

ACRONYMS AND SHORT FORMS

ABM	Anti-Ballistic Missile (Treaty)
ADB	Asian Development Bank
ACDA	Arms Control and Disarmament Agency No longer exists: now the State Department Bureau of Arms Control
ACIS	Advance Cargo Information System (UNCTAD chapter)
AELE	French for EFTA
AFL-CIO	American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations U.S. association of trade unions
AHC	Ad Hoc Committee
AI	Avian Influenza
AIC	American International Club
AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (UNAIDS chapter)
AKDN	Aga Khan Development Network
ANA	American Nurses Association (ICN chapter)
ANSI	American National Standards Institute private, nonprofit corporation representing U.S. interests in ISO and IEC. (Standardization chapter)
ANZUS	Alliance formed by the U.S., Australia and New Zealand
APEC	Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation
ARI	Acute Respiratory Infections (WHO chapter)
ASEAN	Association of South East Asian Nations
ATAG	Air Transport Action Group (ATAG chapter)
AU	African Union Formerly the OAU – Organization of African Unity
AZT	Azidothymidine
BIT	French for ILO
BWC	Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention (CD chapter)

CAP	Common Agricultural Policy (of the European Union)
CAP	Consolidated Appeals Process (OCHA chapter)
CAT	Convention Against Torture
CBM	Confidence Building Measure
CCI	French for ITC
CCW	Convention on Conventional Weapons (CCW chapter)
CD	Community of Democracies
CD	Conference on Disarmament
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Located in Atlanta, Georgia (See WHO chapter)
CE	French for EC
CEE	French for ECE and EEC
CERD	Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (OHCHR chapter)
CERN	European Laboratory for Particle Physics (French initials for its former name)
CESCR	Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (Human Rights chapter)
CFE	Conventional Armed Forces in Europe
CHF	The abbreviation for Swiss francs
CHR	Commission on Human Rights (no longer exists)
CIA	Central Intelligence Agency (U.S.)
CICG	Centre International de Conférences de Geneve (Geneva's International Conference Center)
CICR	French for ICRC
CIEL	Center for International Environmental Law
CIJL	Center for the Independence of Judges and Lawyers
CIS	Commonwealth of Independent States
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES chapter)
CNUCED	French for UNCTAD

COARE	Coupled Ocean-Atmosphere Response Experiment (WMO chapter)
COP	Conference of the Parties
CSCE	Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe Renamed OSCE in 1994
CTA	Central Tracing Agency (International Red Cross chapter)
CTBT	Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CD chapter)
CWC	Chemical Weapons Convention (CD chapter)
DHA	Department of Humanitarian Affairs, predecessor of OCHA (OCHA chapter)
DOL	Department of Labor (U.S. government agency)
DMZ	Demilitarized Zone
DSB	Dispute Settlement Mechanism (WTO chapter)
DSU	Dispute Settlement Understanding (WTO chapter)
EAP	Environmental Action Program (ECE chapter)
EBU	European Broadcasting Union
EC	European Community (See also EU below)
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa (ECE chapter)
ECE	Economic Commission for Europe (ECE chapter)
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECE chapter)
ECOSOC	Economic and Social Council (UN General Assembly body; promotes economic and social progress and development)
EDIFACT	Electronic Data Interchange For Administration, Commerce and Transport (ECE and UNCTAD chapters)
EEA	European Economic Area (EFTA chapter)
EFTA	European Free Trade Association

