

Introduction of UN: The United Nations (UN) is an international organization founded in 1945, after World War II, with the aim of promoting peace, security & cooperation among countries. It is headquartered in New York City, and its main goals are to prevent conflict, protect human rights, deliver humanitarian aid, support sustainable development, and uphold international law. The UN has grown to include 193 member states. Pakistan joined the UN on September 30, 1947, to participate in the international community, promote peace, and gain support for its sovereignty & development. UN is one of the largest and most influential international organizations in the world.

Main Organizations of UN Structured:

1. Trusteeship Council:

The " " was established to oversee the administration of trust territories and ensure their progress toward self-governance. With the independence of the last trust territory in 1994, the council has suspended its operations. It remains in existence to potentially oversee any future trust territories.

Role of Trusteeship Council:

① Supervision: Supervised the administration of trust territories.

② Self Governance: Supported trust territories in achieving self-governance & independence.

3: Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC):

ECOSOC coordinates the economic, social & Environmental activities of the UN and its specialized agencies.

It has 54 members elected by the General Assembly for three-years terms. ECOSOC promotes sustainable development, economic cooperation, and the addressing of social issues such as poverty & Inequality.

Role of ECOSOC:

- ① Policy Coordination: Coordinates policies and activities in areas like health, education and environment.
- ② Sustainable Development: Promote S D through the implementation of 17 Goals (SDGs)
- ③ Economic Cooperation: Encourages E C among member states.
- ④ Social Issues: Addresses social issues such as poverty, inequality, and Social justice.

3: International Court of Justice (ICJ):

The ICJ, also known as the World Court, is the principal Judicial organ of the UN. It settles legal disputes b/w states and provides advisory opinions on International legal issues. The ICJ is composed of 15 judges elected by the General Assembly

and the Security Council for nine-year terms.

Role of ICG:

- (A) Legal Disputes: Settles legal disputes between countries.
- (B) Advisory Opinions: Provides legal advice on International issues, referred by the General Assembly, the Security Council or other UN organs.
- (C) International Law: Promotes the development and adherence to International Law.

4: Secretariat: The S is responsible for carrying out the day-to-day work of the UN. It is headed by the Secretary-General, who is appointed by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Security Council. The secretariat's staff, drawn from all over the world, works on a wide range of issues, including peacekeeping, humanitarian aid, and sustainable development.

Role of Secretariat:

- (A) Administrative Support: Provides A S to other UN organs.
- (B) Peacekeeping Operations: Oversees & manages
// //
- (C) Humanitarian Assistance: Coordinates h aids and disaster relief efforts.
- (D) Research & Analysis: Conducts research and provides
// on Global Issues.

5: General Assembly The G.A. is the largest and most representative organ of the UN. It includes all 193 ~~countries~~ ^{member} states, and each member has one vote. The G.A. serves as a forum for member states to discuss & coordinate on International issues, make recommendations, address global concerns, and promote cooperation.

Function & Roles of G.A.

1) Deliberation & Discussion: The G.A. meets annually from September to December, with additional special sessions as needed. During these sessions, representatives of all member states discuss & debate a wide range of global issues, from peace & Security to development & human rights.

2) Resolutions & Decisions: The G.A. adopts " & " that, while not legally binding, carry significant moral & political weight. These resolutions reflect collective opinion of International community & can guide global norms and policies.

3) Budget & Administration: The G.A. is responsible for approving the UN budget and managing the organization's finances.

4) Elections & Appointments: The G.A. elects non-permanent members to the Security Council, ECOSOC, & judges to the International Court of Justice. It also appoints the Secretary-General on the recommendation of the Security Council.

a) **e) International Law:** The G A promotes the development & codification of International Law. It can request advisory opinions from the ICJ and established commissions to study legal issues.

(b) **f) Human Rights:** The G A addresses H R issues through resolutions, special sessions, and the establishment of H R mechanisms. It can create special committees and bodies to monitor & report on H R violations.

Types of Resolutions & Decisions by the G A :

1: Disarmament Issues: The General A addresses global arms control measures. It discusses the prevention of nuclear weapons proliferation & disarmament.

Example: The G A adopted the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) in 1968. This treaty aims to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and promote peaceful uses of nuclear energy. The G A continues to support & monitor the implementation of this treaty.

