collaboration in environmental protection was established during the 1972 Stockholm Conference, the first significant international conference on the subject. The creation of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), which still leads efforts to reduce pollution, was one of the main results. One notable example of how international cooperation can efficiently solve a particular pollution issue is the 1987 Montreal Protocol, which was created to phase out compounds that destroy the ozone layer.

Agenda 21 and the Rio Declaration, which promoted sustainable development and pollution control, were the results of the 1992 Rio Earth Summit. Additionally, two significant turning points in the fight against pollution associated with climate change are the Kyoto Protocol (1997) and the Paris Agreement (2015), the latter of which focuses on lowering greenhouse gas emissions.

Furthermore, regional accords such as the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution (2002) and the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea Against Pollution (1976) represent regional initiatives to address particular pollution problems in particular areas.

Even if there has been progress, there are still issues with enforcement, compliance, and dealing with new contaminants. To reduce pollution, preserve biodiversity, and further global sustainability initiatives, international collaboration through conventions and accords is still essential. These conventions are essential forums for countries to coordinate their environmental policies, exchange information, and raise funds for a future free of pollution.

INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS ON MITIGATING POLLUTION INTRODUCTION

Planetary health is seriously threatened by pollution. Pollution undermines the stability of the earth's support systems and imperils the sustainability of human societies, just like climate change, biodiversity loss, ocean acidification, desertification, and the depletion of fresh water supplies worldwide. The past 100 years have seen an increase in pollution, particularly pollution brought on by industrial emissions, vehicle exhausts, and toxic chemicals, with the largest increases noted in

Because many environmental issues transcend national boundaries and can only be resolved via international cooperation, international environmental policy is particularly crucial at a time when globalization is accelerating. Preventing pollution, protecting climate and renewable sources, preserving biosphere and its components and make sustainable development is the task of international environmental law, in this research we are going to see what are the international efforts taken to prevent and mitigate pollution at international level.

UNEP¹ (United Nations Environmental Programme) was established by the United Nations in 1973,. As imitative step towards protecting environment, special attention was given at a world level, this was possible as result of Stockholm commission in 1972² which was on human environment address the need for protection and improvement of environment is needed at a international level

CLASSIFICATION OF MITIGATION OF POLLUTION AT A INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

Due to human activity the environment is polluted in many ways. Its physical and chemical components are disturbed and let to disruption of environment as whole. Pollution can be in either form of solid, gas, and liquid. In common I am going to analyses mitigation of pollution by international conventions under 8 topics, these conventions are found its roots of action from principle led down in the RIO declaration in 1992, they are

- ❖ Mitigation of pollution on Biosphere
- ❖ Mitigation of pollution on Land
- ❖ Mitigation of pollution on Marine environment
- ❖ Mitigation of pollution on International watercourse
- ❖ Ozone layer protection
- ❖ Prevention of climate change

¹ UNEP's mission is to provide leadership and encourage partnership in caring for the environment by inspiring, informing, and enabling nations and peoples to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations.

² The first international conference to make the environment a top priority was the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment in Stockholm in 1972.

- ❖ Waste management
- ❖ Chemical waste management

MITIGATION OF POLLUTION ON BIOSPHERE

Biosphere refers all living organism on earth and its interaction with one and other, it indicates the uniqueness of earth as a living planet, pollution to the biosphere will disturb the life of living beings on earth and spoil the working of eco system, to prevent pollution on biosphere and make it fit for living beings there are 4 main conventions and 2 protocols lets see them in detail

Concern about certain sectoral areas, like the preservation of wetlands, declining tuna populations, endangered species, and cultural legacy, sparked a global response to conservation in the 1960s. Concern shifted in the 1990s to connected 'biological' diversity in other fields, including species, climate,

the land, water, and ecosystems. The World Heritage Convention, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, and the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands were all approved in the 1970s. They speak to the protection and utilization of specific natural resources.

