

# Rio+20: Earth Summit report card

World leaders have failed to deliver on the three treaties that emerged from the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro two decades ago

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RIO SUMMIT

## UN Framework Convention on Climate Change

Treaty ratified by 194 countries.  
Leads to **Kyoto Protocol**

### 1994, Kyoto Protocol:

Industrialized countries agree to cut emissions of greenhouse gases by **5.2%** – compared with 1990 levels – by 2012.  
Accord aims to curb air pollution blamed for global warming

**2005:** Kyoto Protocol enters force without United States, which declines to ratify it

## Convention on Biological Diversity

Ratified by 193 countries.  
Treaty aims to “significantly” cut species loss by 2010

### 1994, UN Convention to Combat Desertification:

Treaty aims to prevent and reverse land degradation and to mitigate effects of drought

### 2000, Cartagena Protocol:

Accord to regulate transport of genetically modified organisms signed by 103 countries

**FAILED**

## Global carbon dioxide emissions (billion tonnes)



Global emissions  
1990-2010 **UP 45%**  
United States **UP 11%**  
Developing countries **UP 54%**  
Arctic sea ice\*  
**DOWN 3 million sq km**  
\*summer minimum

**FAILED**

## Land area lost to desertification

Earth's total land surface:  
150 million sq km

1991, Land lost:  
11.7m sq km

2008:  
31.3m sq km

Sufficient to grow  
5bn tonnes of grain/year

**FAILED**

## Species at risk of extinction (Percentage of known species)