2: Economic Development, International Trade, and Sustainable Development (SDG 2030):

The G A plays a crucial role in promoting economic development, international trade, & sustainable development goals (SDGs). It adopts resolutions and makes recommendations to support these areas.

Example 3 In 2015, the G A adopted the 2030 agenda for sustainable Development, which includes 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These goals address global challenges such as poverty, inequality, climate change and environmental degradation. The G A encourages member states to work ~~together~~ ^{towards} achieving these goals.

3: Human Rights & Social Issues: The G A addresses human rights issues & promotes social progress including gender equality.

Ex: The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted by the G A in 1948, outlines fundamental rights that should be protected globally. The G A also passed the convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against women (CEDAW) in 1979, promoting gender equality & women's rights.

4: Special Political issues: The G A deals with " " " that require international attention & cooperation.

Ex: The G A has addressed the Israeli-Palestinian conflict through various resolutions calling for peace & the rights of Palestinian peoples. Resolution 67/19 in 2012 granted non-member observer state status to Palestine, highlighting the G A's role in addressing significant political issues.

6 Security Council The S C is one of the most imp part of UN. It has 15 members, including five permanent members & ten non-permanent members. The " " " are China, France, Russia, UK & US. These five countries has special powers called "veto power" which means they can stop any decision made by the Council if they do not agree with it. The ten non-permanent members are elected for two-year terms. They are chosen to represent different regions of the world, making sure there is fair representation. The main job of security Council, according to UN charter, is to keep international peace & security. It has several important functions.

Roles/ Functions

① Peacekeeping Operations The S C authorizes the development of UN peacekeeping forces to conflict zones. These forces are made up of soldiers & police personnel contributed by member states. Their job is to help keep peace in areas where there is conflict. Peacekeepers help to monitor ceasefires, protect civilians, & support the implementation of peace agreements.

Ex The UN missions in South Sudan (UNMISS) was established in 2011 to help the new country transition to peace & stability after gaining independence.

3: Sanctions: The security council can impose
" on states or entities that threaten peace. Sanctions
are economic restrictions that can include things like
trade bans, asset freezes, & travel restrictions. The goal
of sanctions is to pressure the targeted state or entity
to change its behavior without using military force.

Ex: The Security Council imposed sanctions on North Korea
& Iran due to their nuclear weapons programs. These
sanctions included bans on exporting goods & financial
restrictions. The aim was to pressure both countries to
stop developing nuclear ~~or~~ weapons & follow international
rules.

3: Conflict Resolution: The S.C plays a
key role in resolving conflicts b/w states or within
regions. It can help facilitate negotiations & peace
talks, appoint special envoys to mediate disputes,
& provide support for peace processes.

Ex: In the conflict in Syria, the S.C has supported
efforts to mediate peace talks b/w the Syrian govt
& opposition groups. Special envoys appointed by the
UN have worked to bring the parties to the
negotiating table & find a peaceful solution
to the conflict.

Q: Advisory Opinions: The ICJ can issue
" " on legal questions referred to it by
the General Assembly or specialized UN agencies.
These opinions help clarify International law & guide
the actions of UN member states.

Ex: The ICJ has issued advisory opinions on matters
such as legality of certain sanctions & the interpretation
of peace agreements. These opinions provide valuable
legal guidance & help ensure that actions taken
by the UN are in line with International Law.

Aims of UN:

- ① Maintain International Peace & Security
- ② Develop Friendly Relations Among Nations
- ③ Achieve International Cooperation
- ④ Promote & Protect Human Rights
- ⑤ Provide Humanitarian Aid
- ⑥ Support Sustainable Development
- ⑦ Uphold International Law

Key Achievements of UN / Function / Roles

- ① Promoting peace & Security
- ② Peacekeeping missions
- ③ Conflict Resolution

② Protecting Human Rights:

- a) Universal declaration of Human Rights
- b) H R treaties
- c) H R council.