The main accord governing biodiversity is the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). It was endorsed at the 1992 Rio Conference and has a more all-encompassing approach with a focus on sustainable development. The CBD created the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety in 2000, which addresses Living Modified Organisms (LMOs) brought on by biotechnology. The Nagoya Protocol from 2010 focuses

on the fair and equitable distribution of benefits resulting from the use of genetic resources. The 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets, adopted at the 10th Conference of the Parties in 2010 (COP 10), and included in the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, aim to broaden the Parties' strategies and plans for more overarching, cross-sectoral themes and thereby synthesis agreements such as climate change, biodiversity, and sustainable development.

CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY 1992

1. To counter the threat to species and ecosystems, the Rio Conference in 1992 enacted the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). It is a step towards the preservation of biological variety, the sustainable use of its elements, and the just and equal distribution of the advantages associated with the utilization of genetic resources. Within the context of sustainable development, pollution and resource depletion

OBJECTIVE; The goals of the CBD are listed in Article 1 as the preservation of biological diversity, the fair and equitable³ distribution of the advantages resulting from the use of genetic resources, as well as the sustainable usage of its components. This entails proper utilisation of genetic resources,

Consideration of all rights to the resources, technologies, and proper finance, as well as the appropriate transfer of pertinent technology

CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY 2000

The Cartagena Protocol, the first protocol under Article 19⁴ of the Convention on Biological variation, was adopted in 2000 to protect biological diversity from potential threats posed by living modified organisms (LMOs) originating from contemporary biotechnology .It strives to ensure the secure handling, transportation, and use of LMOs and is founded on the precautionary principle. Agricultural crops that have been genetically altered for increased productivity or for resistance to pests or diseases are examples of common LMOs. Crops that have been modified include tomatoes, cassava, corn, cotton and soybeans, as examples. Despite not being a party to the Convention on

NAGOYA PROTOCOL ON ACCESS TO GENETIC RESOURCES AND THE FAIR AND EQUITABLE SHARING OF BENEFITS 2010

All plants and animals contain genetic resources that may one day be used to benefit people, such as for cosmetic or medicinal purposes. In light of this, using and having access to genetic resources has huge potential advantages. The Nagoya Protocol, the second protocol under Article 19 of the Convention on Biological Diversity, was adopted in 2010 to outline processes for access to genetic resources⁵ and the equitable distribution of benefits

CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA 197

1973 saw the adoption of the CITES, or Convention on International Trade⁶ in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora. It provides varied levels of protection to more than 35,000 species of animals and plants,

with the goal of ensuring that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not endanger the survival of the species in the wild. Neither the domestic nor international trade of non-threatened species is governed by CITES.

³ Access to Resources Article 15

⁴ Each Contracting Party shall take all practicable measures to promote and advance priority access on a fair and equitable basis by Contracting Parties, especially developing countries, to the results and benefits arising from biotechnologies based upon genetic resources provided by those Contracting Parties.

⁵ Article 5 to 12

⁶ Regulation of Trade article 3 to 8, Appendix I-III

RAMSAR CONVENTION ON WETLANDS OF INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE ESPECIALLY AS WATERFOWL HABITAT 1971

The Ramsar Convention, which was established in 1971, was the first agreement on global habitats and the first to acknowledge that wetlands are among the planet's most fruitful ecosystem support systems. It offers a framework for both domestic and international action aimed at protecting⁷ wetlands and their resources. The Ramsar Convention currently has 169 Parties and 2260 designated sites spread across approximately 215,276,293 hectares. The Ramsar Convention can be amended thanks to new provisions provided by the Paris Protocol of 1982, which went into effect in 1986.

CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE 1972

In 1972, the World Heritage Convention was adopted by the UN Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), and as of 2017, it had been ratified 193 times worldwide. The Convention's main goal⁸ is to identify the cultural and natural sites around the world that are important to our shared heritage and whose loss would be irreplaceable if they disappeared. In order to achieve this, it allows for the listing of outstanding universally valuable natural and cultural heritage sites. Heritage is "our legacy from the past, what we live with today, and what we pass onto future generations," according to UNESCO⁹.