EMEP	Cooperative Program for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (ECE chapter)
EMS	Expedited Mail Service / Express Mail Service (UPU chapter)
ENSO	El Nino/Southern Oscillation (WMO chapter)
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency US Government Agency
EPI	Expanded Program of Immunization (See WHO chapter)
ERW	Explosive Remnants of War (CCW chapter)
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific Located in Bangkok (ECE chapter)
ESCWA	Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ECE chapter)
EU	The European Union After the November 1, 1993, entry-into- force of the Treaty on European Union, or “Maastricht Treaty,” the European Union became the preferred usage when referring collectively to the newly strengthened institutions of the European Community.
EXCOM	Executive Committee
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization (UN agency based in Rome; liaison office in Geneva)
FAS	Foreign Agricultural Service (U.S. Department of Agriculture)
FCCC	Framework Convention on Climate Change (WMO and IPCC chapters)
FCTC	Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO chapter)
FDA	(U.S.) Food and Drug Administration
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
FMCT	Fissile Material Cutoff Treaty (CD chapter)
FTA	Free Trade Agreement
GAO	General Accounting Office (U.S.)
GARP	Global Atmospheric Research Program (WMO chapter)

G-8	Group of Eight The G8 Summit brings together the leaders of Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States.
G-77	Group of 77 – Developing countries (now numbering over 130 countries)
GATS	General Agreement on Trade in Services (WTO chapter)
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (WTO chapter)
GAVI	Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (WHO chapter)
GAW	Global Atmospheric Watch (WMO chapter)
GEF	Global Environment Facility Joint effort of UNDP and UNEP to support environmental projects in Third World
GEO	Group on Earth Observations
GEN	Geneva Environment Network
GMO	Genetically Modified Organism
GMT	Greenwich Mean Time
GNP	Gross National Product
GOS	Global Observing System (WMO chapter)
GPS	Global Positioning System (See ITU chapter)
GSP	Generalized System of Preferences (UNCTAD chapter)
GTS	Global Telecommunications System (WMO chapter)
GRULAC	Group of Latin American and Caribbean States UN Regional Group
HC	Humanitarian Coordinator Term for the designated UN senior official in a country with a humanitarian crisis or disaster
HCHR	High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR chapter)
HRFOR	United Nations Human Rights Field Operation in Rwanda
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus AIDS-causing virus (UNAIDS chapter)
HLD	High-Level Dialogue

HLS	High-Level Segment The part of a meeting with Head of State or Ministerial participation
HLWC	Humanitarian Liaison Working Group Informal grouping of top twenty humanitarian donors
HRC	Human Rights Council
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency (Vienna-based independent intergovernmental agency under the aegis of the UN; promotes the peaceful uses of atomic energy, and prevents, through safe-guards and inspections, the spread of nuclear weapons)
IARC	International Agency for Research on Cancer Lyon-based WHO research agency
IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee
IATA	International Air Transport Association
IBE	International Bureau of Education
ICANN	Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (WIPO chapter)
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization Montreal; develops principles and techniques of international air navigation and air transport to ensure the safe and orderly growth of civil aviation C IATA chapter
ICARA	International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa (UNHCR chapter)
ICBM	Intercontinental Ballistic Missile
ICC	International Criminal Court
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
ICDO	International Civil Defense Organization
ICJ	International Commission of Jurists
ICMC	International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC chapter)
ICN	International Council of Nurses
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross (International Red Cross chapter)
ICSU	International Council of Scientific Unions (WMO chapter)
ICVA	International Council of Voluntary Agencies NGO consortium focused on humanitarian issues
IDNDR	International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency UN body in Vienna

IEC	International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC chapter)
IFS	International Sports Federations (IOC chapter)
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development (Rome-based UN specialized agency to increase food production in developing countries through loans for projects benefiting the rural poor in the poorest food-deficient regions)
IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
IHL	International Humanitarian Law Also known as the Law of War
IGC	Inter-governmental Consultations on Migration A Geneva based secretariat which organized meetings of the primary asylum providing states.
IGF	Internet Governance Forum
ILC	International Law Commission
ILO	International Labor Organization
IMF	International Monetary Fund (Washington based international financial institution that seeks to stabilize the international monetary system as a sound basis for the orderly expansion of international trade)
INF	Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces Treaty (Bureau of Arms Control chapter)
IOC	International Olympic Committee Located in Lausanne (IOC chapter)
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IPC	Integrated Program of Commodities (UNCTAD chapter)
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC chapter)
IPEC	International Program for the Elimination of Child Labor (ILO chapter)
IPU	Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU Chapter)
ISDN	Integrated Services Digital Network (ITU chapter)
ISO	International Organization for Standardization (Standardization chapter)
ITC	International Trade Center