③ Promoting Development

- a) Sustainable // goals (SDGs)
- b) Global Health Initiatives

④ Providing Humanitarian Aid

- a) Emergency Relief
- b) Refugee Assistance
- c) Disaster response

⑤ Promoting International Law

- a) International court of Justice (ICJ)

b) Law Development

- b) Addressing Global challenges

- a) Climate change

- b) Health Crisis c) Sustainable Development

UN Security Council Reforms

1. Necessity of " " Reforms: The structure of UN SC has not changed much since it was formed over 75 years ago. This raises questions about its legitimacy, effectiveness & representativeness today.

⇒ Diversification of Issues: The council now deals with various issues like peace building, conflict prevention, counter-terrorism & Civilian protection.

⇒ Need for Effectiveness: The UN requires a security Council that can create effective resolutions & implement decisions quickly.

2. Changes in the Role of the Council:

⇒ Size & Regional Representation:

⇒ Membership Growth: The no of UN member states has nearly quadrupled, but the Security Council's size & composition have not changed.

⇒ Underrepresentation: Regions such as Africa, Asia & Latin America are underrepresented, with no permanent seats for Africa's 54 members.

3. Major Issues & Different Positions:

Key Issues:

⇒ Categories of Membership: The types of members in the council need reevaluation.

⇒ Regional Representation: Ensuring all regions are adequately represented.

⇒ Question of the Veto: The right to veto decisions need to be addressed.

Positions to Reform:

G4 Support: The G4 (Japan, India, Brazil, Germany) advocate for expanding both permanent & non-permanent seats.

Other Positions: Different groups like the African Union (AU) & CARICOM have their own proposals.

Proposed Changes:

⇒ Enlarged Council size: Different proposals suggest various sizes for an enlarged council.

⇒ Veto Rights: New permanent members might not exercise veto power for a set time, while others call for its complete abolition.

4: Road to Security Council Reform

Key Events:

1993: The UN established the open-ended Working Group to explore Security Council membership issues.

2003: Secretary-General Kofi Annan set up a panel to analyze threats to peace & recommend reforms.

2005: The G4 proposed a resolution for reform, but it did not come to a vote.

Required Collaboration: Reforming the Security Council requires a two-third vote in the General Assembly & ratification from all permanent members.

5: Intergovernmental Negotiations (IGN): Structure & Progress:

⇒ Chairpersons: Various representatives have led negotiations over the years, discussing key issues like membership categories & veto power.

⇒ Roll over decisions: The General Assembly has ~~often~~ often adopted decisions without voting to continue discussions.

Recent Developments: In 2021, discussions were renewed with a commitment from heads of state to advance Security Council reform.

6: Group of G4:

Formation & Goals:

⇒ Establishment: The G4 was formed in 2004 to promote Security Council reform, calling for more permanent & non-permanent seats.

⇒ Supports for each other: G4 members support each other's ~~for~~ bids for permanent seats.

⇒ Recent Actions:

⇒ Summits & Meetings: G4 has held annual meetings & to push for reform & ensure a more effective Security Council.

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Challenges Facing the UN:

The UN faces several important challenges that affect its ability to achieve its goals.

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① **Political Divisions:** The UN often struggles with disagreements among member states. Different countries have varying interests & priorities, which can lead to conflicts. This makes it difficult to reach consensus on important issues.

② **Funding & Resources:** The UN relies on financial contributions from member states. Some countries do not pay their dues on time or contribute the expected amount. This can lead to budget shortfalls, affecting the UN's ability to carry out its work.

③ **Bureaucracy & Inefficiency:** The UN is a large org with many layers of administration. This can lead to slow decision making and inefficiencies.

④ **Peacekeeping Challenges:** While the UN conducts missions, these operations often face difficulties. They may lack proper equipment, face hostility in conflict zones, or struggle to maintain neutrality. This

can limit their effectiveness in protecting civilians.

5. Global Crises: The UN must respond to many global issues, such as climate change, terrorism & Pandemics. These problems required coordinated action, but UN sometimes struggles to act effectively.

6. Sovereignty vs Intervention: Member states often prioritize their national sovereignty. This can make it hard for UN to intervene in situations where human rights are being violated or conflict arise.

7. Reforms & Representation: There are ongoing calls for reforming the UN, particularly the Security Council. Many argue that the current structure does not reflect the realities of the modern world. This includes calls for more representation from developing countries.

8. Accountability & Transparency: The UN faces criticism for lack of accountability. Some believe that the org needs to be more transparent in its actions & decisions. Ensuring accountability for both member states & UN personnel is crucial for maintaining trust.