LAND

Land management is covered by several multinational environmental agreements. In addition to the 1994 UN Convention to Combat Desertification, which is discussed in this section, there is also the 1992 Biodiversity Convention and the 2015 Paris Agreement. Convention on Biodiversity Several processes and tools are used to indirectly address the problem of sustainable land use: - Conceptually, "sustainable use of biodiversity and its components" is similar to "sustainable land use." - The "ecosystem approach" is a method for managing land, water, and living resources in an integrated manner that encourages conservation and sustainable use. The Paris Accord .The 2015 Paris Agreement includes a number of tools and initiatives that are pertinent to land use:

UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION IN THOSE COUNTRIES EXPERIENCING SERIOUS DROUGHT AND/OR DESERTIFICATION, PARTICULARLY IN AFRICA 1994

The only legally binding multilateral agreement connecting development and the environment with

sustainable land management is the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) of 1994.

⁷ Conservation Article 3

⁸ Principles-preamble, Article 4,25

⁹ United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

Its 196 Parties give it an almost global reach. The 1992 Rio Conference identified desertification as one of the biggest obstacles to sustainable development, along with climate change and biodiversity loss. Through national action plans that include long-term policies backed by international collaboration and partnership agreements, the Convention seeks to stop desertification and lessen the effects of drought.

MARINE

The different facets of maritime management and the protection of the marine environment are covered by a number of international agreements. The main document is the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), which is referred to as "a constitution for the oceans" and took 12 years to enter into force. States were required to ratify the entire treaty because no reservations are allowed. The UNCLOS establishes a comprehensive legal framework for all ocean-related activities, including delimitation, environmental management, marine scientific research, economic and commercial activities, technology transfer, and the resolution of disputes. UNCLOS is supplemented by a number of customary international law rules. Part XII, "Protection and Preservation of the Natural Environment," is pertinent to this manual.

The 1973 Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, as amended by the 1978 Protocol of 1978 (MARPOL 73/78), is the most important convention addressing maritime pollution. Vietnam is a Party to all six of its Annexes. One of the various forms of marine pollution is

82% of pollution comes from land-based sources, whereas offshore operations only produce minimal pollution.

UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA 1982

The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) is regarded as the basic legal framework for the world's oceans and interconnected resources, and it addresses both delimitation and the preservation of the marine environment. With the guiding idea that "land dominates the sea," it defines maritime zones such as Internal Waters, Territorial Sea, Contiguous Zones, Exclusive Economic Zones, Continental Shelf, High Seas, and the "Area"¹⁰. It also lays forth guidelines for delimitation. What does the Convention concern? UNCLOS has 17 Parts, 320 Articles, and 9 Annexes in all. The Articles regulate all activities that take place in or near the water, including delimitation, environmental regulation, marine scientific research, economic and commercial pursuits, technology transfer, and the resolution of legal disputes.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE PREVENTION OF POLLUTION FROM SHIPS 1973/78

¹⁰ The Area – Part XII

In response to routine operating discharges and unintentional pollution incidents, MARPOL 73/78 establishes an international policy for the prevention of pollution from ships. Its six Annexes govern how

ships are discharged. There are 155 Parties, accounting for 98.7% of the global tonnage of shipping. The Convention is frequently revised to include new standards for better ship pollution management. There is now a new method including the "tacit acceptance" of amendments by Parties to MARPOL due to the delays in accepting amendments. 10.1 What will happen at the Convention? Objective The Preamble states that the goal of the Convention is to completely eradicate intentional dumping of oil and other dangerous substances into the ocean as well as to reduce unintentional dumping of such substances

OZONE LAYER PROTECTION

Scientists first started to provide warnings about the potential dangers of an ozone hole to both human health and the environment in the 1970s. The Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer of 1985 provides a framework for global efforts to preserve the ozone layer. Its ozone depleting substance reduction targets, which were set forth in the associated Montreal Protocol of 1987, are not legally binding. Through various revisions that accelerated phase-out schedules and incorporated new ozone depleting compounds, the Montreal Protocol has been reinforced.

