

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS  
General Certificate of Education  
Advanced Subsidiary Level and Advanced Level

**HISTORY**

**9697/03**

Paper 3 International History, 1945–1991

May/June 2006

**3 hours**

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

If you have been given an Answer Booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the Booklet.  
Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.  
Write in dark blue or black pen.  
You may use a soft pencil for any diagrams, graphs or rough working.  
Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Answer **four** questions.

You must answer **Question 1** (Section A), and **three** questions from Section B.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.  
All questions in this paper carry equal marks.

## SECTION A

You **must** answer Question 1.

## THE UNITED NATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION OVER THE ENVIRONMENT

1 Read the Sources and then answer the question.

When answering **Question 1**, candidates are advised to pay particular attention to the interpretation and evaluation of the Sources, both individually and as a group.

**Source A**

By the late 1960s, concern with accelerated environmental decay stimulated a growth of bilateral, regional and multilateral conventions. Despite these efforts, it was clear by the early 1970s that environmental efforts were scattered, overlapping and inadequate to meet the global environmental challenge.

In 1972 the controversial study, *The Limits of Growth*, which painted a bleak picture of humankind's future as a consequence of resource and environmental degradation, was published. The following year the United Nations responded to the need for co-ordination by convening the UN Conference on the Human Environment in Stockholm. It adopted the Stockholm Declaration, which represented the first time that the world community had collectively agreed upon the nature and scope of the environmental challenges facing humankind, and produced an Action Plan containing 109 recommendations.

It was not, however, until the occurrence of the environmental disasters in Bhopal, Chernobyl and Basel in the mid-1980s and the discovery of the ozone hole over the Antarctic, that the world community was literally brought face to face with global environmental challenges.

*An American lawyer, writing in 1997.*

**Source B**

113 nations assembled in Stockholm in 1972 for the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment. Stockholm was the beginning of a 'new journey of hope'. Despite some political divisions at the conference, agreement was reached on an historic statement of principles, the Stockholm Declaration, and a plan of action to give effect to them.

Before Stockholm, only a few countries, primarily in the industrial world, had environmental ministries. As a direct result of the conference, most governments developed policies and legislation to deal with environmental matters. The United Nations General Assembly established the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) as the international organisation responsible for implementing the agreements reached at Stockholm.

Despite progress in many areas, following Stockholm it became evident by the mid-1980s that, overall, the environment was still deteriorating. In response, the UN General Assembly established a World Commission for the Environment under the chairmanship of Gro Harlem Brundtland.

*Maurice Strong, a Canadian businessman and the first executive director of UNEP, speaking in 1999.*

**Source C**

Two general phases are visible in the environmental politics of the late twentieth century. The first phase began in the mid 1960s and lasted until the late 1970s. In this phase, environmental movements sprang up in the rich countries. Governments responded by creating environmental protection agencies. International co-operation remained very weak, despite the efforts made after the first international conference on the environment in Stockholm (1972). That led to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), based in Nairobi.

In the second phase, beginning around 1980, poorer countries established their own environmental protection agencies. The second phase featured unprecedented efforts at international co-operation. Regional and global problems, such as acid rain or ozone depletion, required new institutions and agreements. The Reagan Administration initially undermined what it could but found fewer and fewer allies abroad or in Congress. In 1987, the Brundtland Report, the product of four years of UN-sponsored inquiry, offered intellectual support for environmental planning. The Montreal protocol (1987) showed what good science and diplomacy could do.

*From an American book about the environment,  
published in 2000.*

**Source D**

The Stockholm Conference took place in the middle of the Cold War. The Soviet Union and its allies were absent. However, this did not seriously affect the results as the Soviet Union participated actively in preparations for the Conference. It was also the first major international event in which the People's Republic of China took part as a new member of the United Nations. This led to prolonged and difficult discussions about the Declaration, which China came close to opposing on the population issue. In the end, all decisions were made by consensus, a tradition that has continued ever since.

As a result of Stockholm, environment ministries were established in more than 100 countries, a key requirement for carrying forward the results of the conference. It also marked the beginning of the explosive increase in non-governmental organisations (NGOs) dedicated to environmental preservation. In twenty years, an estimated 100,000 such organisations were formed. The Declaration and Action Plan were particularly instrumental in the rapid development of international environmental law.

*A Swedish environmentalist who participated in the Stockholm Conference,  
writing in a United Nations' magazine, 2002.*

**Source E**

In looking back over the past thirty years, I cannot claim that UNEP was solely responsible for the progress made. But setting up UNEP after the Stockholm Conference was the first real proof that world leaders were taking their responsibilities towards the environment seriously. Since 1972 UNEP has played a decisive role in helping reach these and other milestones:

- 1985 Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer.  
Context: In 1985 the size of the ozone hole was measured for the first time.
- 1989 Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Waste.  
Context: 1983 Bhopal Disaster, 1986 Chernobyl, 1986 Fire in Basel releases toxic chemicals into the Rhine.

But it is not enough. Until now, we have been largely reacting to emerging problems.

*Dr Klaus Topfer, Executive Director of UNEP,  
speaking in 2002 about the results of the Stockholm Conference.*

Now answer the following question.

*How far do Sources A–E support the argument that the 1972 Stockholm Conference was a significant turning point in international co-operation to address environmental problems?*

**SECTION B**

You must answer **three** questions from this section.

You must **not** answer both Question 3 and Question 4.

- 2 How far do you agree that neither the USA nor the USSR intended to cause the Cold War?
- 3 To what extent did the USA attempt to 'roll back' communism, rather than merely contain it, in the period 1950 to 1985?

**OR**

- 4 To what extent did the reasons for, and nature of, American and Soviet intervention in the Middle East between 1956 and 1982, differ?
- 5 How far do you agree that the growth of nationalism within the USSR was the main cause of its collapse by 1991?
- 6 Discuss the view that in the period from 1950 to 1980, the nuclear arms race did more to stabilise the Cold War than to destabilise it.
- 7 Why, throughout the Cold War era, was the capitalist world economy so frequently in crisis?
- 8 Assess the impact of decolonisation on newly-independent states in the period from 1945 to 1991.





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Source E. Dr Klaus Topfer; *Stockholm Thirty Years On*; Swedish Government Offices, 2003.

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