9. Human Rights Violations: Despite its commitment to " " , the UN sometimes struggles to address violations effectively. Member states may resist pressure to improve their human rights records, making it difficult for UN to intervene.

Environmental Challenges: The UN is tasked with addressing issues, such as climate change. However, mobilizing global action on these urgent matters is often challenging due to differing national interests & priorities.

Kashmir Issue & the UN:

Intro: The ↓ is a long standing conflict b/w India & Pak. It centers on the region of Jammu & Kashmir, which both countries claim but only control parts of. The UN has been involved in this dispute since the late 1940s, aiming to help resolve the conflict peacefully.

Historical Background: The conflict began in 1947 when British India was divided into two independent countries: India & Pak. The state of Jammu & Kashmir, ruled by Maharaja Hari Singh, faced a tough decision about which country to join. In October 1947, Maharaja joined India. This action was contested by Pak, which claimed that the people of Kashmir should decide their fate through a vote.

Role of the UN: The UN became involved in the Kashmir issue shortly after the conflict began.

1: UN Security Council Resolutions: The UN Security Council (UNSC) adopted several regarding Kashmir.

⇒ Resolution 47 (1948): This called for a ceasefire & urged both I & Pak to withdraw their troops. It also recommended a vote to let the people of Kashmir decide their future.

⇒ Resolution 91 (1951): This reaffirmed the need for a peaceful resolution & highlighted the importance of the vote.

⇒ Despite these resolutions, a vote has never taken place.

2: Military Observers: The UN established UN " " Group in I & Pak (UNMOGIP) in 1949. Its role is to monitor the ceasefire line (now called the Line of Control) & reports on violations. While it has not resolved the conflict, it observes the situation on the ground.

Current Situation: The Kashmir issue remains unresolved. Over the years, I & Pak have fought wars over the region & engaged in various military skirmishes. The Line of Control divides the territory into areas controlled by I & Pak.

India's Position: India views Jammu & Kashmir as an essential part of its territory. In 2019, the Indian govt revoked the special status granted to the region under Article 370 of the I Constitution. This move led to increased tensions & Protests in Kashmir.

Pak Position: Pak believes that the people of Kashmir should be allowed to decide their future through a vote. Pak continues to support the Kashmiri people's right to self-determination & raises the issue in international forums, including UN.

Aims of UN regarding Kashmir:

The UN's main aims " " issue include:

1: Peaceful Resolution: The UN seeks a peaceful solution of the Conflict through talks & negotiations b/w Pak & India.

2: Protection of Human Rights: The UN aims to ensure the " " " " for the people living in the region.

3: Support for Self Determination: The UN " the right of the Kashmiri peoples to Determine their political future.

Key Achievements of UN: While the UN involvement has not led to a resolution of the Kashmir issue, it has achieved some important milestones:

⇒ **Ceasefire Agreement**: The UN helped established the " in 1949, leading to the creation of the Line of Control.

⇒ **Continued Monitoring**: UNMOGIP continues to monitor the situation, providing reports on violations along the Line of Control.

Functions & Roles of the UN: The UN has several important functions related to the Kashmir issue:

① **Mediation**: The UN acts as a mediator, encouraging talks between India & Pakistan.

② **Observation**: UNMOGIP observes the situation on the ground & reports on ceasefire violations.

③ **Advocacy**: The UN advocates for human rights & self-determination for the people of Kashmir.

Challenges Facing the UN in Kashmir:

The UN faces several challenges in addressing the Kashmir issue:

1. **Lack of Cooperation**: Both India & Pakistan have different views on the conflict, making it hard for the UN to facilitate dialogue.

2. **Changing Geopolitics**: The political situation in South Asia is constantly changing, affecting the UN's ability to intervene effectively.

3: Limited Authority: The UN's resolutions are often not implemented, and the organization has limited power to enforce its decisions.

Conclusion: The Kashmir issue remains one of the most complex conflicts in South Asia. The UN has played a significant role in trying to mediate the situation, but a lasting solution is still elusive. The organizations continue to advocate for peace, human rights, & self-determination for the people of Kashmir, but the path to resolution requires cooperation & commitment from all parties involved.