The Vienna Convention and the Montreal Protocol became the first international environmental agreements in United Nations history to receive universal adoption on September 16, 2009. The Antarctica ozone hole is gradually closing as a result of the global accord. According to climate predictions, between 2050 and 2070, the ozone layer will recover to its 1980 levels. A few of the ozone-depleting compounds included by the Montreal Protocol are also climate change agents.

VIENNA CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE OZONE LAYER 1985

The Convention was adopted in 1985 by 197 countries and came in force on 1988. International efforts to phase out ozone depleting compounds are guided by the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer. Chlorofluorocarbons, which have been utilised in air conditioning, refrigeration, and packaging materials, are one example of them. What will happen at the Convention? Objective The Vienna Convention strives to safeguard the environment and human health from harmful impacts brought on by human activities that alter the ozone layer

MONTREAL PROTOCOL ON SUBSTANCES THAT DEplete THE OZONE LAYER 1987

The protocol was adopted in 1987 by 197 countries, and came in to force on 1989. The Montreal Protocol expands on the Vienna Convention by establishing a necessary schedule for the phase-out of ozone depleting chemicals. This schedule has been constantly reviewed, and the phase-out dates have been moved up to reflect improvements in science and technology. New ozone

depleting compounds may be added through routine revisions, the most recent of which was the Kigali Amendment of 2016. Most people agree that the Protocol is the most effective multinational environmental accord.

CLIMATE CHANGE RESPONSE

Global warming and climate change both refer to the increase in Earth's average surface temperatures. Burning fossil fuels, such as coal and oil, releases greenhouse gases into the atmosphere, principally carbon dioxide, and is the main contributor to climate change. Agriculture and deforestation are two other human activities that contribute to the increase in greenhouse gases that fuel climate change. Sea ice loss, a faster rise in sea level, and longer, more intense heat waves are all effects of climate change. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change serves as the overarching framework for a worldwide response to climate change.

The Convention, which covers the reduction of greenhouse gases not covered by the Montreal Protocol, was enacted during the Rio Conference in 1992 UNFCCC (1998) Kyoto Protocol Doha Declaration (2012) Paris Accord (2015) The Paris Agreement of 2015 establishes specific mandatory and voluntary commitments for the mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions, the adaptation to the negative effects of climate change, the support provided by developed countries to developing countries, and the reporting of implementation activities. This goes beyond the Kyoto Protocol of 1997, which set specific emission reduction targets for developed countries.

UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE 1992

The Convention was adopted in 1992 by 197 countries and came in force on 1994. The global response to climate change is governed by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC, Convention), which has been defined by a number of decisions made by the Conference of the Parties. What will happen at the Convention? Objective A basic aim and criteria for determining the time frame to achieve it are named in Article 2 UNFCCC, which establishes the objective of the global climate change response. Goal: Maintain the concentration of greenhouse gases to a level that precludes potentially harmful interference. Criteria: Allow ecosystems to adjust to climate change naturally Make sure that the supply of food is not endangered. ensure that economic growth is carried out in a sustainable manner

KYOTO PROTOCOL 1997

The Protocol was adopted in 1997 by 192 countries and came in force on 2005. The Kyoto Protocol strengthens the commitments regarding greenhouse gas emissions for the Parties listed in Annex I UNFCCC and scales up the commitments regarding financial support for Parties included in Annex II UNFCCC in order to further the goal of the Convention. Therefore, it considers the fact that during the era before the treaty's industrialization, the Parties named in Annexes I and II UNFCCC were the primary causes of man-made climate change. How does the Protocol work? Objective

The ultimate goal of the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol is to stabilise atmospheric greenhouse gas concentrations (GHGs) at a level that will protect the climate system from hazardous human influence. The Kyoto Protocol expands upon and strengthens many of the promises made in order to achieve this goal.

