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Give recommendation to make SAARC an effective organization at regional level keeping in view success of European Union (2020)

Introduction:

In the geopolitical landscape, regional cooperation has a substantial role, akin to the SAARC with. However, the organization failed to achieve its goals and objectives due to numerous reasons.

The book Thirty years of SAARC: Society, culture and development and Regional cooperation in the world: a comparative study of SAARC and EU highlights ways in which SAARC can be converted into an effective organization just like EU. The author provide a comparative analysis of the two organization and recommendations like political will, conflict resolution, alignment

of domestic and organization interests
and need of infrastructure
fund.

EU and SAARC : A Comparative Analysis

	SAARC	EU
1	Most countries are politically unstable and have weak markets.	All countries are politically stable and have strong markets.
2	Formed for regional stability but have no historical reason for integration	Formed for stability and for the improved image of Europe after WWII
3	India is the core state in the organization as per Barry Buzan and all other states are afraid of it.	All states have equal participation and there is no hegemony.

4. States competes with each other economically and only have 5% of mutual trade agreements

4. States work together for economical stability

5. All states

are sovereign

All states

are sovereign

but have laws

for the common good

of the organization

Balancing the equation : Recommendations for effectiveness of SAARC.

"Cooperation is a thorough conviction that nobody can reach there unless everybody reaches there."

Victoria Burden

The saying of Victoria Burden accentuates the ^{dire} need for cooperation. There are numerous ways in which SAARC can be turned into an effective organization, akin to the EU.

combine military, economic and political will

one thing that undermines the effectiveness of organization is the lack of economic and political will.

Military powers are used in order to counter terrorism.

However, economic cooperation is prudent for mutual trade.

The organization contributes only 1% to 1.5% in the world

GDP. Also, the overview of the organization summits (Table 1)

accentuates the need of political will for better

working of organization.

Summit	Aim	Outcome
1st	Union of all states	Charter was signed
2nd	Ideas were discussed	no progress
3rd	Normal Procedure	Convention on Terrorism
4th	Optimistic assessment	Both India and Pakistan showed positive behaviour
5th	Usual process	Convention on drugs.
6th	Usual Business	No progress
7th	Usual Business	// //
8th	Gratification on for successes of the first decade of SAARC	// //
16th	Scheduled but not materialized.	

Tourism

Align domestic interest with the organization interest:

In SAARC, the states prioritize their interest over the interest of the organization. One such example is BIMSTEC, an organization created by India; in which all other South Asian states are included excluding Pakistan. This gives rise to the tension among the two states. Thus, in order to have an effective organization one must align domestic interest with the interest of organization. For instance River Indus and Ganges are crucial for life. Countries must work together in order to manage these rivers.

Tourism:

Tourism must be promoted.

As SAARC states share a common identity, due to which ^{have that} states ~~trust~~ ^{mutual trust} ~~each other~~ Tourism must be promoted among SAARC states to build trust and confidence.

Conflict Resolution:

The organization must provide a platform for conflict resolution, and there must be resumption of dialogue between India and Pakistan for better functioning of the organization.

Joint infrastructure fund:

The organization lack cooperation due to poor infrastructure. As per world Bank ^{required} \$2 Billion dollar is ^{needed}

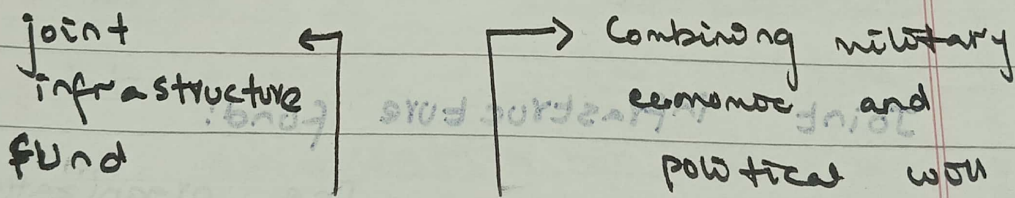
Thus, creating joint infrastructure fund will help improve connectivity.

Creation of Educational Institutes:

Bank report ^{all} the SAARC states have low human development index.

India	130
Pakistan	147
Bangladesh	143:147m

Thus, creation of regional center of excellence like South Asian University can bolster the HDI and will improve the functioning of organization.



recommendations for effectiveness

→ Conflict resolution mechanism

Align domestic interest with the organization interest

↓ Promotion of tourism.

CONCLUSION

In a nutshell, SAARC is grappling with various impediments which hinders its effectiveness. However, learning from organizations like EU can improve and bolster the organization. A number of steps like aligning domestic interest with the organization interest, conflict resolution mechanisms etc are recommended to improve the effectiveness of organization.