

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) - UPSC Notes

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) is a body of the UN that aims to develop opportunities, investments and trade in developing countries. Such international bodies and programmes are relevant to the [IAS exam](#). In this article, you can read all about the UNCTAD, its objectives and the important reports it publishes.

International organisations and groupings are an important part of the International Relations section of the General Studies paper-2 in the [UPSC Syllabus](#). International relations is a very dynamic part and is crucial for multiple papers in Prelims and Mains. Students preparing for UPSC 2020 and other [Government Exams](#) must be aware of the topic.

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

The United Nations General Assembly is the parent organisation of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). Moreover, UNCTAD is a permanent body of the United Nations.

United Nations Conference for Trade and Development (UNCTAD) deals with trade issues, investments and other matters concerning development. United Nations Conference Trade and Development goals are:

1. The development opportunities, investments and trade of developing countries are to be maximized.
2. The efforts of developing countries to integrate into the world economy on an equitable basis would be assisted by UNCTAD.

UPSC PRELIMS FACTS : (UNCTAD)



Name: United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

Year of Formation: 1964

Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland

Sector: Trade & Development

Is India a member: Yes

United Nations General Assembly is the parent organization.

UNCTAD Objectives

Framing policies in various domains such as trade, technology, finance, aid, and transport is the most important priority of UNCTAD. Geneva is the permanent secretariat of UNCTAD and the conference ordinarily meets once in four years.

UNCTAD collects data and conducts research and analyses policies.

UNCTAD, with its work in the national and global levels, aims to help countries to:

1. Understand options to address macro-level development challenges.
2. Acquire beneficial integration into the international trading system.
3. Reduce the dependency on commodities by diversifying the economies.
4. Decrease their exposure to debt and financial volatility.
5. Increase development-friendliness by attracting more investments.
6. Increase technologies related to the digital domain.
7. Give more thrust to innovation and entrepreneurship.
8. Aid local firms to move up value chains.
9. Facilitate the flow of goods across borders.
10. Prevent consumer abuse.
11. Competition should not be stifled, hence any concerned regulations would be cross-checked.
12. Effectively utilise natural resources that would help in adapting to climate change.

Aspirants can get an overview of the [United Nations Organisation \(UNO\)](#) in the given link.

UNCTAD Reports

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) publishes important reports like:

Trade & Development Report	World Development Report
The Least Developed Countries Report	Information and Economy Report
Commodities and Development Report	Technology and Innovation Report

For a list of other [important reports published by international organizations](#), click on the linked article.