PARIS AGREEMENT 2015

The Agreement was adopted in 2015 by 134 countries and came in force on 2016. Since 2011, the Paris Agreement has been negotiated as a follow-up to the Kyoto Protocol under the auspices of the Convention. It specifically targets adaptation to climate change, builds on voluntary contributions to reduce emissions, and strengthens reporting requirements. The Convention's mitigation goal is outlined in Article 2, but it also addresses adaptation and financial flows.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Every year, trash from industrial output totals hundreds of millions of tonnes. When ships travelled from port to port trying to unload their deadly cargoes in the late 1980s, the cross-border movement of hazardous wastes captured the public's attention. Unwanted shipments are frequently discarded carelessly, accidentally spilled, or incorrectly handled once they reach the beach, leading to serious health issues as well as decades-long pollution of the land, water, and air. Under the direction of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), treaty discussions were started by the 1980s. The Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal was adopted in March 1989.

The Basel Convention, the 1998 Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and the 2001 Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants all share the same goal of protecting human health and the environment. These three conventions address the essential components of 'cradle-to-grave' hazardous chemical management. As a result, the Conferences of the Parties to the Conventions enacted decisions in 2008 and 2009 to improve coordination and cooperation. These choices relate to the following areas' synergy at the national, regional, and international levels: Organising problems technical problems Public awareness and information management concerns organisational problems

The decisions also started the process of creating shared services between the Conventions that support each of the three secretariats. These include mobilising resources, providing financial and administrative support, providing legal counsel, using information technology, and providing information. Last but not least, the decisions called for the simultaneous convening of extraordinary sessions of the Conferences of the Parties to the three Conventions and the adoption of practically identical resolutions by these gatherings. Additionally, this is a novel and creative move.

BASEL CONVENTION ON THE CONTROL OF TRANSBOUNDARY MOVEMENTS OF HAZARDOUS WASTES AND THEIR DISPOSAL 1989

The Convention was adopted in 1989 by 186 countries and came in force on 1992. The most significant and legally binding international agreement with hazardous and other wastes is the Basel Convention from 1989. The Convention's initial ten years were primarily focused on developing restrictions for the transboundary movement of hazardous wastes, or the transportation of such wastes over international borders, and developing standards for the wastes' environmentally sound treatment. Recent efforts of the Convention have focused on maximisation of hazardous waste creation, promotion of environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes, a lifecycle approach, and full implementation of treaty commitments.

CHEMICAL WASTE

Key components of "cradle-to-grave" management of hazardous chemicals are covered by the 1989 Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes , the 1998 Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure , and the 2001 Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants.

The Conferences of the Parties adopted decisions in 2008 and 2009 to improve coordination and collaboration because the three Conventions cover the same issues and have similar goals. These choices address synergies at the local, regional, and international levels and initiate the creation of cooperative services among the Conventions that support each of the three secretariats.

The 1987 Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, in addition to these three Conventions,

ROTTERDAM CONVENTION ON THE PRIOR INFORMED CONSENT PROCEDURE FOR CERTAIN HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS AND PESTICIDES IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE 1998

The Convention was adopted in 1998 by 157 countries and came in force on 2004. Delegates to the 1992 Rio Conference urged for a legally enforceable mechanism to guarantee governments may make informed decisions about their future import as worries about the potential hazards to human health and the environment increased with the development in chemical manufacturing and trade. The Rotterdam Convention was therefore created and adopted in 1998 under the auspices of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The processes for the import and export of specific dangerous industrial chemicals and pesticides are described in full. The Convention also establishes a financing mechanism to aid Parties from underdeveloped countries.

