

Chapter 15

International Organizations

United Nations organizations

- It is the most important international organization in today's world.
- It is a great hope of humanity for Peace and progress.
- " The UN Was not created to take humanity to heaven, but to save it from hell" - Dag Hammarskjold.
- It was formed to ensure World Peace by resolving problems Peacefully.
- It helps the countries to promote better living Conditions to all.

Evolution of the UN

- It was established after the end of Second World War.
- UN is the successor of League of Nations.
- It was formed on 24th October 1945.
- Its HQ - New York.
- Present strength - 193.
- The charter of UN was signed by 51 Nations.
- India joined UN on 30th October 1945.
- The important steps towards the formation of UNO are Atlantic Charter, Washington Conference, Moscow Conference, Dumbarton Oaks Conference and Yalta Conference.
- The founding conference of UNO was held in San Francisco in 1945.
- The term UNO was proposed by American President Franklin D Roosevelt.

Objectives of the UNO

- To prevent international conflict and to promote Cooperation among the nations.
- To improve the prospects of social and economic development all over the world.

Organs of UN

- The UN has six principal organs. They are:
- 1. **General Assembly:** - It is the biggest organ of the UN. All members of the UN are members of the general assembly. Five members are represented from each member state, but only One vote.
- 2. **Security Council:** - It is the executive Organ of the UNO. It consists of 15 members. Five of them are permanent members and ten are non-permanent members. America, Britain, France, Russia and China are the permanent members. They enjoy Veto Power. Non-Permanent members are elected for a term of two years.
- 3. **Economic and Social Council:** - It coordinates all the functions of the UN.
- 4. **Trusteeship Council:** - It was formed to supervise the administration of territories which has no self govt. This organ has no relevance today because all trust territories have become independent states.
- 5. **International Court of Justice:** - It is the judicial organ of the UN. It consists of 15 judges. Their term is 9 years.
- 6. **The Secretary General:** - Representative head of the UN. The Secretary general is not elected from its permanent members. Its term is five years and can be reelected.

Specialized Agencies

- **ILO :-** HQ - Geneva
- **FAO:-** HQ - Paris
- **UNESCO:-** HQ - Paris
- **UNICEF:-** HQ - New York
- **IAEA:-** HQ - Vienna, established in 1961. It was formed to implement the proposal of American President Eisenhower, "Atoms for Peace". Its aim is to promote the peaceful use of nuclear energy.
- **IMF:-** HQ - Washington, formed in 1945. Its aim is to promote the cooperation between the nations for the progress of trade.
- **WHO:-** HQ - Geneva.

- **WTO:-** HQ - Geneva, established in 1995. It came into existence in lieu of GATT (General Agreement on Tariff and Trade).
- **World Bank :-** HQ - Washington, established in 1945. It gives loans and financial assistance to the nations.

Reforms of the UN after the Cold War

- Two basic types of reforms were proposed for UN:
 1. **Reform of the structures and processes of the organisation.**
 - To increase UN security council's Permanent and non-permanent membership.
 - To increase membership from Asia, Africa and South America in the security Council.
 - **In 1992, the General Assembly adopted a resolution emphasising three main complaints.**
 1. Security Council does not reflect the contemporary political parties.
 2. Its decision reflect only Western values and interests.
 3. It lacks equitable representation.
 2. **Jurisdiction of the UN**
 - **In 2005 , the heads of member states decided to make the UN more relevant. So, they decided to take following steps.**
 1. Creation of peace building Commission.
 2. Formation of Human Rights Council.
 3. Creation of a Democracy Fund.
 4. An agreement to wind up the Trusteeship Council.
 5. Condemnation of terrorism.

World After Cold War

- USSR has collapsed .

- US is the strongest power.
- The relationship between Russia and US became more cooperative.
- Rapid growth of China and India.
- Growth of Asian Economies.
- Many newly independent countries joined to UN.
- New challenges to the World like Genocide, civil Wars, Ethnic conflict, Terrorism, Climate Change, Epidemic etc.

Suggested Criteria for New Membership in Security Council.

- A major economic power.
- A major military Power.
- A substantial contributor to the UN budget.
- A big nation in terms of population.
- A nation that respects democracy and human rights.
- Representative of the world's diversity in terms of geography, economic systems and Culture.

India and UN Reforms

- India demands a change in the composition of security Council , because security Council membership remains static while UN General Assembly membership expanded considerably.
- India also believes that developing world should be adequately represented in the security Council.

★ **India wishes a permanent membership in UN Security Council. Factors in favour of India are:**

1. The second populous country in the world.
2. Largest democratic country in the world.
3. Active role in UN peace building mission.

4. India is a developing country.
5. India is a regular contributor to UN Fund.

UN in a Unipolar World

- US has a great influence in UN.
- US is the sole Superpower today.
- US has considerable influence within UN.
- US is the largest contributor to UN Fund.
- UN is physically located within US.
- Many US citizens in the UN Bureaucracy.
- US enjoys VETO Power.

★ Role of UN in a Unipolar world

- UN can bring US and rest of the World for discussion on international matters.
- It is difficult for other states to persuade US on policy matters.
- The UN provides a platform for other nations to modify the attitudes and policies of America.

Relevance of UN

- UN is not perfect but without which world would be worse off.
- Helpful to seven Billion people to live together.
- An organization like the UN is very relevant in a period when serious problems like population growth, Proliferation of deadly weapons, migration of refugees, religious fundamentalism, terrorism, etc...,
- UN is an organization formed to settle down conflicts. So as long as there are conflict the presence of UN is very relevant.

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