



# UNITED NATIONS-OBJECTIVES AND PRINCIPLES



# INTRODUCTION

The foundation of the United Nations were laid on the ashes of the League of Nations. League's failure to avert the war and promote the cause of peace reiterated the conviction of the People all over the world to work out for enduring peace. The name "United Nations" was devised by President Franklin D. Roosevelt and was first used in the declaration by 'United Nations' of 1 January 1942 during the war when representatives of 16 nations pledged their government to continue fighting together against the axis powers.

# BACKGROUND AND BIRTH OF UNITED NATIONS

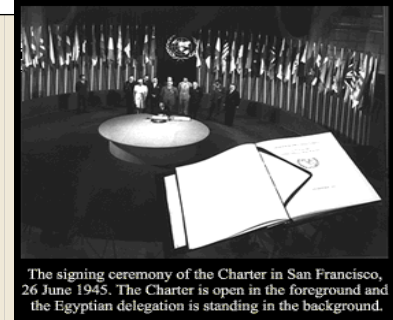
- 1. DECLARATION OF FOUR FREEDOMS:- In 1941, the American President Roosevelt made a declaration and said the every nationality had the right to have a separate state. He gave the suggestion of an International Organisation which could protect the following freedom of the people-
  - Freedom of speech and expression
  - Freedom of Religion and worship
  - Freedom from Fear and Insecurity
  - Freedom from Want.

- **2. LONDON DECLARATION, 1941**- On June 12, 1941 a conference was held in St. James Palace in London in which the representatives from Australia, Newzealand, Canada, South Africa, England etc took part.
- **3. ATLANTIC CHARTER, 1941**-On August 15, 1941 the allied nations had made declaration stating the objectives of war. In this Charter emphasis was laid on the following:
  - (i) Allied Nations have no desire to expand their territories.
  - (ii) The changes in different areas shall be made according to the wishes of the people living there.
  - (iii) All the people had the right to elect and form the government of their choice.
  - (iv) It will be sincere effort of Allied Nations that all nations get equal share in trade.
  - (v) Emphasis will be laid on the promotion of economic cooperation by Allied Nations.
  - (vi) After the end of Nazi tyranny such a world shall be established in which every state feels secure.
  - (vii) Every nations will be free on international Seas.
  - (viii) Every nation should resist from the use of force.

- 4. United Nations Declaration, 1942
- 5. Moscow Declaration, 1943
- 6. Dumbarton Oaks Proposals, 1944: Proposals are the followings:
  - (i) A security Council consisting of 11 members be constituted and it should be entrusted with the responsibility of the maintenance of peace in the world.
  - (ii) It shall be the duty of all members of this new international Organisation that whenever the security Council felt the need to take action against an aggressor all the member countries shall contribute their defence forces for this purpose.
  - (iii) It was also decided to make America, Russia, France, China and England the permanent members of Security Council and the name of this organisation shall be United Nations Organisation-UNO.



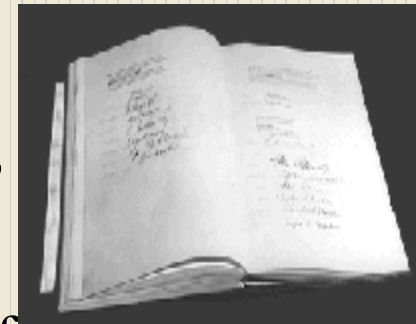
The Conference at Dumbarton Oaks  
Washington, D.C., 21 August 1944.



The signing ceremony of the Charter in San Francisco, 26 June 1945. The Charter is open in the foreground and the Egyptian delegation is standing in the background.

- **7. YALTA CONFERENCE, 1945**:- It was in February, 1945 that President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Churchill and President Stalin discussed the voting procedure in security Council in Yalta.
- **8. SAN FRANCISCO CONFERENCE, 1945**- From April 25, 1945 to June 26, 1945 a conference was held in San Francisco in which about 282 delegates from 50 countries took part.
- **9. SIGNING OF THE CHARTER**:- The Charter of the United Nations containing 10,000 words 111 Articles and divided in 19 Chapters was signed by the representatives of 51 original members on June 26, 1945.