STOCKHOLM CONVENTION ON PERSISTENT ORGANIC POLLUTANTS 2001

The Convention was adopted in 2001 by 181 countries and came in force on 2004. POPs are carbon-based compounds that have certain physical and chemical characteristics after being released into the environment. They are hazardous to both humans and wildlife, accumulate in living organisms, remain intact for extraordinarily extended periods of time, and get widely spread across the ecosystem as a result of natural processes. Originally addressing 12 POPs, known as the "Dirty Dozen," the Stockholm Convention of 2001 now lists 26 POPs.

MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY 2013

The Convention was adopted in 2013 by 38 countries and not in force. A heavy metal with a high level of toxicity and environmental persistence is mercury. It can be discharged into the air, water, and soil by human activities including mining, making cement, and burning fossil fuels. It is utilised in batteries, cosmetics, lighting, electronic and measurement equipment, as well as numerous industrial operations. Adopted in 2013, the Minamata Convention on Mercury is a multinational environmental accord that uses concrete steps to combat mercury's negative impacts. It requires Parties to address mercury's end-of-life issues, such as waste, contaminated sites, and long-term storage, throughout the substance's lifecycle. This covers its

creation, its deliberate incorporation into goods and procedures, as well as any unintended releases from industrial activities.

FRESH WATERCOURSE

Rivers are subject to international law because they frequently serve as the natural borders separating States; they frequently pass through the borders of multiple States. With the Helsinki Convention, river environmental legislation began to take shape quite early.

Rules from 1966 that reflected the equity in utilization customary law of the time. Because it is politically challenging for upstream States to make compromises in their river policies for the interests of the downstream States if these are viewed to damage a State's own population or economic interests, riparian state rights have been a source of contention.

While regional and even worldwide agreements have been negotiated to support the sustainable management of transboundary inland waterways, the majority of international river agreements apply to particular river regions.

Additionally, agreements have been reached to support the responsible management of transnational inland waterways. The Convention on the Law of the Non-navigational Uses of International Watercourses of 1997 was drafted by the UN International Law Commission and contains strict regulations.

Today, it is known that rivers, lakes, and groundwater are all parts of a complex drainage basin, or hydrological unit, that connects surface waters and groundwater. Groundwaters that are not related to surface waters and can be compared to legally shared natural resources like transboundary oil and gas wells, the UN International Law Commission finished its own draught articles on the Law of Transboundary Aquifers in 2008.

CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE NON-NAVIGATIONAL USES OF INTERNATIONAL WATERCOURSES 1997

The Convention was adopted in 1997 by 36 countries and came in force on 2014. Freshwater resources have long been governed by international regulations that solely cover navigation and other uses. These regimes mainly concerned with the quantitative side of water resources and viewed water as an economic resource. The controversial UN Watercourses Convention (UNWC), which took 17 years to come into force with only 36 ratifications (Vietnam being the 35th), was inspired by the Helsinki Rules on Uses of Waters of International Rivers of 1966. Despite having no legal power, these rules have no effect on the law. The UN General Assembly approved the UNWC as a universal treaty in 1997. It is a framework treaty for managing international watercourses that defines fundamental guidelines for cooperation between watercourse States for the use, administration, and defense of international watercourses

CASE LAWS

TAIZHOU POLLUTION CASE

In 2012, businesses were prosecuted for discharging about 25,000 tons of chemical waste into two rivers. The social organization Taizhou Environmental Federation won the case,¹¹ and the court ordered six corporations to pay a combined 160 million yuan (US\$23 million) in damages and 100,000 yuan

(US\$14,500) in assessment fees.

The case served as a reminder to polluting firms that they are responsible for covering the costs of their pollution and that fines can be prohibitively high.

TENGER DESERT CASES

¹¹ No. 00001 (2014), Last Instance, Environmental Citizen Suit, Jiangsu .Jiangsu High People's Court

Although it appears bleak, the Tengger Desert¹² in northwest China is home to herders and animals thanks to its sporadic lakes and groundwater networks. Unfortunately, this didn't stop eight chemical companies from dumping contaminated waste water in the desert. The Green Development Foundation filed a lawsuit in August 2015 with the Ningxia First Intermediate People's Court asking that the businesses stop discharging waste water and clean up the environment. The NGO successfully challenged the decision to dismiss the case to the Supreme People's Court on the grounds that the NGO was not "active in environmental public interest activities."