ITO	International Trade Organization (WTO chapter)
ITU	International Telecommunication Union
IUC	Information Unit for Conventions; UNEP body providing information on Environmental Conventions. (UNEP chapter)
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources Known as the “World Conservation Union” (IUCN chapter)
IUHEI	Geneva’s Graduate Institute of International Studies (Institut Universitaire de Hautes Etudes Internationales)
JCIC	Joint Compliance and Inspection Commission (See Bureau of Arms Control chapter)
JCS	Joint Chiefs of Staff (U.S.)
JUSCANZ	A group of non-EU developed countries including Japan, the United States, Canada, New Zealand, Norway, Australia, South Korea, Turkey, Switzerland, and others
LDCs	Least Developed Countries
LEP	Large Electron/Positron collider (CERN chapter)
LHC	Large Hadron Collider (CERN chapter)
LRTAP	Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution convention (ECE chapter)
LWF	Lutheran World Federation
MDA	Magen David Adom Red Shield of David, Israel’s national humanitarian society
MEA	Multilateral Environmental Agreement (Such as the Basel Convention, or the Conventions on Biological Diversity and Climate Change)
MFA	Multi-fiber Arrangement (WTO chapter)
MFN	Most-Favored Nation clause (WTO chapter)
MSS	Mobile Satellite Systems (ITU chapter)
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
MOTAPN	Mines other than Anti-Personnel Mines
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NAFTA	North American Free Trade Agreement concluded among U.S., Canada and Mexico

NGLS	United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
NIS	Newly Independent States former USSR republics
NNWS	Non-Nuclear Weapons States (CD chapter)
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration U.S. Department of Commerce
NOCs	National Olympic Committees (IOC chapter)
NPT	Non-Proliferation Treaty (CD chapter)
NSA	Negative Security Assurances (CD chapter)
NTM	National Technical Means of verifying arms agreements
OAS	Organization of American States
OAU	Organization of African Unity Became the African Union in 1999
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OCOGs	Organizing Committees of the Olympic Games (IOC chapter)
ODP	Orderly Departure Program (UNHCR & IOM chapters)
ODSG	OCHA Donor Support Group
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development Headquarters in Paris; 30 country members
OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
OMM	French for WMO
OMPI	French for WIPO
OMS	French for WHO
ONG	French for Non-Governmental Organization Organisation Non-Gouvernementale
ONU	French for UN
ONUG	French for United Nations Office in Geneva (UNOG)
ONUDI	French for UNIDO

OPEC	Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Algeria, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Libya, Nigeria, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela)
ORT	Oral Rehydration Therapy (WHO chapter)
OSCE	Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. New name for a strengthened CSCE in post-Cold War Europe.
Palais	UN headquarters in Geneva short for "Palais des Nations"
P-5	Or Perm-5: Five permanent members of the UN Security Council (U.S., UK, USSR, China, France)
PA	Public Affairs
PA	Palestinian Authority
PAM	Programme Alimentaire Mondial (French for WFP)
PCT	Patent Cooperation Treaty (WIPO chapter)
Perm-5	Or P-5. Five permanent members of the UN Security Council U.S., UK, USSR, China, France
PKO	Peacekeeping Operations
POP	Persistent Organic Pollutant (ECE chapter)
PNUD	French for UNDP
PSA	Political and Specialized Agency affairs section at U.S. Mission
PSE	Producer Subsidy Equivalent (measure of cost of agricultural support programs C PSEs measure the value of the monetary transfers by consumers and taxpayers to farmers as a result of agricultural policy)
RMA	Refugee and Migration Affairs section at U.S. Mission
SALT	Strategic Arms Limitation Talks forerunner to START
SARS	Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (WHO chapter)
SBC	Secretariat of the Basel Convention
SCC	Standing Consultative Commission
SCHR	Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response NGO consortium focused on humanitarian issues

