

The INTERPOL General Assembly

October 19, 2022

In news— India hosted the 90th Interpol General Assembly meeting recently.

About the assembly-

- It is **Interpol's supreme governing body** and **meets once a year** to take key decisions related to its functioning.
- It comprises representatives from each of our member countries.
- Each member country may be represented by one or several delegates who are typically chiefs of police and senior ministry officials.
- Its purpose is to ensure that INTERPOL's activities correspond to the needs of our member countries.
- The General Assembly takes decisions in the form of Resolutions. Each member country represented has one vote.
- The decision-making process is made by either a simple or two-thirds majority, depending on the subject matter.
- The Interpol General Assembly meeting took place in India after a gap of about 25 years – it was last held in 1997.
- Delegations from 195 countries have attended the four-day event.

About Interpol-

- **The Interpol, or International Criminal Police Organization**, is an inter-governmental organisation comprising 195 member countries, which helps police forces in all these countries to better coordinate their actions.
- **Interpol will be celebrating 100 years of its inception**

in the year 2023.

- It is run by a secretary general (currently Jurgen Stock of Germany, who has been Interpol's chief executive since 2014), with its headquarters in Lyon, France, with a global complex for innovation in Singapore, and several satellite offices in different regions.

Interpol's Structure:

The organisation has four administrative departments: General Assembly, General Secretariat, Executive Committee and National Central Bureaus.

General Assembly:

- The General Assembly is the **governing body of Interpol.**
- It is **responsible for taking all important decisions concerned with policies, finances**, working methods, resources and other activities and programs.
- It **meets once a year** to take key decisions related to its functioning.
- The meeting is taking place in India after a gap of 25 years since it was last held in 1997.

General Secretariat:

The General Secretariat coordinates Interpol's day-to-day activities to fight a range of crimes.

Executive Committee:

- The Executive Committee consists of 13 members who are elected by the General Assembly.
- It has one President, three vice presidents and nine delegates that cover different regions.
- The Executive Committee is in charge of supervising the execution of the General Assembly's decisions and the administration and work of the General Secretariat. It meets three times a year.

National Central Bureau (NCB):

- In each country, NCB provides the central point of contact for the General Secretariat and other NCBs.
- An NCB is run by national police officials and usually sits in the government ministry responsible for policing.
- Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) special director Praveen Sinha is Interpol's delegate for Asia.

Functions of Interpol-

- Interpol enables **cross-border cooperation between police forces** of 195 member countries.
- It enables them to **share and access data on crimes and criminals** and offers a range of technical and operational support.
- It **offers investigative support such as forensics, analysis**, and assistance in locating fugitives around the world.
- Interpol also **facilitates police to work directly with their counterparts, even between countries** which do not have diplomatic relations.
- Interpol **supports countries in their efforts in combating three major global issues terrorism, cybercrime and organized crime.**