LESSON - The Supreme People's Court stated in its decision that "active in environmental public interest activities" did not only refer to direct involvement

FIRST DEZHOU AIR POLLUTION CASE

With waste gas emissions that were a major violation of environmental standards, a glass-making factory in Dezhou, Shandong province A glass-making facility in Dezhou, Shandong province, violated environmental laws by emitting waste gases that posed a major health risk to the local population. The All-China Environmental Federation, an NGO under the Ministry of Environmental Protection, sued the business to get it to cease..

Verdict - On July 20, 2016, the court of first hearing ruled that the business must pay a settlement of 20 million yuan (US\$2.9 million).

A lesson There is currently no accepted approach for estimating the harm caused by air pollution on a worldwide scale. The plaintiff's computation was approved by the court in this instance, which will be useful for addressing similar issues in the future. Nonetheless, the

GROUNDWATER WITHOUT BORDERS: THREE GORGES WATER POLLUTION CASE

Waste water and tailings from a company's illicit mining operations in Hubei quickly started streaming directly into the Qianzhangyan Reservoir, a crucial source of drinking water for two provinces. Chongqing Green Volunteers Union filed a lawsuit against the mining firm.

Conclusion: The request was granted, and the mining company was told to clean up the area and stop mining until an environmental impact assessment was completed.

¹² *B Rajesh Kumar, Tengger Desert Solar Park China*

Lesson - The majority of the impacted reservoir is located in Chongqing, where the lawsuit was heard, despite the fact that the mine was in Hubei. In this instance, pollution beyond provincial lines was attributed blame.

Jiangsu pig farming case

A cooperative-owned pig farm in Jiangyin¹³, Jiangsu Province, began operations without being evaluated or subject to any kind of inspection by the government. It didn't take long until it was seriously polluting the area and hurting the adjacent villages. To put an end to the unlawful farming, the All-China Environmental Federation requested a court injunction.

Verdict - The All-China Environmental Federation was successful in getting its case.

Lesson - The case brought to light the seriousness of environmental pollution in China's rural areas, which is escalating and is generally not given as much attention as pollution in urban areas.

LIUPANSHUI ILLEGAL DUMPING CASE

Government entities that fail to uphold their obligations can also be held accountable, even beyond administrative boundaries, so it's not just polluters who may find themselves in court. Using a plot of land as a temporary dump for domestic garbage led to the first cross-border environmental public interest litigation in China, which involved the township of Liupan in the province of Guizhou. Due to the pollution it generated, the local government was forced to sue the township¹⁴.

Decision: The plaintiff prevailed.

Lesson: Cases like this that cross jurisdictional lines urge government agencies to carry out their legal obligations and counteract local protectionism.

CONCLUSION

International efforts will bring grater result by its recognition and international cooperation, many Parties, ratification and implementation of the Convention and its protocols will mitigate health and environmental effects more affordably than taking unilateral action. Additionally, it has economic advantages since it ensures a level playing field for business across borders and stops Parties from competing with one another at the expense of the environment and human health.

Factors that have a negative impact on human health, threaten food security, impede economic growth, accelerate climate change, and deteriorate the ecosystem that supports our very existence. These Conventions offers a forum for discussing these links and takes steps to mitigate their harmful effects.

¹³ Q Zhao *et al* 2022 *Environ. Res. Lett.* **17** 124001

¹⁴ Ecotoxicol Environ Saf. 2023 Mar 15;253:114657. doi: 10.1016/j.ecoenv.2023.114657. Epub 2023 Feb 18.PMID: 36807058

These conventions and conferences achieved a markable victory in creating awareness among the people and world nations. Its steps towards it target are appreciable, but still need true participation and mitigation action for better result and maintain the health of eco system.

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