

Asia Pacific Forum

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Why is in news? President of India inaugurated Annual General Meeting and Biennial Conference of the Asia Pacific Forum on Human Rights

It was founded in 1996.

The APF was founded to **promote the establishment of independent National Human Rights Institutions** in the Asia Pacific region and to support them in their **work to promote and protect human rights** as effectively as possible.

Objective: To promote the establishment of independent NHRIs in the Asia Pacific region and to support our members to do their work as effectively as possible.

Membership:-

From five founding members, the APF membership has expanded to 26 NHRIs.

NHRC, **India is one of the founding members** of the Asia Pacific Forum of the NHRIs.

As a coalition of national human rights institutions, it works together and shares expertise to help make its vision a reality.

It works closely with governments, civil society organizations, regional human rights bodies, and the international community.

It aims to build strong partnerships and strengthen the impact of our members as they work to build fair, inclusive, and resilient communities.

Its network now supports over 4,000 dedicated human rights defenders who work tirelessly on the ground to protect the rights of those most vulnerable.

<u>Significance</u>: It has created a strong and united platform that brings together National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) from all corners of the Asia Pacific to address some of the most serious human rights challenges in our region.

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