# PREAMBLE TO THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS



- **“We the people of the United Nations”  
Determined**

to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, which twice in our lifetime has brought untold sorrow to mankind, and

to reaffirm faith in the fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small and to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained and

to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom.

# AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE UNITED NATIONS

- 1. To maintain international Peace and security
- 2. To develop friendly relations among Nations
- 3. To cooperate in solving international Economic, Social, Cultural and Humanitarian problem and to promote respect for human rights
- 4. To work as a Centre for achieving the goals written above



# PRINCIPLES OF UNITED NATIONS

- 1. Based on the principle of the sovereign equality of all its members.
- 2. All members, in order to ensure to all of them the rights and benefits resulting from membership, shall fulfill in good faith the obligations assumed by them in accordance with present charter of the United Nations.
- 3. All members shall settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security and justice are not endangered.
- 4. All members shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state, or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations.

- 5. All members shall give the United Nation every assistance in any action it takes in accordance with the present Charter of the United.
- 6. This organisation shall ensure that states which are not members of the United Nations act in accordance with these principles so far as may be necessary for the maintenance of international peace and security.
- 7. Nothing contained in the present Charter of the United Nations shall authorize the United Nations in the present matters which are essentially within t the domestic jurisdiction of any states or shall require the members to submit such matters to settlement under the present Charter; but this principle shall not prejudice the application of enforcement measures under Chapter-VII of the Charter of the United Nations.

# MEMBERSHIP OF THE UNITED NATIONS

- **Article-3** of the charter, there are two types of the members of United Nations such as :-
- **ORIGINAL MEMBERS**:- Those members who participated in San Francisco Conference and signed the Charter at that time are known as Original Members. These were 51 in number.
- **NEW MEMBERS**:- According to Article-4 of the Charter new members can also join United Nations. Every nation who is committed to peace and is eligible to fulfill the obligations included in the charter, can become the member of United Nations.

# EXPULSION OF MEMBERS NATION FROM UNITED NATIONS

- Under **Article-6** of the Charter of the United Nations a nation which is unable to fulfill the obligations of United Nations or violates the Charter can be expelled from the membership of the United Nations. The recommendation to expel a member is made by Security Council to the General Assembly with 2/3 majority which must include 5 permanent members and if the recommendation is accepted by the General Assembly, then the concerned member is expelled from the United Nations.
- **POSITION OF OBSERVER**:-These countries who are not the member of United Nation can take part in the meeting of General Assembly as observers on the recommendation of General Assembly.
- **MEMBERSHIP OF COMMUNIST CHINA**:-Oct 1971, Communist China was accepted as the member of United Nation along with Veto Power.

# MAIN ORGANS OF UNITED NATIONS

**GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY**

**SECURITY  
COUNCIL**

**ECONOMIC &  
SOCIAL COUNCIL**

**SECRETARIAT**

**INTERNATIONAL  
COURT OF JUSTICE**

**TRUSTEESHIP  
COUNCIL**

# GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- **COMPOSITION**:-All the member nations of the United Nations are the members of the General Assembly and no discrimination is made on the basis of their size, population and power etc. Every member state sends 5 representatives whereas it has one vote.
- **SESSION**:-Regular session every year on third Tuesday of Sept.
- **CHAIRMAN OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY**:-It elects its own President for a period of one year. Besides him, 7 Vice-Presidents are also elected.
- **DECISIONS**:-The important decisions are taken by 2/3 majority of the present and voting members of General Assembly.
- **COMMITTEES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**:- It works through its committees. There are seven committees of General Assembly which are following:-
  - Political and security committee
  - Economic and Financial committee
  - Trusteeship Committee
  - Administrative and Budgeting Committee
  - Social , Humanitarian and cultural Committee
  - Legal committee
  - Special committee
  - Special political committee
- **LANGUAGE**:- English, Russian, Chinese, French, Arabic and Spanish.

