

# **Lucknow Declaration**

## Why in News

India and 50 African countries adopted the 'Lucknow Declaration' at first India - Africa Defence Minister's Conclave.

■ The Conclave was held **on the sidelines of the ongoing** <u>DefExpo 2020</u> (5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2020) in **Lucknow** (Uttar Pradesh).

## **Highlights of the Declaration**

## Peace and Security

- All the signatories committed to continue their collaboration in the fields of peace and security including conflict prevention, resolution, management and peacebuilding.
- It also aims to enhance the role of women in peacekeeping.

### Maritime Security

 To exchange expertise and trainers, strengthening regional and continental early warning capacities and mechanisms.

#### Terrorism

- Terrorism is a major threat in the region and thus aims to take resolute action in rooting out terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, eliminating financing channels and halting cross-border movement of terrorists.
- It also urges the international community to envisage the adoption of the <u>Comprehensive</u>
  <u>Convention on International Terrorism</u> in the <u>United Nations General Assembly</u>
  (UNGA).

### Importance of Indo-Pacific:

 To encourage enhanced cooperation between India and Africa on the evolving concept of Indo-Pacific.

## India's SAGAR:

- It also welcomes the African Unions' vision for peace and security in Africa that coincides with India's vision of **SAGAR (Security and Growth for all in the Region).** 
  - SAGAR is an articulation of India's vision for the Indian Ocean.
  - SAGAR has elements such as enhancement of capacities to safeguard land and maritime territories & interests; deepening economic and security cooperation in the littoral; action to deal with natural disasters and maritime threats like piracy, terrorism.

## Compliance at UNSC:

• To strengthenth the UN Counter-Terrorism mechanisms and to ensure strict compliance with the **UN Security Council** sanctions regime on terrorism.

### Origin and Status of Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism (CCIT)

- India has pushed for an intergovernmental convention to enhance prosecution and extradition of terrorists since 1996.
- Although consensus eludes towards the adoption of the terrorism convention, discussions have yielded three separate protocols that aim to tackle terrorism:
  - International Convention for the Suppression of **Terrorist Bombings**, adopted on 15 December 1997;
  - International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism, adopted on 9 December 1999;
  - International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, adopted on 13 April 2005.