SECI	Southeast European Cooperation Initiative (ECE chapter)
SIDA	French for AIDS, Syndrome d'Immunodeficit Acquis
SLBM	Sea-Launched Ballistic Missile
SNF	Short-range or tactical Nuclear Forces
S&P	Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (WTO chapter)
START	Strategic Arms Reduction Talks
TIA	Transparency in Armaments (CD chapter)
TCP	Tropical Cyclone Program (WMO chapter)
TIR	Transport International Routier (ECE chapter)
TLT	Trademark Law Treaty (WIPO chapter)
TNC	Trade Negotiations Committee (WTO chapter)
TPRM	Trade Policy Review Mechanism (WTO chapter)
TRAINS	Trade Analysis and Information System (UNCTAD chapter)
TRIMs	Trade-Related Investment Measures (WTO chapter)
TRIPs	Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (WTO chapter)
UIT	French for ITU
UN	United Nations
UNAIDS	The UN's interagency program on AIDS Launched in 1996, replacing WHO's Global Program on AIDS
UNCED	United Nations Conference on Environment and Development Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, June 1992
UN/ CEFACT	The United Nations Center for Facilitation of Procedures and Practices for Administration, Commerce and Transport See the ECE chapter
UNCHR	UN Commission on Human Rights OHCHR chapter
UNCTAD	UN Conference on Trade and Development
UNDCP	United Nations Drug Control Program Part of UNODC

UNDP	UN Development Program New York; liaison office in Geneva
UNESCO	UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Paris; liaison office in Geneva See IBE chapter
UNEP	UN Environment Program Nairobi, with European office in Geneva
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFPA	UN Fund for Population Activities New York
UNGA	UN General Assembly New York
UNHCHR	UN High Commissioner for Human Rights also OHCHR
UNHCR	UN High Commissioner for Refugees
UNHRC	UN Human Rights Commission
UNICEF	UN Children's Fund
UNIDIR	UN Institute for Disarmament Research Geneva; autonomous institution within UN undertaking independent research on disarmament and security
UNITAR	UN Institute for Training and Research (New York)
UNO	United Nations Organization
UNODC	The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNOG	United Nations Office in Geneva
UNOCHI	UN Office for the Humanitarian Coordinator for Iraq
UNPA	UN Postal Administration Only organization other than governments allowed to issue postage stamps
UNRWA	UN Relief Works Agency Mandated to care for Palestinian refugees
UNSCOM	UN Special Commission for the destruction of Iraqi weapons of mass destruction
UNV	UN Volunteers Moved from Geneva to Bonn in 1995
UNVIE	United Nations Office in Vienna
UPOV	Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (WIPO chapter)
UPU	Universal Postal Union (Bern)

USAID	U.S. Agency for International Development
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
USIA	United States Information Agency (No longer exists. Integrated into the State Department in 1999)
USIS	United States Information Service (No longer exists. Integrated into the State Department in 1999)
USITC	U.S. International Trade Commission Independent fact-finding agency of the U.S. government that studies the effects of tariffs and other restraints to trade on the U.S. economy
USTR	United States Trade Representative
USUN	United States Mission to the United Nations (New York)
VAT	Value Added Tax
WADA	World Anti-Doping Agency (IOC Chapter)
WBCSD	World Business Council for Sustainable Development
WCC	World Council of Churches
WCMC	World Conservation Monitoring Center (IUCN chapter)
WCP	World Climate Program (WMO chapter)
WEF	World Economic Forum (WEF chapter)
WEOG	Western Europe and Others UN regional group including the United States
WFP	World Food Programme UN organization with headquarters in Rome
WHA	World Health Assembly (WHO chapter)
WHO	World Health Organization (See WHO chapter)
WHRG	Western Human Rights Group Membership like WEOG
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO chapter)
WJC	World Jewish Congress
WMO	World Meteorological Organization (WMO chapter)
WOCE	World Ocean Circulation Experiment (WMO chapter)