# FUNCTIONS AND POWERS OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- 1. Electoral functions
- 2. Deliberative Functions
- 3. To pass Resolutions
- 4. To pass Uniting for Peace Resolution
- 5. Supervisory Functions
- 6. Financial Functions
- 7. Constitutional Functions
- 8. To promote cooperation in economic, social and cultural field
- 9. Development of International law.

# SECURITY COUNCIL



- Security Council is an executive organ of the United Nations. Though it is smallest among all the organs of the United Nations. Its main responsibility is to maintain international peace and security.
- **COMPOSITION:- (Article-23)** It consists of 15 members out of which 5 are permanent and 10 non-permanent. The 10 non-permanent members of the security council are elected by the General Assembly with 2/3 majority for a period of 2 years. Out of the 10 non-permanent members 5 representatives are elected out of the Asian and African countries, 2 out of the Latin America states, 2 Out of Western Europe and one from Eastern Europe.



- **RIGHT TO RECONTEST**:- The non-permanent members of the Security Council have the right to recontest the election after the completion of their tenure of 2 years.
- **CHAIRMAN OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL**:- There is one chairman who is elected by the members out of themselves.
- **VOTING PROCEDURE IN SECURITY COUNCIL**
- Article-27 of the Charter deals with the voting procedure.
- **PRINCIPLE OF DOUBLE VETO**:- Members of Security Council work on the principle of double veto power.
- **COMMITTEES SYSTEM IN SECURITY COUNCIL**: (i) Military Staff committee (ii) Disarmament committee.

# FUNCTIONS AND POWERS OF SECURITY COUNCIL

- Security Council works for international peace and security.
- Admission of new members in United Nations
- Electoral Functions
- Constituent Functions
- Enforcement of the decisions of the United Nations
- **CHANGING ROLE OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL**
- Cold war
- Powerful regional Alliances
- Uniting for Peace Resolution
- Lack of faith in security council

# ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

- **COMPOSITION:-** Its members are elected by the General Assembly with 2/3 majority for a period of 3 years. Its 1/3 members retire every year.
- **CHAIRMAN AND MEETINGS:-** One chairman. It holds two meetings in a year.
- **POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL:-** The powers and functions of Economic and Social Council have been mentioned from **Article-62 to Article-65** of the U.N Charter which are following:-
  - 1. main function is to conduct studies and prepare report regarding international economic, social, cultural, educational and health matters.
  - 2. It prepares its report before the General Assembly regarding the subjects which come under its control.
  - 3. It makes recommendations for the purpose of promoting respect of Human Rights and fundamental Freedoms of all the people.
  - 4. It establishes coordination among the various agencies of the United Nations.
  - 5. It does all those functions which fall under its jurisdiction for carrying out the recommendations of General Assembly.

# TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL



- **Article-7** of the Charter makes provision of the Trusteeship Council. It is constituted to supervise and administer of trust territories placed at the disposal of the United Nations by individual agreements.
- **COMPOSITION: (Article-86)** there are three types of members in the Trusteeship Council such as (i) Permanent members of the security **Council**. (ii) Those countries which administer the trust territories. (iii) Members equal to both the above categories elected by the General Assembly for a period of three years.
- **MEETING:-** It meets twice a year, first on 1 Jan, and then on 1<sup>st</sup> of June.
- **CHAIRMAN:-** It has one Chairman and one Vice-Chairman who are elected by the member out of themselves.

- **FUNCTIONS AND POWERS OF TRUSTSHIP COUNCIL**
- **1.** It works for the development of trust territories.
- **2.** It enables the people living in trust territories eligible for getting independence and self rule.
- **3.** It supervises the developmental works being carried on in trust territories.
- **4.** It sends report to the General Assembly about the development of trust territories.
- **5.** It works for the promotion of international peace and security.
- **6.** It listens to the complaints of the people living in trust territories and issues instructions to the concerned states for their redressal.

# INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

- In April, 1945, the Permanent Court of international Justice was dissolved and International Court of Justice was set up. It is also known as the highest court of the world.
- **COMPOSITION:-** It consists of 15 judges who are elected by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the security council.
- **TENURE OF JUDGES:-** The Judges serve for a term of 9 years with the term of 1/3 judges expiring every third year.
- **SEAT OF COURT:-** The head office of international Court of Justice is in Heague.
- **MEETIG OF THE COURT:-** The meeting of the court continues throughout the year.
- **PRESIDING OFFICER:-** The members of the court elect their President and Vice-President for a period of 3years.
- **POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE**
  1. Voluntary Jurisdiction
  2. Compulsory Jurisdiction
  3. Advisory Jurisdiction
  4. Enforcement of Decisions



# THE SECRETARIATE

- The charter of the United Nations established a Secretariat which is the principal administrative head office of the United Nations. The secretary General is the head of this office and there are thousands of other officials to assist him.
- **APPOINTMENT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL** :- He is appointment by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the security council.

**TERM OF THE OFFICE:-** 5years.

- **QUALIFICATIONS :-** (i) He should be mature and intelligent statesman.
- (ii) He should be prepared to take all type of risks.
- (iii) He should be able administrator.
- (iv) He should be impartial person.
- (v) He should be acceptable to the security Council and the General Assembly.
- (vi) He should have experience of working at some high office.
- **FUNCTIONS AND POWERS OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL**
- 1. Administrative Functions
- 2. Financial Functions
- 3. Political Functions
- 4. Representative Functions



# ACHIEVEMENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS

- 1. Maintenance of world Peace
- 2. Economic and social Progress
- 3. Promotion of international Cooperation
- 4. Disarmament
- 5. Use of Atomic Energy for peaceful Purposes
- 6. Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- 7. Codification and development of international Law
- 8. Freedom for dependent states
- 9. Rehabilitation of Refugees
- 10. To end Apartheid
- 11. Opposition to colonialism

- 13. Help for children
- 14. Development of International trade
- 15. Use of outer space for human welfare
- 16. Improvement in the condition of women
- 17. Efforts to solve world food problem
- 18. United Nations and the problem of growing world population
- 19. Establishment of U.N. University
- 20. United nation and protection of environment

# WEAKNESSES OF THE UNITED NATIONS

- 1. Tool of big power
- 2. Domestic Jurisdiction
- 3. Less representation to Asia and Africa
- 4. Veto Power
- 5. Military Alliances
- 6. Non-sovereign body
- 7. Lack of permanent Forces
- 8. Lack of Money
- 9. Against the principle of Equality
- 10. No representation to subordinate States
- 11. Defective Organization
- 12. Politics of Appointments
- 13. Lack of Impartiality
- 14. Charter is too rigid.

# DOUBTS ABOUT THE SUCCESS OF UNITED NATIONS

- 1. United nation is a human organization
- 2. Non –cooperation attitude of member countries
- 3. Economic disparities among member countries.
- 4. Imperialism
- 5. Blind Nationalism

## LIMITATIONS OF UNITED NATION

1. Partisan use of Veto power
2. Influence of cold war
3. Lack of permanent forces
4. Dominant position of USA
5. Problem of finance
6. Uncompromising attitude of the members nations
7. Economic disparities among member nations
8. By passing of United Nations.

## SUGGESTION REGARDING THE PERFORMANCE IN THE CHARTER OF UNITED NATIONS

- 1. Easy method to get the membership
- 2. Rational representation in General Assembly
- 3. Reform in security Council
- 4. Permanent solution of the Financial Problem
- 5. Need of reform in veto power
- 6. Provision of Permanent forces
- 7. Increase in the jurisdiction of international Court of justice
- 8. Proper interpretation of Domestic Jurisdiction
- 9. Proper representation to Asian and African continent.
- 10. Enlargement of the jurisdiction of the united Nations.

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